



Regalettes To Honor Los Angeles Business Leader Dr. William A. Burke (See page A-4)



LOS ANGELES SENTINEL



NBA Icon Allen Iverson Partners With CEO of Viola Al Harrington (See page D-2)

VOL. LXXXVII NO. 40, \$1.00 +CA. Sales Tax "For Over Eighty Years, the Voice of Our Community Speaking for Itself." THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2021

Taste of Soul Brings A 'Day of Service & Soul' to the Community

This year, the annual event will be a drive-thru only, keeping everyone safe while giving out some soul



Taste of Soul focuses on feeding the community. PHOTO E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS / LA SENTINEL



Taste of Soul volunteers place grocery in a car. PHOTO E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS / LA SENTINEL

BY BRIAN W. CARTER
Contributing Writer

Did you think the Taste of Soul party was over? You know you can't stop soul power!

The 16th annual Taste of Soul Family Festival (TOS) presents a "Day of Service & Soul" (drive-thru only)

on Saturday, October 16 on Crenshaw Blvd. Families-in-need will be able to receive free groceries, clothing, personal hygiene items, PPE supplies, mental health and physical health services, and more.

Chairman & CEO of Bakewell Media, the Los Angeles Sentinel, L.A.

Watts Times and Founder/Creator of Taste of Soul, Danny J. Bakewell, Sr., is bringing the annual event a bit differently to keep everyone safe during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

"This year, as you know, we're not having the normal Taste of Soul on Crenshaw

Blvd., but we invite you and all of your friends to come out," said Bakewell. "This is the time for us all to come together and give back, which is the spirit of Taste of Soul."

Bakewell Media and the L.A. Sentinel are giving back to the community by hosting a TOS Day of

Service & Soul from 8 a.m. – 12 noon in the service island in front of the L.A. Sentinel located at 3800 S. Crenshaw Blvd., L.A. 90008 in partnership with Mothers In Action and The Brotherhood Crusade and non-profit partners. Cars can enter at 39th & Crenshaw Blvd. traveling North.

"This pandemic as affected all of us in ways that we could have never imagined, but we want to be here for each other and do something that is positive to enhance the quality of life for us and our children," said Bakewell.

Celebrating Taste of Soul
{See TOS A-11}

Return of Bruce's Beach Improves County Fire's Legacy

Chief Daryl Osby comments on the historic restoration of property that currently houses his department's lifeguard operations

BY CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Staff Writer

Reverberations are still echoing following Governor Gavin Newsom's signing of legislation to return Bruce's Beach to the descendants of the original owners of the beach resort.

Thanks to the combined efforts of L.A. County Supervisors Janice Hahn and Holly Mitchell, State Senator Steven Bradford and Newsom, the process is underway to restore the valuable acreage illegally taken from Charles and Willa Bruce in 1912.

The enterprising African American couple owned



Los Angeles Fire Chief Daryl Osby PHOTO E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS / LA SENTINEL

and operated the getaway for the Black community who were denied access to other areas along the beach

due to racial segregation. However, Manhattan Beach city leaders claimed the property in the 1920s

by using eminent domain laws.

{See LEGACY C-5}

The Way West: Reparations Task Force Looks at Black Migration to California



African American family from the rural South arriving in Chicago, 1920. Public Domain Image, NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

{SEE FULL STORY A-10}

Pro Players, Sports Agent Talk About Athletes COVID-19 Decisions



A.J. Green, cornerback for the Cleveland Browns, said that taking the vaccine was the best decision for his career. HUNS

{SEE FULL STORY C-2}

At least Four Black Females were Murdered Each Day in 2020

BY STACY M. BROWN
NNPA Newswire
Senior National Correspondent

According to statistics released by the FBI this month, more than four Black women and girls were murdered each day in the United States in 2020.

The uniformed crime reporting statistics revealed that those startling numbers were a sharp increase from 2019.

The FBI said it recorded at least 405 additional murders of Black women in 2020. {See MURDERED C-2}

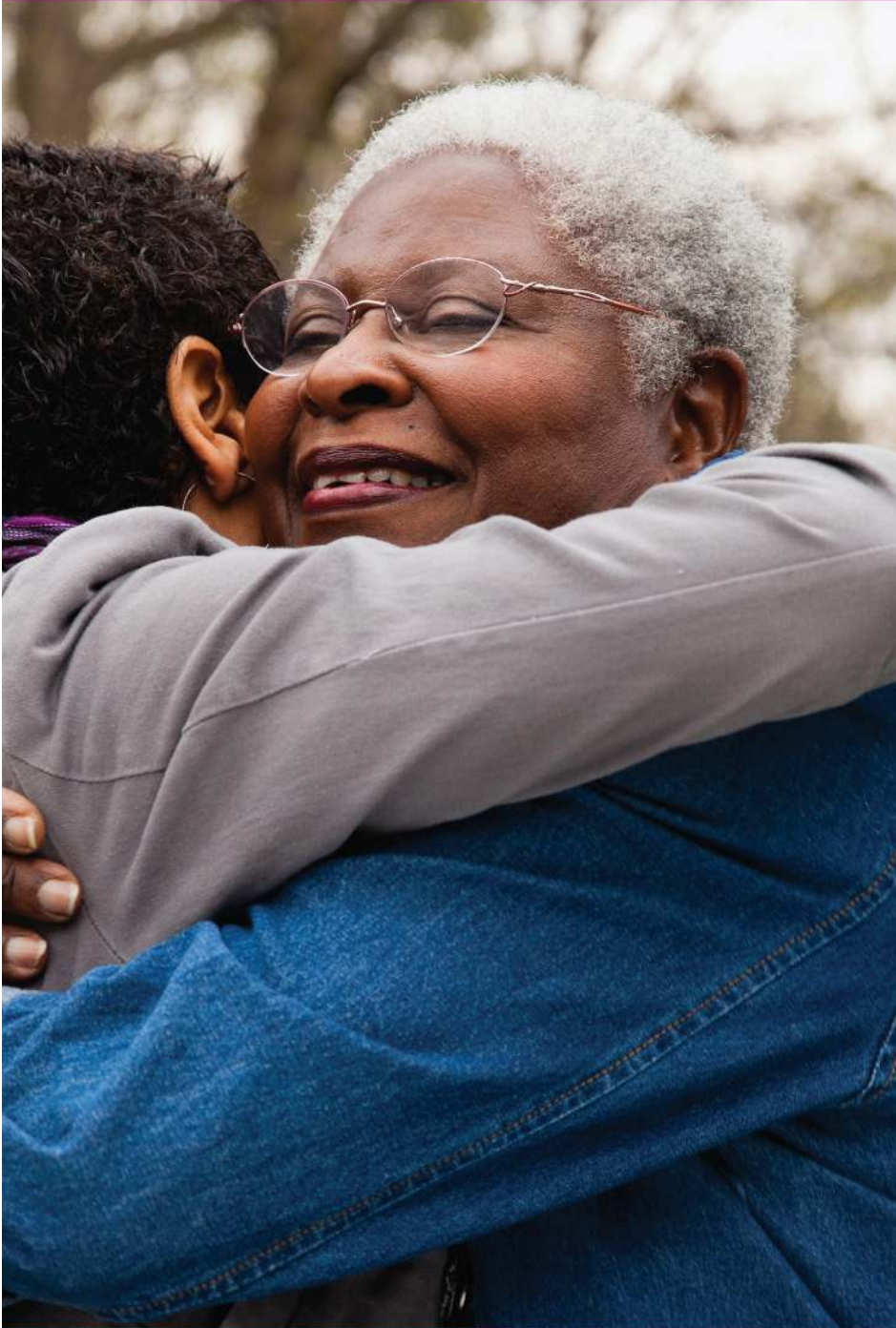


"Black women are at risk of police violence and systemic racism every day, all day and all night." Marcela Howell, founder and president of In Our Own: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda. NNPA/FILE



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Langston Bar Association Salutes Legal Legends

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Staff Writer

The John M. Langston Bar Association will honor four legends in the legal field during its 29th Annual Hall of Fame Induction Luncheon on Saturday, October 23, at 11:30 a.m., at the Conference Room, in Playa Vista.

According to Nyanza Shaw, association president, the event recognizes the contributions and community service of legal professionals who have practiced a minimum of 35 years. This year's honorees are Victor Anderson III, Esq.; Winston Kevin McKesson, Esq.; U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Erithe A. Smith and L.A. Superior Court Judge Patricia J. Titus.



Victor Anderson III

Anderson, a retired partner in Thompson Coe's L.A. office, is a skilled trial litigator who served as lead trial counsel in over 50 trials. His experience includes 19 years with Haight Brown & Bonesteel and 13 years with Crandall, Wade and Lowe. Previously a board member of the Boys & Girls Club of Venice, Anderson is also a longtime volunteer for St. Baldrick's Foundation, the largest private funder of pediatric cancer research in the United States.

McKesson has built a prominent legal career since beginning in 1982 as an associate with Early, Maslach, Leavy and Nutt. He later worked at the Law



Winston K. McKesson

Offices of Ronald Sweeney, followed by the Law Offices of Johnnie Cochran Jr. He and Sweeney formed a practice in 1991 and in 1997 attorney Carl Douglas joined them. In 2010, McKesson became a solo practitioner specializing in criminal law. His awards include the 2017 Trial Lawyer of the Year - Jerry Giesler Memorial Award from the Criminal Courts Bar Association.



Judge Erithe Smith

Smith is the longest sitting African American bankruptcy judge in the country. Appointed in 1994, she is the only African American woman to be named to the bankruptcy bench in the Ninth Circuit. Previously, she was a partner in a boutique law firm in Irvine focused on corporate insolvency and bankruptcy law. A graduate of Loyola Marymount University, she created and funds the Erithe Smith

Annual Scholarship. Together with matching funds from the university, she has awarded nearly \$100,000 in scholarships to African American students at LMU.

Titus enjoyed a 15-year career as a criminal prosecutor with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office before being elected as a Superior Court judge in 2000. In 2009, she was assigned to the Inglewood Superior Court



Judge Patricia Titus

where she hears requests for domestic violence and civil harassment restraining orders and presides over the Drug Court. An author of multiple books and recipient of several honors, Titus dedicates considerable time to young people by participating in school Career Days and mentoring law students and attorneys seeking judicial positions.

The theme for the induction ceremony is "Celebrating Our Legacy," said Anne Saxton and Margo Bouchet, program co-chairs. Kente Scott, a comedian and actor, will serve as emcee.

Tickets for the in-person and virtual event are available at www.langstonbar.org/HOF2021. Proof of vaccination will be required for in-person registration. Proceeds from the program will benefit the John M. Langston Bar Association scholarship fund.

To learn more, visit www.langstonbar.org.

Lee Headlines 10th District Health and Wellness Seminar

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Staff Writer

Dr. Cherilyn Lee, a certified natural healthcare professional, will headline the annual Health and Wellness Seminar hosted by the 10th Council District Women's Steering Committee on Saturday, October 16, at 1 p.m. via Zoom.

During the virtual event, Lee will share techniques to prevent heart attacks and strokes, reduce the percentage of plaque in your body, understand your autonomic nervous system and more information to improve your health.

"Dr. Lee is known as an integrative healthcare trailblazer, wellness advocate and philanthropist," said WSC president Jacqueline Nunn. "The community is encouraged to tune in and hear her presentation about the areas of natural health, physical fitness, nutrition,



Dr. Cherilyn Lee

integrative medicine, and self-discovery."

The Zoom I.D. is 818 0570 2742. The passcode is 447415. Attendees can also participate by phone by calling (669) 990-6833. The I.D. is 818 0570 2742 and the passcode is 447415.

Lee is the founder of

the NuWellness Healthcare Center and conducts an array of humanitarian activities under her non-profit, NuWellness Development Foundation. The recipient of several awards and commendations, she twice received Lifetime Achievement Awards from former President Barack Obama and twice from former President Donald Trump.

Thousands tune in for her "NuWellness TV with Dr. Lee" podcast, which also airs on YouTube and iHeartRadio. Her book, "Written Before I Was Born," chronicles her life story and includes positive messages of faith, healing, overcoming and living in a spirit of forgiveness and joy. She is also the author of "Just Breathe Easy."

To learn more about the seminar, call or text (323) 735-0879 or visit 10thcd-wsc.org.



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Regalettes To Honor Los Angeles Business Leader Dr. William A. Burke and Tech Innovator Cassie Betts at Virtual Crown Awards

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The Regalettes Incorporated, an organization that Dr. William A. Burke has been contributing to for over 63 years, will host its 2021 Crown Awards Scholarship Fundraiser virtually this year on October 24, 2021. This year's honorees include Dr. William "Bill" Burke, former chair of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and founder of the Los Angeles Marathon. Dr. Burke will receive the President's Legacy Award. Cassie Betts, Founder of Made in South LA and catalyst and visionary behind South Central's first tech center, will receive the Trailblazer Award. The organization will also provide scholarships to eight deserving students as well as spotlight alumni and current students performances dur-

olutionary way by decreasing the technology divide and she is preparing our youth for future careers. We couldn't be prouder of both

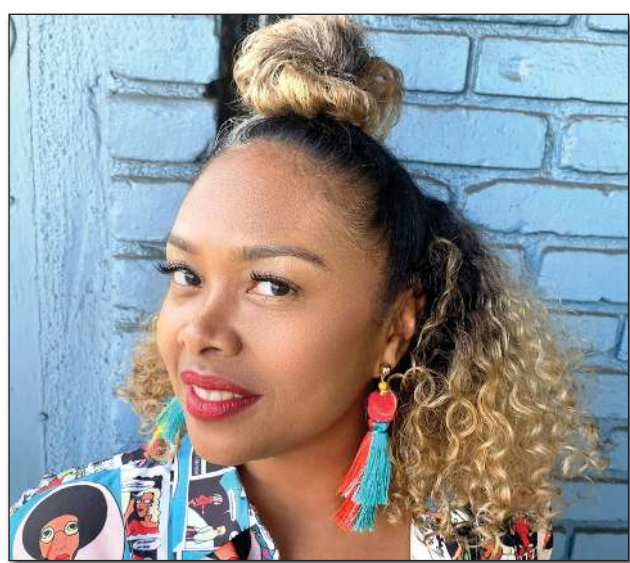
fete. Additionally, past and current scholarship recipients will provide performances, with surprise guests along the way.



Dr. William A. Burke

of our honorees." The main focus on the Crown Awards is to provide scholarships to deserving

Concludes Buckman, "The pandemic precluded our ability to host our annual event last year, so we decided to host our fundraiser virtually this year. This event and monies raised are critical to our ability to continue to provide scholarships and programs to our youth as their future is at stake. We've got to provide them the educational tools that they'll need to succeed. We'll present our Teen Leadership Conference "Creating Your Own Path" in conjunction with SIILK (Sisters Involved In Linking Knowledge) on Saturday, November 6, a free, one-day event that provides leadership, entrepreneurial and self-esteem workshops to girls aged 11-17. Additionally, we continue to provide holiday dinners to families in need. We so appreciate and welcome all support so that we can continue with our mission of service."



Cassie Betts, Founder, Made in South Los Angeles

ing the event. The Crown Awards will take place on Sunday, October 24, 2021 from 4pm-6pm PT.

"We are excited to announce our honorees," says Lois Buckman, president of Regalettes, Inc. "Dr. Burke has made a tremendous impact, not just in Los Angeles, but on the world through his businesses and advocacy. Cassie Betts is energizing and transforming South Los Angeles in a rev-

students in need, based on grade-point average, community service and recommendations. One of the hallmarks of receiving a Regalettes scholarship is that the Regalettes support their students over the course of their education—not just one year. To date, the Regalettes have provided over \$1M dollars in scholarships. The scholarships will be awarded to the students during the 2-hour

Registration is free for the Crown Awards and donations are encouraged. To register, visit <https://www.regalettes.org/News-Events/Crown-Awards>.

New Law Prohibits Cemetery Abandonment and Brings Justice to Grieving Families

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

AB 651, a measure authored by Democratic Caucus Chair Mike A. Gipson (D-Carson), was signed into law and will now prohibit caretakers from neglecting or abandoning cemeteries and will expand contributions that cover cemetery maintenance to avoid disrepair.

AB 651 addresses an issue that was highlighted by the deplorable conditions at one of the oldest cemeteries in Los Angeles County: Woodlawn Memorial Cemetery in the City of Compton. In the case of Woodlawn, many families visited their deceased loved ones only to find their tombstones damaged or missing, and the surrounding cemetery grounds unkempt. Conditions became so severe that families were eventually unable to visit due to restricted access.

"Cemetery neglect is a social injustice, especially in communities like the City of Compton that have been historically marginalized," said Assemblymember Mike A. Gipson. "Whether it's finan-



Assemblymember Mike A. Gipson (D-Carson)

cial mismanagement or simply a lack of funds needed to maintain, it is unacceptable and heartbreaking to allow the final resting place of our loved ones to be neglected or abandoned. AB 651 will provide a necessary remedy that will restore respect and dignity to every community facing similar issues."

"Many of us in Compton have witnessed Woodlawn Cemetery deteriorate over years of neglect, abandonment and financial mismanagement, until volunteers stepped in to try to take matters into their own hands,"

said City of Compton Mayor Emma Sharif. "That kind of deterioration of a cemetery is not what our families, or any grieving families, deserve. We deserve better. This bill by Assemblymember Gipson which was signed into law today by Governor Newsom will put an end to this and hold cemetery authorities accountable in order to preserve public access."

"We are pleased that Assembly Member Gipson included in AB 651 the increase in the minimum contributions cemetery authorities are required to make to endowment care funds (ECF)," said Jerry Desmond from the Cemetery and Mortuary Association. "AB 651 furthers the objective of ECFs to provide for the long term care and maintenance of cemeteries."

Woodlawn Memorial Cemetery is home to many notable figures, including Civil War Veterans; Al Prentice "Bunchy" Carter, founder of the LA Chapter of the Black Panthers; and founders of the City of Compton and Carson.

Holidays Loom and Health Authorities Continue to Push for Vaccination

As the weather changes and the public stays indoors, it's even more important to consider vaccination according to Public Health.

BY BRIAN W. CARTER
Contributing Writer

On Monday, October 11, The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) reported 8 new deaths and stated 826 new cases of COVID-19. There were 656 patients hospitalized with COVID-19 with 15% of nearly 8,794,000 individuals testing positive with symptoms.

As the holidays loom on the horizon, with Halloween kicking off the season, health authorities are urging for caution. Even with statistics seeing a drop in infection rates and an increase in vaccinated individuals, we're still in a battle. In an interview with CNN, Dr. Anthony Fauci warned for everyone to stay vigilant.

"It's certainly going in the right direction," said Fauci about Covid statistics. "We have to just be careful that we don't prematurely

declare victory."

He continued, "You want to look forward to hol-



AP PHOTO
As the holidays loom on the horizon, with Halloween kicking off the season, health authorities are urging for caution.

iday seasons, spending time with your family and doing those sorts of things.

"We do want to celebrate and look forward to the fact that we are going in the right direction but if you look at the history of the surges and diminutions, in cases over a period of time, they can bounce back.

"We don't want to always be on edge that it's going to happen because it won't if we do what we should be doing, namely, particularly, getting more people vaccinated."

Health authorities are asking families to celebrate Halloween in outside spaces. As the weather cools down, more people are staying inside, which can encourage transmission of the virus. Fauci shared being vaccinated would add a degree of protection but staying outdoors and being safe will help everyone have a safe Halloween.

"As we approach cooler weather and the accompanied increased risk of disease spread, these numbers are a reminder of the importance of remaining focused on bringing the vaccine to unvaccinated individuals, especially those with risk factors associated with social and economic

inequities that increase their risk of severe illness," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "The end of the pandemic is directly related to our collective behavior. For the protection of everyone, we encourage all eligible residents to get vaccinated; as the vaccines offer powerful protection against the most severe outcomes of COVID-19 infection."

Public Health identified 1,471,645 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County and a total of 26,320 deaths. Cases across the Southland: Los Angeles County shows 1,394,126 cases, Long Beach with 64,217 cases and Pasadena with 13,302 cases.

As of October 4, the California Department of Public Health reported 629 cases of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) statewide. MIS-C is a rare inflammatory condition

associated with COVID-19 that can damage multiple organ systems. MIS-C can require hospitalization and be life threatening.

According to race and ethnicity, COVID-19 statistics show: American Indian/Alaska Native with 2,360; Asian with 66,500; Black with 66,776; Hispanic/Latino with 720,066; Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander with 5,127; White with 170,715; those of other

race and ethnicity with 117,949 and 244,633 under investigation.

For more detailed information on COVID-19 vaccination plans in L.A. County and to sign up for a vaccination newsletter, visit: www.VaccinateLACounty.com

For more information and statistics on COVID-19 in Los Angeles County, please visit <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/>

Always check with trusted sources for the latest accurate information about novel coronavirus:

*Los Angeles County Department of Public Health <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/>

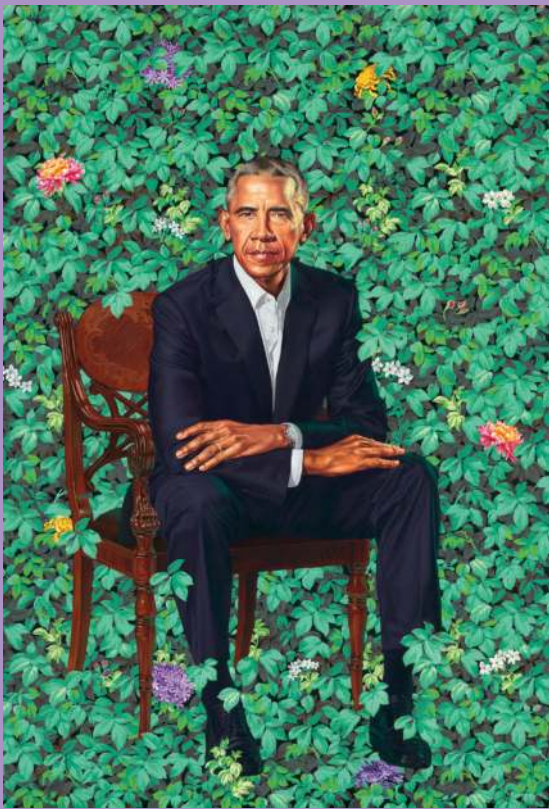
*California Department of Public Health <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/ncov2019.aspx>

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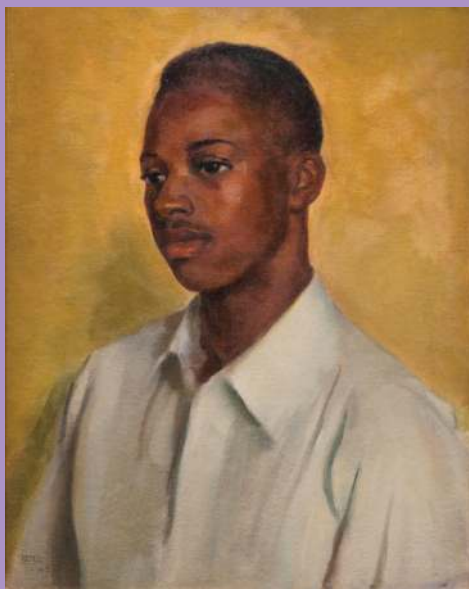
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From Border Crisis to Quakes, Women of Haiti Gather to Ignite Their Collective Power

BY GREGORY SMITH
Howard University News Service

White House correspondent Yamiche Alcindor was among several speakers who encouraged women gathering for the Haitian

In addition to the COVID-19 pandemic and several hurricanes, Haiti has endured one crisis after another in recent months. On July 7, President Jovenel Moïse was assassinated in his private residence in the capital, Port-au-Prince. On

while I was out shopping and hanging out with my fiancé, now husband.

"My aunt called me crying and said, 'Did you hear what Trump said?' I said, 'No. What did Trump say?'"

"He said, 'Haiti is a s---hole country. So, what are you going to do about it?'"

"I was like, 'What?' So, it can be a burden in some ways, but it's an incredible privilege," Alcindor said. "It's an incredible blessing, because what other Haitian American is in my position to ask real questions and get real answers?"

Alcindor knew at 21 that she wanted to become a journalist, despite her father's wishes that she become a lawyer. When she chose her profession, she didn't think that so many people would be invested in her career.

the people that are around you."

She discussed being

across the world. A small brunch started by Nadine Duplessy Kearns with a

Andre told the women that their cultural norms are holding them back.



"What other Haitian American is in my position to ask real questions and get real answers?" asked Yamiche Alcindor, White House correspondent for PBS NewsHour, host of "Washington Week" and political contributor to MSNBC and ABC News.



Haitian Ladies Network founder Nadine Duplessy Kearns, center with the steering committee, wanted to empower women to address "the triple crises facing Haiti and centuries of escalating turmoil."

Ladies Network's annual weekend to harness their political, economic and personal power to deal with the realities of Haiti today, from the border crisis to the aftermath of the recent earthquake.

Alcindor's message to the women was to find their purpose, community and personal time for themselves.

"There is always going to be more news, and there's always going to be new things happening especially in our community," said Alcindor, host of "Washington Week" for the PBS NewsHour and political contributor to MSNBC and NBC News. "There are going to be more people that need you and more things that you can do, but you have to take time for yourself."

Aug. 14, a massive 7.2 magnitude earthquake rocked Haiti's southern peninsula, leaving at least 2,284 dead and more than 12,763 injured. Just two weeks ago, photos surfaced showing U.S. Border Patrol officers on horses whipping Haitians as they tried to enter the United States.

Alcindor told the women attending the "Igniting Our Power" event that she couldn't separate being Haitian from being a journalist. She made headlines over the last few years after having numerous encounters with former President Donald Trump.

"It was in January 2018, and I had just quit my job at the New York Times," Alcindor said. "I was sort of in a relief mode, because I hadn't started at PBS yet. I got a call from my aunt



Haitian Ladies Network founder Nadine Duplessy Kearns, center with the steering committee, wanted to empower women to address "the triple crises facing Haiti and centuries of escalating turmoil."

raised by a Haitian mother who didn't show weakness the first 30 years of her life

group of friends has expanded to over 75,000 members globally.

"The work is done in between the crises," Andre said. "We are not proactive enough; we can't wait until the hurricane is above our heads. Politics is created by us and governed by us. If we don't get it together, we will continue to be the authors of our own misfortune."

Guerline Jozef, president of the Haitian Bridge Alliance, expressed similar sentiments.

"I am so emotional, and I am upset," Jozef said. "I am frustrated and pissed off at our community. We have to be accountable for our own misfortune. We must hold our elected officials in Haiti accountable."

"As I continue to be on the border and under the bridge making the sacrifices, I'm powerless most of the time," she said. "The current administration decided to have a meeting with Haitian leaders. If we are not at the table, then we are on the menu."

Shannon Laguerre, a senior immigration attorney, said that many Haitians are hesitant to give the U.S. government personal documents.

"I ask clients why don't they apply for immigration benefits available to them," Laguerre said. "They said that they are afraid and suspicious of the government; they don't want to give them their documents. There's all these amazing programs that are in existence for Haitians such as T visas and S visas."

Andre reminded the women that other groups are willing to help, such as African Americans, Jamaicans and Africans. Haitian women have the potential to become the next Michelle Obama or Oprah Winfrey, she said, and building relationships can help move the needle forward.

and taught her to do the same thing. Alcindor said she had to unlearn that, because it's normal to take a step back when you're feeling overwhelmed.

"Resiliency requires rest," she said. "It requires you to take care of yourself; it requires you to really be invested in taking a day off."

Alcindor said that being part of the Haitian Ladies Network warms her heart. It was one of the few organizations in Washington that she joined after relocating from Florida. She applauded the women in attendance for seeking community engagement virtually or in person at the Haitian Ladies Network's 16th annual brunch and fifth symposium. Several Haitian women across the world made their way to Washington to engage in fellowship and discuss recent crises that Haiti is facing in workshops and panels.

Based in Washington, the Haitian Ladies Network is the largest platform connecting women and girls of Haitian descent

Kearns said that when she moved to D.C., she couldn't find a central network of Haitian women so she started having brunch with a few of them. The number of women attending brunch began to grow over the years, and now the organization is worldwide.

"This is a space where you don't have to be anything but a Haitian woman," Kearns said. "You can come together to reconnect."

"We chose 'Igniting Our Power' as the theme this year to recharge everyone," she said. "After the triple crises facing Haiti and centuries of escalating turmoil, we tweaked our event programming to include as much information as we need to empower."

Karen Andre, a former political director for former President Barack Obama and special assistant to President Joe Biden, held a master class informing women that they must organize, strategize and leverage the connections that they make.

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Let's Talk Black Education

Governor Newsom Should Close the Vaccination Loophole for School Employees

By DR. MARGARET FORTUNE
President/CEO of Fortune School

19. However, normally we have a village to manage these tasks. Now, we don't.



The honeymoon is over in communities where the Delta variant has taken hold. Since back to school, I've spent weeks filling in for principals, supervising children, checking children's temperatures and providing them masks, directing traffic in the parking lot, picking up garbage, wiping down cafeteria tables — all of which are required to run safe schools in these times. I've talked to other heads of schools that can say the same thing or something similar since the start of this school year. The same culprit continues to affect us all — COVID-

Staffing shortages are severe and there are no substitutes to be had. Further aggravating the situation, are public health rules that require paid school staff who test negative for COVID-19 but remain unvaccinated to stay home for 10 days at a time, when they are exposed to someone who tests positive. It

leaves the rest of us — including the students — without a teacher, cafeteria worker, or janitorial staff. We have to throw on five or six hats in order to ensure that our students are educated.

Necessary? Yes. Sustainable? No.

Governor Gavin Newsom took a good first step when he required school employees to be vaccinated, but he left a gaping loophole. He allowed school staff to test-out of being vaccinated by committing to take a COVID test twice a week. Then he put the burden on schools to become COVID testing centers overnight for the employees who refuse to get vaccinated.

The result is that these

staff who refuse vaccination have to be benched for two weeks every time they get exposed to someone who tests positive for COVID-19. Imagine, if you will, being a part of a 40-person team and every week there are 10 people who are forced to quarantine for two weeks, leaving 30 team members to do the work of 40 during that first week. That's one person doing their job and the additional work of three coworkers. These types of staffing outages are debilitating schools across the state. There are news reports of schools having to shut down classrooms for lack of staff.

Some major school systems with the political clout have taken matters

into their own hands. Los Angeles Unified, for example, has closed the loophole and is requiring all school employees to be vaccinated. The state of California should do the same.

California has over 6 million students who can't afford for us to agree to anything less than 100% vaccination for school employees.

Yes, the policy could force out educators who refuse to get vaccinated but, they won't be working anyway if they get exposed to a positive case. Essentially, the unvaccinated have become hard to employ in a school setting. They can go out at any time and take down our schools with them.

We can't risk that.

Editor's Note: Dr. Margaret Fortune is the President/CEO of Fortune School, a system of nine, K-12 public charter schools with over 2,300 students focused on closing the Black achievement gap by preparing students for college. She is a State Delegate on the California Democratic Party (CDP) State Central Committee where she also is an elected member of the Executive Board of the CDP Black Caucus. Fortune is Treasurer of National Action Network (NAN) Sacramento and has been an education advisor to two California Governors. She is a graduate of the UC Berkeley and Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government.

Southwest Airlines Continues Scrubbing Flights, Citing Weather, Staffing

CITY NEWS SERVICE

Hundreds of Southwest Airlines flights were canceled again today, including about a dozen trips to and from Los Angeles International Airport, following a weekend of scrubbed flights the airline attributed to weather and other "external constraints."

According to flight tracker FlightAware, Southwest canceled roughly 360 flights nationwide as of early Monday afternoon, or about 10% of its schedule, including five originating at LAX and eight oth-

ers bound for Los Angeles.

On Sunday, more than 1,100 Southwest flights were scrubbed, according to FlightAware.

In a statement, Southwest officials said the issues began Friday evening, leading to "numerous cancellations, primarily created by weather and other external constraints, which left aircraft and crews out of pre-planned positions to operate our schedule on Saturday."

"Unfortunately, the out-of-place aircraft and continued strain on our crew resources created addition-

al cancellations across our point-to-point network that cascaded throughout the weekend and into Monday," according to the airline. "While we do not have specific airport numbers to share, Southwest Teams have been working diligently to restore stability to the network, and we are experiencing less disruptions on Monday. We hope to restore our full schedule as soon as possible."

The airline also insisted, "The operational challenges were not a result of Southwest employee demonstrations, as some



AP PHOTO/DAVID ZALUBOWSKI, FILE

Southwest Airlines canceled hundreds more flights Monday, Oct. 11, 2021 following a weekend of major service disruptions. By midmorning Monday, Southwest had canceled about 360 flights and more than 600 others were delayed.

outlets are reporting."

Some media reports have speculated that the issues could have been the

directed customers to use self-service rebooking options on Southwest.com, where updates on the status of their travel plans are available.

pilots and other employees calling in sick to protest COVID-19 vaccination mandates. The Southwest Airline Pilots Association went to court last week in an effort to block the mandate. But in a statement reported by Airline Weekly, the union insisted that Southwest's weekend of canceled flights were not the result of an employee labor action.

"We can say with confidence that our pilots are no participating in any official or unofficial job actions," according to the union statement.

Southwest Airlines

directed customers to use self-service rebooking options on Southwest.com, where updates on the status of their travel plans are available.

"To every customer that experienced a cancellation or delay, Southwest offers our sincerest regret regarding disrupted travel plans, and we look forward to a future opportunity to demonstrate our safe, reliable, friendly, and legendary Southwest Hospitality — something that customers should always expect from Southwest Airlines," according to the airline.

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Home-generated sharps waste such as hypodermic needles, pen needles, syringes, lancets, and intravenous needles SHOULD NOT be placed in your trash. Bring them to the Roundups or visit www.CLEANLA.com for alternate disposal options.

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Economist to Help Cal Reparations Task Force Attach Costs to Injustices

BY ANTONIO RAY HARVEY
California Black Media

With seven meetings left before drafting their final report, the California's Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals has enlisted the assistance of Dr. Darrick Hamilton, a scholar and leading national authority on race and public policy.

He is expected to bring an economic perspective to the work the group is doing.

The task force said it approved the appointment of the economics and urban policy professor at New York City's The New School and charged him with helping to quantify what compensation should be for Black people living in California.

Task force member Loyola Marymount University psychology professor Cheryl Grills praised Hamilton's selection.

"To the extent we are setting the stage for the federal reparations process, professor Hamilton brings a level of credibility that would bode well for the ability of our work, not only

for California but for the nation," she said.

Hamilton was not present at the September virtual



COURTESY PHOTO
Dr. Darrick Hamilton

reparations task force meeting but his perspectives on reparations and closing the racial wealth gap were clear in a discussion with Chicago-area journalist Mark Miller during a City of Evanston RoundTable podcast.

Reparations "grounds inequality and resource deprivation" in contrast to changing some "behavioral attitudes," Hamilton told Miller, making the case for

correcting past wrongs and getting people to understand why there should be change.

"Reparations is a retrospective, race-specific policy aimed at addressing both racial and economic justice," Hamilton continued. "It has with it a component of truth and reconciliation, which not only provides dignity to the history that Black people have experienced. But it helps change the narratives about poverty and inequality more broadly."

Hamilton has been involved in crafting progressive policy proposals, such as Baby Bonds, which are trust accounts for low income kids funded by taxpayers. He is also a proponent of the Federal Job Guarantee, policy that would mandate government to provide a job for any person that needs one. Those initiatives have garnered national media attention and served as inspirations for legislative proposals across the country at the federal, state, and local levels.

Hamilton also served as a member of the economic committee of the Biden-Sanders Unity Task Force

and testified before several U.S. Senate and House committees, including the Joint Economic Committee on the nation's potential policy responses to the COVID-19 pandemic-induced health and economic crises

The New School's Henry Cohen professor of Economics and Urban Policy, Hamilton is also the founding director of the Institute for the Study of Race, Stratification and Political Economy at the university where he started teaching last January.

Founded in 1919, the New School is a private research university in New York City.

Hamilton, Grills said, is "considered one of the country's foremost economists," scholars, and "public intellectuals." He was recently profiled in the New York Times, Mother Jones magazine, and the Wall Street Journal.

In 2017, Politico Magazine featured Hamilton in its feature "50 Ideas Shaping American Politics and the People Behind Them." He is also a member of the

Marguerite Casey Foundation in partnership with the Group Health Foundation's inaugural class of Freedom Scholars.

Task force member Jovan Scott Lewis, chair of the Department of Geography at UC Berkeley, said Hamilton's work will involve examining slavery, social issues, unjust laws, educational discrimination, loss of wealth, and systematic oppression.

"From an academic and intellectual standpoint, (Hamilton's) research, is and would be for our purposes, directly relevant because we are thinking about how to spread out in specific areas," Lewis said.

On Sept.30, 2020, California Gov. Gavin Newsom signed the state's historic reparations bill into law, Assembly Bill (AB) 3121.

AB 3121, titled "The Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans," created a nine-member commission to investigate the history of slavery in the United States, the extent of California's involvement in slavery, segregation, and

the denial of Black citizens their constitutional rights.

Members of the task force elected Kamilah V. Moore, a Los Angeles-based activist and attorney, as its chair. The group also elected Dr. Amos Brown, pastor of Third Baptist Church in San Francisco and president of that city's NAACP branch, as vice chair.

Besides Moore, Brown, Grills and Hamilton, the other task force members are state Sen. Steven Bradford (D-Gardena); Assemblymember Reggie Jones-Sawyer (D-Gardena); Lisa Holder, a racial and social justice attorney; and Monica Montgomery Stepe, a San Diego city councilmember.

Attorney Don Tamaki, Esq., an attorney best known for his role in the Supreme Court case of *Korematsu v. the United States* rounds out the nine-member panel. Tamaki overturned the conviction of Fred Korematsu who refused to be taken into custody during the imprisonment of Japanese Americans in World War II.

Senator Kamlager-Dove's C.R.I.S.E.S. Act, Supporting Local Solutions to Community Emergencies, Signed into Law by Governor Newsom

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

This week, Senator Sydney K. Kamlager-Dove's (D - Los Angeles) bill, AB 118: CRISES Act: Community Response Initiative to Strengthen Emergency Sys-

tems was signed into law by Governor Newsom.

"This victory is over a year in the making," said Senator Kamlager-Dove. "Black and Brown Californians have long been waiting for radical, community-

centered alternatives to police involvement. While it was disappointing to see the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act falter at the federal level, it's exciting to see California, once again, lead the way in advancing

racial justice. I'm overjoyed to see Governor Newsom sign the C.R.I.S.E.S. Act into law--it's about time we invest resources in community rather than criminalization."

Having been previously vetoed by the Governor and then promptly reintroduced by Senator Kamlager-Dove earlier this year, the C.R.I.S.E.S. Act will have a direct impact upon California communities. The bill, which has already secured \$10 million in funding in the state budget, creates a grant program to support community-based alternatives to police response during 911 calls.

"On Oct 10, 2016, my son Mauricio Barron was having a mental health crisis. He ended up on the I-5 freeway in Irvine and was hit by a car at 65 mph. A California Highway Patrol Officer responded to the call, and shot my son three times in the head and arm--from just seven feet away. Unarmed and injured, my son lost his life. Signing the C.R.I.S.E.S Act won't bring Mauricio back, but it could save lives in the future," shared Leticia Barron,

mother of Mauricio Barro and member of the California Stop Terrorism Oppression by Police (STOP)



COURTESY PHOTO
Senator Sydney K. Kamlager-Dove's (D - Los Angeles)

Coalition.

In cities across the state, community organizations have already proven successful in responding to emergency situations. In L.A., organizations like Second Call and Mustard Seed intervene to build peace. In Sacramento and Oakland, Mental Health First manages a hotline for residents in need of immediate mental health intervention. After support teams address the immediate crisis, they work to

strengthen the individual's support system and connect them to resources.

Now, organizations like these will be able to tap into funds set up by the C.R.I.S.E.S Act.

"The C.R.I.S.E.S. Act is essential legislation to allow programs such as 'Street Cred,' housed at the Youth Justice Coalition in South Central L.A., to sustain the work we are already doing to support some of our most vulnerable community members struggling with opioid and drug abuse," added David Dodson, Peacebuilder at Youth Justice Coalition's Street Outreach Team ("Street CRED").

"Last summer, we talked a lot about California's 'racial reckoning,'" added Senator Kamlager-Dove. "Now, while over a year later, we can point to the C.R.I.S.E.S Act as real, concrete evidence that California is beginning to re-engineer it's criminal legal system--a system that has long criminalized and failed its Black and Brown communities. I look forward to this next chapter in our state's history."

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Thompson Dedicates Time and Talents to Uplifting Compton

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Staff Writer

Uplifting Compton motivates Andrew “Harley-Drew” Thompson to devote his time and talents to the cause. In fact, both his company and his volunteer efforts focus on improving the city of his birth.

As the owner of Screamin Eagles Services, Thompson and his staff of 12 clean up illegal dumping and abandoned encampment sites around Compton. In business since 2014, the firm also performs building and parking lot maintenance, graffiti removal, freight hauling and demolition work.

His volunteer activities include partnering with a local Harley-Davidson dealer to present free workshops for youth to learn about motorcycle riding, care and upkeep. He also holds sessions to train young people about heavy-duty truck operations. Every class highlights the potential careers within each field.

Explaining the reason behind his efforts, Thompson attributes the example set by his grandfather, John

McCoullum, who ran a motorcycle shop. In addition to repairing and custom-building bikes, McCoullum taught neighborhood children about the

Harley-Davidson worker. “He let them see the value of being a man by taking care of your community and your family. He inspired me to keep that



Andrew “Harley-Drew” Thompson

vehicles.

“I’m inspired by my grandfather. He’s the reason why I have the drive that I do now. I watched him take kids in the ghetto, bring them to his shop to show them how to work on motorcycles. When he had biker runs, he’d take kids with him to get them out of the hood, so they could see that there’s more to life than just being in the ghetto,” said the 36-year-old Thompson, a former

legacy going as I got older. [I try to] get them on the right track at a young age and train them and mold



Harley-Davidson co-sponsored the session aimed at young people from Compton.

them to be great,” he added.

The variety of jobs in this area will help youngsters on the path to greatness, noted Thompson, who said positions range from mechanics to owners to sales associates and marketers. Truck drivers and equipment operators command lucrative salaries

as well.

“My company owns bobcat tractors and I show youth how to operate them because there’s good money in the construction field operating bobcats and heavy duty equipment like that,” Thompson said. “I

learned to operate heavy equipment through my uncle. I had hands-on training watching him at a young age and he was a great teacher!”

Thompson applied the knowledge and principles he gleaned from his family to his Screamin Eagles Services, which was actual-

ly a major factor in his starting the business. Troubled by the amount of illegal dumping in Compton, he purchased trucks and equipment and began doing volunteer cleanups around the city with the help of like-minded acquaintances. Later, he learned that cities engaged private companies to remove graffiti and illegal dumping, so he submitted a bid and was awarded the contract to cleanup junky sites and marked-up buildings in Compton. Recently, Screamin Eagles workers did such great work clear-

ing an encampment by a railroad track that the train CEO publicly commended the firm on an outstanding job.

“[We’ve picked up] over 1,000 tons in the city of Compton. My goal is to employ more people from the community and actually help clean up encampments throughout the Los Angeles area,” said Thompson.

“I want to use my skills to change lives and inspire lives in my community and create programs. Everything I’m doing is because I’m passionate about it,” stressed the young entrepreneur, who just established the nonprofit Screamin Eagles Operations to garner support and funding to produce recreational, vocational and life skills programs for Compton young people.

“I just want to keep growing, elevating and spreading positive energy. I want the young and old to understand each other and work together for our future and our community.”

To learn about the free sessions, contact Andrew “Harley-Drew” Thompson on Instagram @screamineaglesservices.



Thompson instructs youth on the care and upkeep of motorcycles.

Kehinde Wiley

A PORTRAIT OF A YOUNG GENTLEMAN



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The Way West: Reparations Task Force Looks at Black Migration to California

BY ANTONIO RAY HARVEY
California Black Media

I was leaving the South to fling myself into the unknown...

I was taking a part of the South to transplant in alien soil, to see if it could grow differently, if it could drink of new and cool rains, bend in strange winds, respond to the warmth of other suns and, perhaps, to bloom.

-Richard Wright, the author of Black Boy, 1945

During its third meeting, California's Task Force to



PHOTO FROM SHADES OF L.A. COLLECTION, COURTESY LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY

pointing out that no other group of Americans has been displaced under simi-

vacancies. By 1919, an estimated one million Southern Blacks had departed for the

people.

According to KCET, a Southern California public television network, the Black population in Los Angeles grew from 63,700 in 1940s to 763,000 in 1970. The migration was largely fueled by job openings in industries manufacturing automobiles, rubber, and steel. The presence of Blacks became evident along Central Avenue between 8th and 20th streets in California's largest city.

"(Black southerners) were recruited to the North and West to fill labor shortages in the steel mills, factories and shipyards," Wilkerson said. "It turned out that they wanted the labor but did not want the people."

The response to the Great Migration was "structural barriers of exclusion," Wilkerson said. Restrictive covenants required White property owners to agree not to sell to Black people and many areas in large and mid-range cities were redlined to deny services to Blacks.

"By law and by policies, parents, grandparents or great-grandparents of almost every African American alive today (were denied) the greatest source of wealth in this country: homeownership, the American Dream itself," Wilkerson said.

"With all the testimony I've heard, I don't see how any person of conscience, character and civility could not understand that the facts have been given," said Task Force vice-chair, the Rev. Amos Brown, pastor of Third Baptist Church in San Francisco and president of that city's NAACP branch.

The purpose of the nine-member Task Force is to study and develop reparation proposals for African Americans and recommend appropriate ways to educate the Californians about the task force's findings.

Sanctioned from 1619

singers, jazz musicians, novelists, surgeons, attorneys, professors, accountants, and legislators," Wilkerson said. "How do we know that? Because that is what they and their children, grandchildren and now great-grandchildren have often chosen to become."

Wilkerson first gained national attention in 1994, when she became the first Black woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing in 1994, while employed as Chicago Bureau Chief of The New York Times.

Wilkerson's parents are both from Southern



PHOTO FROM SHADES OF L.A. COLLECTION, COURTESY LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY

Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans looked at reasons formerly enslaved Black people migrated to the Golden State -- and detailed setbacks they faced after arriving.

During the period historians dub the "Great Migration" -- which lasted from the early 1900s through the 1970s -- approximately six million Black Americans

lar conditions.

After President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, the Reconstruction era began. It was a period of prosperity as some Blacks in different places began to establish businesses and communities; contest for (and win) political office; establish schools, and more.

But it was short-lived because of White backlash,

North.

By the 1930s, the Great Depression had slowed Black migration. But the revival of the exodus from the South, a period historians call the "Second Great Migration," started around 1939.

This time around, California was a major destination.

As Black people left the South, Wilkerson said, they



PHOTO FROM SHADES OF L.A. COLLECTION, COURTESY LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY

to 1865, legalized slavery in the United States deprived more than four million Africans and their descendants of citizenship rights and economic opportunity. After it was abolished, government institutions at the federal, state, and local levels perpetuated, condoned, and often profited from practices that disadvantaged African Americans and excluded them from participation in society.

"On those sugar, rice, and tobacco fields (in the deep south) were opera

states, but they stayed in Washington D.C., where she was born, after meeting at Howard University. It was her parents' migration northward, she says, that inspired her research on an era that helped to shape the country's current demographics.

"Slavery has lasted so long that it will not be until next year, 2022, that the United States would have been a free and independent nation for as long as slavery lasted on this soil," she said.



Woman stands in front of a home at 48th Place and Compton Avenue.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY, SHADES OF LA COLLECTION.

relocated from Deep South states to Northern, Midwestern, Eastern and Western states. Significant numbers ended up in California, escaping Jim Crow laws and racial violence and seeking economic opportunity.

Wilkerson said.

By the early 1900s, Racist White Southerners began to terrorize freed Black people with cross burnings, and racial violence -- and discriminate against them by instituting Jim Crow laws.

"followed three, beautifully predictable streams -- pathways to freedom." The first two led to Eastern and Midwestern states. The "West coast stream," Wilkerson told the task force, "carried people from Louisiana and



Ruth Davis, William Love, and Bernice Patton (RN, 2nd Lt. Army) at Shepp's Playhouse

PHOTO FROM SHADES OF L.A. COLLECTION, COURTESY OF LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY

Isabel Wilkerson, author of "The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration," described the movement as "a redistribution of Black people."

"It was the only time in America's history that American citizens had to flee the land of their birth just to be recognized as the citizen that they had always been," Wilkerson said,

There was a spike in lynching, and a sharecropping system that mirrored the conditions of slavery began to take form in the 11 former slaveholding states.

Under those policies, opportunities for Blacks were almost nonexistent.

After World War I began in Europe in 1914, there was a shortage of labor. Factories started luring Black people North to fill

Texas out to California and the entire West Coast."

World War II created an expansion of the country's defense industry, according to the United States National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). During this time, more jobs were available to African Americans. California cities such as Los Angeles, San Francisco and Oakland began to see an influx of Black

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Taste of Soul Brings A 'Day of Service & Soul' to the Community

(continued from Pg. A-1)

Soul week, on Tuesday, October 12, a Pfizer Vaccine Day was hosted in partnership with Mothers in Action and the L.A. County Department of Public Health from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the parking lot of the L.A. Sentinel.

This year's TOS Chairs are Mayor Eric Garcetti, Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell, Councilmembers Marqueece Harris Dawson, Mark Ridley-Thomas, and Curren Price. Co-Chairs

Sentinel, Mothers in Action, Brotherhood Crusade, the City of Los Angeles, the County of Los Angeles, Radio Free KJLH 102.3 FM, 94.7 the WAVE and CBS2/KCAL9.

Proud Sponsors include Metro, Chase Bank, SEIU 2015, California Teachers Association/UTLA, LADWP, Metropolitan Water District, South Coast AQMD, Kaiser Permanente, LA County, Bank of America, Cedars-Sinai, Airbnb, City National Bank, Community Build, LA



is a community, there will be a Taste of Soul. In addition to the other offerings, attendees will receive gift bags, gift cards, distribution of materials to promote COVID-19 vaccines, COVID testing and tickets to purchase hot meals from local restaurants. Food and other items will be distributed on a FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE basis (while supplies last).

'Day of Service & Soul' to the community is a COVID-19 safe event, so please remember to



Last year's TOS' Community Service Day provided families with food and PPE supplies. PHOTOS E. MESIAH MCGINNIS / L.A. SENTINEL



and partners are found on www.tasteofsoul.org

Special thanks for groceries provided by: The LA Food Bank & Community Build. Hot meals provided by: Dulan's on Crenshaw, Hotville Chicken, Earle's on Crenshaw, Mel's Fish, The District by GS, Chef Marilyn's Soul Food Kitchen and Harold & Belle's.

Taste of Soul has wel-

comed millions of people throughout the years to enjoy the family festival and looks forward to being back on Crenshaw Boulevard in 2022 celebrating with great entertainment, food, and fun.

In 2020, the 15th Annual Taste of Soul kept everyone safely at home watching the festival online and provided entertainment and positive

community messaging to everyone during an uncertain time. The drive-thru event saw an endless line of cars receive food and produce delivered by masked volunteers observing social distancing. We look forward to serving our community safely again this year.

Taste of Soul is about the community, about the people and as long as there

mask-up and stay in your cars. Due to limited resources and safety measures, walk-ups are not permitted.

"Thank you for all of your support of Taste of Soul," said Bakewell. "You have turned us into a community institution that is second to none."



include Congresswoman Karen Bass, Senators Steve Bradford and Sydney Kamlager, Assemblymembers Reggie Jones-Sawyer, Mike Gipson, Autumn Burke and Isaac Bryan, LAUSD 1, George McKenna, Pat Harvey, CBS2/KCAL9 Anchor and Law Firm: Ivie, McNeill, Wyatt, Purcell & Diggs.

This will be a special and bittersweet TOS this year as this will be Garcetti's last festival as mayor. He and other elected officials plan to be on site from 10:30 am – 11:00 a.m. to hand out food and gift cards to families in cars.

This year's TOS partners include The Bakewell Company, the Los Angeles

World Airports, US Bank, Westfield, Boeing, AT&T, Dodgers Foundation, Acts Inspired by Mookie (AIM), Disney, Vermont Slouson Economic Development Corporation and Lee Andrews Group. Other partners include The LA Food Bank, the Los Angeles Federation of Labor, Labor Community Services, UDW, AFGE, Teamsters Black Caucus, Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), Able Solutions, Quality Equipment Rentals, National Action Network of Los Angeles and Orange County, Avenues of Life, Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza, Black Women's Democratic Club, SEIU 721, SEIU 2015. Sponsors

Your Voice, Your Power

The Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission invites you

to join the community public hearing to review 2021 Draft district maps on:

Saturday, October 16th at 10am

These important hearings are part of a public process to draw City Council District maps with the input of the City's residents. The Commission will present draft maps informed by 2020 Census, public and written testimony and other relevant data sources.

This will be the last chance we get to hear from you before the maps get sent to the Los Angeles City Council for final approval on October 29, 2021. We need to hear your opinion about these maps. **Do the maps truly reflect the boundaries of your community? Is your Council District set up to ensure you and your neighbors are fairly represented?**

Come join our virtual meetings and let us know. Your voice is your power.

- **To attend or participate:** go to <http://bit.ly/LACCRCZoom>
 - **To listen only:** Call 1-669-254-5252, enter 161 545 4787#
 - **To submit written comments:** go to <http://bit.ly/lacitycoi>
- You can also watch these hearings by going to **LA CITYVIEW 35** on cable **Channel 35** (in the City of LA) or website at lacityview.org/live and on **YouTube** at [@laccrc2021](https://www.youtube.com/@laccrc2021).

Please share this invitation with your neighbors, friends, and family.

If you require **translation services** please let us know at 213-263-5765.

For more information about the City's redistricting process, visit

<http://redistricting2021.lacity.org>

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The mission of the Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission is to make sure that all community members have fair and equal representation on the Los Angeles City Council.

To learn more about your council district and community go to the City of Los Angeles' "My Neighborhood Information" at www.lacity.org/residents

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Mothers In Action will be hosting a mobile vaccine site operated by LA Department of Public Health COVID Mobile Vaccination Clinic for **Pfizer 1st and 2nd doses (AGES 12 & up) and Pfizer booster (for those who qualify)**



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OCT. 12 & NOV. 2 • 2021

WHAT

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WHO

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NO-COST



Small Businesses Hard-Hit by the Pandemic in South L.A. Receive

Partnership Between LISC LA and Kaiser Permanente Offers a Life-Line

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Cary Jordan Jr. has experienced first-hand how the COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating impact on small businesses.

At the height of the pandemic, the legacy family business owner of Jordan's Hot Dogs on Crenshaw Boulevard said the South L.A. family-style restaurant with its full menu of American favorites such as hamburgers, hot dogs and a secret-recipe chile lost more than 30% of its business. He was concerned about the future.

Today, thanks to assistance from Local Initiatives Support Corporation Los Angeles (LISC LA), with the help of nearly \$1 million in funding for small business assistance from Kaiser Permanente, Jordan's Hot Dogs is rebounding and doing well.

"Emphatically yes!" Jordan responded, when asked if the funding assistance his family-run business received made a difference. "We're not a franchise, so it was very helpful in keeping our business going despite difficult times."

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a debilitating effect on many small busi-

nesses' ability to sustain themselves, causing a large number to struggle in keeping their doors open. Many were forced to lay off employees who relied on their paychecks to support and feed their families.

With the help of the nearly \$1 million in funding from Kaiser Permanente, LISC LA has been able to offer invaluable assistance to small business owners in hard-hit South L.A., like Jordan's Hot Dogs. This has enabled them to continue operating despite hard challenges caused by the pandemic.

Tunua Thrash-Ntuk, executive director of LISC LA, said the organization's partnership with Kaiser Permanente has had a very positive impact on communities such as the Crenshaw-Slauson Corridor, where many diverse-owned small businesses have struggled to survive.

"LISC LA is grateful to have partners like Kaiser Permanente that share our goal of closing the racial health, wealth and opportunity gaps, as well as creating real, lasting change," she said. "Partnerships like these are crucial in advancing equitable growth for diverse communities and businesses, including those



Cary Joran Jr. (left) stands next to his father Cary Jordan Sr. outside of their Crenshaw Boulevard restaurant Jordan's Hot Dogs, a small business that benefited from the partnership between Kaiser Permanente and LISC LA. COURTESY/KAISER

that are owned by women and people of color."

The collaboration between Kaiser Permanente and LISC LA has resulted in struggling small businesses in the Crenshaw-Slauson Boulevard Corridor to withstand Covid-related economic challenges. It has also enabled many to remain open, keep their employees, and in many cases even grow.

Jordan noted the restaurant was able to secure a \$20,000 grant from LISC LA thanks to Kaiser Permanente funding that was used

to offset costs associated with production, operations and payroll, which kept the small business afloat. Assistance was also provided that helped Jordan's Hot Dogs to rebrand and better market itself using the power of social media via Facebook and Instagram. That in turn has strengthened the bottom-line, helping the restaurant to rebound during challenging times.

"Being a small business, we didn't have a lot of capital to handle day-to-day operations, especially in the midst of a pandemic,"

Jordan explained. "It was amazing that we could have that funding to assist us, and it made a huge difference."

The partnership between Kaiser Permanente and LISC focuses on three main objectives to aid small businesses:

Grow small and medium businesses: Through public resources, partners such as Kaiser Permanente, and LISC's own lending apparatus, LISC is helping local small businesses grow by delivering technical support and facilitating capital access.

Help residents increase income and wealth: Leveraging its evidence-based Financial Opportunity Center model, including the Bridges to Career component, LISC and its partners are connecting people to quality jobs and enhancing their financial security through financial coaching, reskilling and collaboration with anchor employers.

Revitalizing neighborhoods and commercial corridors: Work with local government and community partners to retrofit and activate under-utilized spaces into havens for small businesses. This includes neighborhood planning, as well as providing grants, lending capital, and techni-

cal assistance for partners pursuing key real estate and infrastructure projects.

John Yamamoto, Kaiser Permanente's vice president of Community Health and Government Relations, said the health care organization that has 4.7 million members in Southern California is committed to efforts aimed at improving the health of the communities it serves. This includes providing quality health care and addressing the upstream causes of poor health such as poverty, income disparities and lack of economic opportunity.

"There's a strong correlation between economic disparities and health disparities in the communities Kaiser Permanente serves, including South Los Angeles where residents have higher rates of chronic disease and lower life expectancy," Yamamoto said. "Kaiser Permanente is partnering with LISC to improve community health by supporting small businesses that drive inclusive economic revitalization, create jobs and healthy environments in the Crenshaw Corridor, and by assisting residents in building the financial foundation for better health."



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Thank you Taste of Soul for the continued work you do to serve others in the community.

100 Black Men of Los Angeles host 40th Anniversary Gala

Oct. 23 event to honor Maxine Waters, Holly Mitchell and Dr. Thomas Parham, Wells Fargo and Salesforce

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The 100 Black Men of Los Angeles will be holding its 40th Anniversary Virtual

ties. The non-profit professional mens organization provides talent and leadership to Black youth. More than 23,000 stu-

Empowerment," said Kirk Williams, Sr., organization president. "Our members represent a variety of professions and they are eager to share their expertise and thereby uplift our communities."

Tickets for the Oct. 23 event are \$100 each. Unlike several "virtual" events that have been staged during the pandemic, this gala being planned by 100 Black Men of Los Angeles will actually include delivered meals, at an additional cost. There are four options for the dinner, ranging from roast beef to a vegetarian pasta dish. Tickets and meals can be purchased at <https://www.100bmla.net>. The last day to order meals and cocktails is Friday, Oct. 15.

This year, the organization will present the Lifetime Achievement Award



Maxine Waters



Holly Mitchell



Dr. Thomas Parham



Gala on Saturday, Oct. 23, at 5pm.

Founded in 1981, the mission of 100 Black Men of Los Angeles is to improve the quality of life for African Americans and other minorities through the enhancement of educational and economic opportuni-

ties. The non-profit professional mens organization provides talent and leadership to Black youth. More than 23,000 students have utilized its programs and 90 percent of their students matriculate to college.

"We help drive positive impact for our youth in the Los Angeles community in the areas of Mentoring, Education, Health and Wellness and Economic

to the Honorable Rep. Maxine Waters (D-43); its Woman of the Year Award to L.A. County Supervisor Holly J. Michell; and the Man of the Year Award to Thomas A. Parham, President of Cal State Dominguez Hills (CSUDH). Community Partner Awards will be given to Salesforce and

Wells Fargo Bank. Corporate sponsors include Enterprise Rent-A-Car, iBoss, Los Angeles Capital; Mervyn M. Dymally AA Political & Economic Institute, Neudesic, FTI Consulting, UCLA Health, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, City of Hope, and United Way Greater Los

Angeles. There will be surprise celebrity guests and performances by top Billboard recording artist Nia Allen. Sponsorships are still available. For more information about 100 Black Men of LA and its programs for middle and high school students, visit www.100bmla.net.

L.A. Council Members Seek Encampment Enforcement at Civic Center Locations

CITY NEWS SERVICE

Six Los Angeles City Council members introduced a resolution today to enforce the city's ordinance to restrict homeless encampments at four locations in and around the Civic Center.

The resolution requests enforcement against sitting, lying, sleeping and storing personal property at:

- 711 N. Alameda St., outside Union Station, citing its proximity to a designated facility or shelter;
- 310 N. Main St., outside City Hall, citing its

proximity to a designated facility or shelter;

- 111 E. First St., outside City Hall East, citing its proximity to a day care center; and
- 125 Paseo De La Plaza, near El Pueblo de Los Angeles, citing its proximity to a public park.

The resolution was co-introduced by Council President Nury Martinez, Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez, and Councilmen Kevin de Leon, Paul Krekorian, Bob Blumenfeld and Paul Koretz. It was seconded by Councilman Mitch

O'Farrell, who also introduced a resolution Wednesday to enforce the ordinance at nine underpass locations in his district.

The law, which went into effect Sept. 3, prohibits sleeping, sitting, camping and obstructing the public right of way within 500 feet of a "sensitive" facility including schools, day care facilities, parks and libraries. It can be enforced once the council passes a resolution to designate a specific area for enforcement, posts signage and gives notice of the date that the ordinance will be

enforced for the area.

Enforcement can also be conducted once a resolution passes within:

- up to 500 feet of a designated overpass, underpass, freeway ramp, tunnel, bridge, pedestrian bridge, subway, wash or spreading ground, railroad track or where lodging unsheltered or in tents is unhealthy, unsafe and incompatible with safe passage; and
- up to 1,000 feet of a facility opened after Jan. 1, 2018, that provides shelter, safe sleeping, safe parking or navigation centers for

persons experiencing homelessness.

On Sept. 14, the City Council approved a street engagement strategy that provides outreach teams to deploy to areas chosen for enforcement. The teams will assess the encampments, determine how long engagement will take place, collaborate with city and county departments, as well as non-profits, and connect encampment residents with services and interim and permanent housing placements.

The ordinance also prohibits sitting, sleeping, lying,

storing personal property or otherwise obstructing the public right-of-way without a resolution's passage in several areas of the city, including within two feet of any fire hydrant or fire plug; within five feet of any operational or utilizable entrance or exit; within 10 feet of a loading dock or driveway; in a manner that interferes with any activity for which the city has issued a permit or restricts accessible passage as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act; or anywhere within a street, including bike paths.

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RELIGION

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2021

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B-3

New Hope Baptist – A Loving Church on Fire for the Lord

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Religion Editor

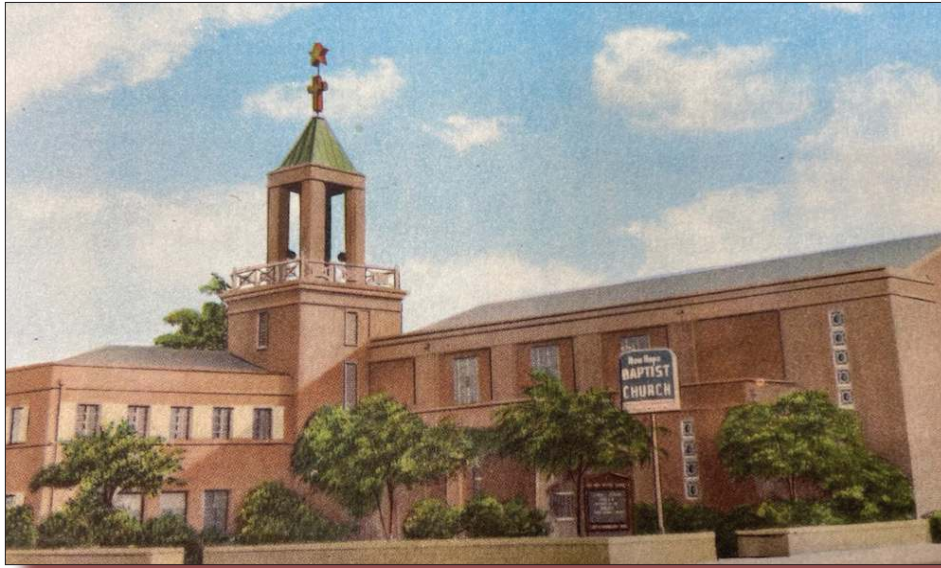
A loving and faithful membership on fire for Christ perfectly describes the New Hope Baptist Church of Los Angeles. The mid-sized congregation has joyfully spread the Gospel for the past 115 years and they don't intend to slow down.

Parishioners worship in the historic edifice located on a manicured campus at 5200 S. Central Avenue in South L.A. The expansive building, designed by the renowned African American architect, Paul Revere Williams, features a spacious sanctuary, lighted baptismal pool, sectional choir loft and offices for the pastor, administrative staff and church auxiliaries and ministries.

Although the complex is impressive, it's efforts of the people - the pastors and the members - that led to New Hope's reputation as a spirit-filled Body of Christ who welcomes oth-



Church members Joy Randall and Patricia Henderson



The New Hope edifice was designed by renowned architect Paul Revere Williams.

ers to fellowship and join them in serving the Lord.

"I just love my church. It's a family church and a loving church. They just put their arms around you when you come in and it's just wonderful," said Joy Randall, chair of the Trustees Board, who was nine-years-old when she joined New Hope with her family.

"After people sit through a service, they usually want to join our church. I think that seeing a variety of people makes them more comfortable. We're not a church just for Black people, we're for Christians," added Patricia Henderson, a member since she was 10-years-old.

Randall and Henderson are among the members with deep roots at New Hope. Randall's parents raised her in the church and she raised her children there, resulting in three

generations of her family at New Hope. Henderson treasures Bible lessons she learned as a teen from then-Pastor James S. McKnight.

New Hope's community outreach activities have always made an impact on Randall's life. For decades, members have supported the food distribution and tutoring and education programs.

"We also have a benevolence arm where we assist people who come to the church for assistance," said Randall, noting that the pandemic had resulted in reduced finances and even job losses for many residents and New Hope members contribute to aid others in need.

New Hope's multicultural and multigenerational membership is also distinctive, Henderson shared. The congregation is not only comprised of all ages,

but also includes White and Latino worshippers who praise God "with just as much spirit and enthusiasm" as the African American members.

"Our church is open to

different people and we're very faithful in helping individuals. We've had people come to the church who have had problems and we sit down and talk to them. We try and help people," stressed Henderson.

Many people are assisted through programs held at the church's B.O. Byrd Memorial Christian Education Center. Older community members are aided by residing at the New Hope Senior Villa, an affordable apartment complex located on Central Avenue and 50th Street.

Currently, the New Hope members are seeking a pastor to lead the congregation. The duties include preaching and teaching the Gospel, directing church ministries, and promoting the growth of New Hope.

Applicants must possess a college degree, preferably in divinity or its equivalent, from an accredited seminary and have at least six years of experience as a Baptist minister. Other qualifications are upright Christian character, sound personal financial history and successfully passing a background check.

New Hope resumed in-person worship on Sunday, July 4, following CDC guidelines, which include social distancing, mask wearing and sanitizing stations. Sunday services can also be accessed via live stream, Zoom and conference calls.

To learn more about New Hope Baptist Church of Los Angeles, call (323) 232-4326 or email newhbc@pacbell.net.



Youngsters Darius Sullivan and Zion Vargas responded to the invitation to accept Christ and join New Hope during the worship service on Sunday, October 10. Looking on are Anthony Sullivan, Deacon Leonard Wade, Rev. Kevin Dotson and Sis. Valerie Totorici.

REJECTED STONE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP MARKS 18 YEARS

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Religion Editor

Rejected Stone Christian Fellowship will mark nearly two decades of Christian and community service during its 18th anniversary celebration on Sunday, October 17, at 3:30 p.m.

The outdoor worship service will be held on the church's campus located at 4700 Avalon Blvd in Los



Pastor Walter Davis

Angeles, said Pastor Walter Davis, who shared that recipients of the annual Barbara Ann Thomas Award will be recognized.

"Usually, we salute individuals who have rendered exceptional service to the church and community. However, this year we will pay tribute to loved ones lost to the COVID-19 virus or related medical causes," said Davis.

"We invite the com-

munity to submit photos, which will be posted on our 'Never Forgotten Beloved Ones' memorial display board at the event."

In past years, Rejected Stone members have honored a range of people including Alice Boston of the Goshen K. International Outreach, activist and entrepreneur Orlean Dubuclet, mediator and youth advocate Ward Wesley, and entertainer, community

leader and business owner William "Bill" Foster.

Foster had a decades-long music career. He traveled the country as a member of The Medallions R&B group. He was very close with singer Etta James for whom he wrote the song, "I'd Rather Go Blind." Foster also opened one of the first sober living facilities in Los Angeles, Chains of Love, in 1987.

The church also sup-

ports young people in the congregation and the community. Davis and the Rejected Stone congregation have sponsored 30-to-50 young people and guardians on 13 annual youth education trips to instructional and cultural destinations for a number of years.

To learn more, call (323) 830-7800 or email rejectedstonechristianfellowship@yahoo.com.

Crawford Presents 26th Annual L.A.M.P.S. Conference

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Spiritual leaders in every area of ministry are invited to attend the 26th Annual L.A.M.P.S. (Leaders, Apostolic, Mentoring, Prophetic, Seminars) International Conference.

The virtual event takes place on Sunday, October 17, and continues through Wednesday, October 20.

The theme is, "One Nation Under God: The Gathering" based on Revelation



Apostle Beverly Crawford

21:24 and Psalm 46:10. The conference donation is \$20.

"During these perilous times, full of danger or risk that we are living in, this seminar will help you to be more effective in your

calling for the purpose of multiplying strong churches, businesses and marketplace ministries around the world," said Apostle Beverly "Bam" Crawford, conference host and pastor of Bible Enrichment Fellowship International Church in Inglewood.

The featured speakers are Archbishop Kirby Clements, senior pastor of The Community of the Holy Spirit and the co-founder of The International Connection of Ministries; Rabbi Stewart Dauermann, director of Interfaithfulness and an interfaith futurist; Apostle Jamillah Mantilla, an executive at Global

Business Imagineer Enterprises, Inc. (GBI); and Pastor Miguel Mantilla of Apostolic Global Favor Prayer Embassy.

Encouraging all ministry leaders to participate, Crawford added, "The purpose of L.A.M.P.S. is to provide guidance, informa-

tion, instruction and fellowship. Fueled with the oil of the Holy Spirit, L.A.M.P.S. will furnish warmth and light for leaders and ministers who face challenging personal, family and marital situations."

To register, visit www.bamcm.org.

West Angeles CDC and UCLA Host 'SOUL' Community Health Fair

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Religion Editor

West Angeles Community Development Corporation (WACDC) will host the 'SOUL' Community Health Fair on Saturday, October 23, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the West Angeles Cathedral parking lot, 3600 Crenshaw Blvd., in Los Angeles.

UCLA's Pillipinos for Community Health will co-sponsor the event, which will feature a wide range of free services for children and adults. The healthcare options include COVID-19 tests and vaccinations as well as screenings for body mass index (BMI), blood

pressure/hypertension, glucose, cholesterol, dental, vision and mammograms. Also, free 'SOUL' meals will be provided by Dulan's Restaurant and other complimentary amenities will be available, too.

WACDC is a nonprofit organization based in the Crenshaw district of Los Angeles. Their mission is to increase social and economic justice, demonstrate compassion and alleviate poverty as tangible expressions of the Kingdom of God through the vehicle of community development.

For more information, visit westangelescdc.org or call (323) 751-3440.

New Hope Baptist Church of Los Angeles
SEEKING A PASTOR

Please send resume to:
NHBCA Pastoral Search Committee
5200 South Central Avenue
P.O. Box 11247
Los Angeles, CA 90011
Church Office 323-232-4326

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 11, 2021

The Metamorphosis of Frank Benson Jones
Pilot — Panther — Preacher

Frank Benson Jones has been a youth who lived in the segregated South, but who was ignorant of racism and accepted it as the norm. He became a military pilot who worked on a top-secret CIA project in Vietnam, a pilot for United Airlines, the managing editor of the Black Panther Newspaper, and the Deputy Minister of Information for the Black Panther Party, an embezzler and a forger, an orthodox Muslim, and now a nonconformist minister of the Gospel.

Book available at Amazon.com

•DR. MAULANA KARENGA•

Raising the Million Man March: Remembering and Reaffirming Its Mission

It was 26 years ago, October 16, 1995, that we stood firmly together, 2 million plus strong in Washington, D.C. Called to action by Min. Louis Farrakhan, the Nation of Islam and the critical juncture and demands of our history, we declared our commitment to assume a new and expanded responsibility in life, love and struggle. Below follows an excerpt from the Million Man March/Day of Absence Mission Statement focusing on the shared responsibility of Black men and women in holding themselves responsible, as well as the government and corporate world, and raising issues insightfully and compelling current.

“Central to our practice of responsibility is holding responsible those in power who have oppressed and wronged us through various challenges. At the core of the practice of speaking truth to power is the moral challenge to it to be responsible, to cease its abuse, exploitation and oppression, and to observe its basic role as a structure instituted to secure human rights, not to violate them or assist in their violation. And where it has violated its trust, it must be compelled to change.

Historically, the U.S. government has participated in one of the greatest holocausts of human history, the Holocaust of African Enslavement . . . Moreover, even after the Holocaust, racist suppression continued, destroying lives, communities and possibilities . . . We thus call on the government of the United States to atone for the historical and current wrongs it has committed against African people and other people of color. Especially, do we call on the government of this country to address the

morally compelling issue of the Holocaust of African Enslavement. To do this, the government must: publicly admit its role and the role of the country in the Holocaust; publicly apologize for it; publicly recognize its moral meaning to us and humanity through establishing institutions and educational processes which preserve memory of it, teach the lessons and horror of its history and stress the dangers and destructiveness of denying human dignity and human freedom; pay reparations; and discontinue any and all practices which continue its effects or threaten its repetition.

We call on the government to also atone for its role in criminalizing a whole people, for its policies of destroying, discrediting, disrupting and otherwise neutralizing Black leadership, for spending more money on imprisonment than education, and on weapons of war than social development; for dismantling regulations that restrained corporations in their degradation of the environment and failing to check a deadly environmental racism that encourages placement of toxic waste in communities of color. And of course, we call for a halt to all of this.

Furthermore, we call on the government to stop undoing hard won gains such as affirmative action, voting rights and districting favorable to maximum Black political participation; to provide universal, full and affordable health care; to provide and support programs for affordable housing; to pass the Conyers Reparations Bill; to repeal the Omnibus Crime Bill; to halt disinvestment in social development and stop penalizing the urban



DR. MAULANA KARENGA

and welfare poor and using them as scapegoats; to adopt an economic bill of rights including a plan to rebuild the wasting cities; to craft and institute policies to preserve and protect the environment; and to halt the privatization of public wealth, space and responsibility.

In addition, we call on the government of the U.S. to stop blaming people of color for problems created by ineffective government and corporate greed and irresponsibility; to honor the treaties signed with Native Peoples of the U.S., and to respect their just claims and interests; to increase and expand efforts to eliminate race, class and gender discrimination, and to stop pandering to white fears and white supremacy hatreds and illusions and help create a new vision of human and societal possibilities. We also are compelled to call on the government of this country to craft a sensible and moral foreign policy that provides for equal treatment of African, Caribbean and other Third World refugees and countries; that forgives foreign debt to former colonies; that fosters a

just and equitable peace and recognizes the right of self-determination of peoples in the Middle East, in the Caribbean and around the world; that rejects embargoes which penalizes whole peoples; that supports the just and rightful claims and interests of Native Peoples, and that supports all Third World countries in their efforts to achieve and maintain democracy and sustainable economic and social development. Finally, we call on the government and the country to recognize and respond positively to the fact that U.S. society is not a finished white product, but an unfinished and ongoing multicultural project and that each people has both the right and responsibility to speak their own special cultural truth and to make their own unique contribution to how this society is reconceived and reconstructed.

We begin our challenge to corporations by rejecting the widespread notion among them, that corporations have no social responsibility except to maximize profit within the rules of an open and competitive market, through cutting costs, maximizing benefits and constantly increasing technological efficiency. Our position is that no human conduct is immune from the demands of moral responsibility or exempt from moral assessment. The weight of corporations in modern life is overwhelming and their commitment to maximizing profit and technological efficiency can and often do lead to tremendous social costs such as deteriorating and dangerous work-

ing conditions, massive layoffs, harmful products projected as beneficial, environmental degradation, deindustrialization, corporate relocation, and disinvestment in social structures and development.

We thus call on corporations to practice a corporate responsibility that requires and encourages efforts to minimize and eventually eliminate harmful consequences which persons, communities and the environment sustain as a result of productive and consumptive practices . . . and to respect the dignity and interest of the worker in this country and abroad, to maintain safe and adequate working conditions for workers, provide adequate benefits, prohibit and penalize racial and gender discrimination, halt displacement and dislocation of workers, encourage organization and meaningful participation in decision-making by workers, and halt disinvestment in the social structure, deindustrialization and corporate relocation.

Moreover, we call on corporations to reinvest profits back into the communities from which it extracts profits, to increase support for Black charities, contribute more to Black education in public schools and traditional Black universities and colleges, and to Black education in predominantly white colleges and universities; to open facilities to the community for cultural and recreational use and to contribute to the building of community institutions and other projects to reinvest in the social structure and development

of the Black community.

In further consideration of profit made from Black consumers, we call on corporate America to provide expanded investment opportunities for Black people; engage in partnership with Black businesses and businesspersons; increase employment of Black managers and general employees; conduct massive job training among Blacks for work in the 21st century; and aid in the development of programs to halt and reverse urban decay. Finally, we call on corporations to show appropriate care and responsibility for the environment; to minimize and halt pollution, deforestation and depletion of natural resources, and the destruction of plants, animals, birds, fish, reptiles and insects and their natural habitats; and to rebuild wasted and damaged areas and expand the number, size and kinds of areas preserved.” And we unavoidably and unhesitatingly committed ourselves to the righteous and relentless struggle to achieve these goals.

Dr. Maulana Karenga, Professor and Chair of Africana Studies, California State University-Long Beach; Executive Director, African American Cultural Center (Us); Creator of Kwanzaa; and author of Kwanzaa: A Celebration of Family, Community and Culture and Essays on Struggle: Position and Analysis. www.AfricanAmericanCulturalCenter-LA.org; www.OfficialKwanzaaWebsite.org; www.MaulanaKarenga.org.

•JOHN E. WARREN•

‘We The People’ : The Solution To Our Problems

While a great deal of time and attention is being given to the many sins and acts of evil by Republicans and the Ultra Right who believe that their privileges are greater than our democracy, it is important to remember that “We the People” hold the keys to our own deliverance. There are more of us than them as evidenced by the last election which placed President Joe Biden in the White House instead of a second term for Trump. The Bible says “we have not because we ask not, and when we ask, we ask for the wrong things.”

Lawrence O’Donnell, an MSNBC Commentator, recently pointed out that “we” are responsible for Donald Trump being able to appoint three judges to the U.S. Supreme Court. As he indicated, it started when we, the democrats, didn’t bother to vote in past presidential elections that allowed the Regans, the Bushes and the Trumps to be in position to stack the Court with conservative right wingers.

You will remember that when Trump was running against Clinton, the Christian Right and Ultra Conservative Right were not concerned with his sexual sins, only having him in position to appoint judges to the Highest Court in the land because it would influence policy for decades to come.

Now the ball is back in the court of “We the people”, if we choose to take it. We the people outnumber the conservative Ultra



JOHN E. WARREN

White element that would end democracy. We the people, whether Democrat or Independent, have sufficient numbers to out vote any conservative wave and laws of voter suppression

are now being put on the books. It was this kind of voter turnout that elected two Democratic U.S. Senators from the State of Georgia, in spite of the Trump effort to undermine the voter turnout of the state.

When we look at the characters that are holding the U.S. Senate hostage and refusing to live up to their oath to “Protect and Defend the Constitution of the United States,”

then we have an obligation to organize and vote them out of office.

When we see the U.S. Supreme Court set on rolling back Civil Rights gains, Roe vs. Wade, gun control and a host of other issues that will be before this Court this term, we have the right

to petition the Congress to pass legislation to overturn the Supreme Court decisions, which is the check and balances guaranteed by the Constitution. We have options that represent an alternative to the suppression and undermining of democracy by the Ultra Right. We must find candidates to run against those who are opposed to democracy and refuse to work with the very people they are elected to represent.

We the people can make the difference. We just have to focus and decide that the other side will not prevail on our watch.

Dr. John E. Warren, Publisher, The San Diego Voice and Viewpoint

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CARTOON: BY DAVID G. BROWN

JANUARY 6TH WAS JUST A TOUR
MISINFORMATION
CONSPIRACY THEORIES
THE ELECTION WAS RIGGED
COVID IS A HOAX

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Pro Players, Sports Agent Talk About Athletes Covid-19 Decisions

BY GREGORY SMITH
Howard University
News Service

WASHINGTON — In professional sports locker rooms across America, in the NBA, the NFL, the NHL and other leagues, millionaire athletes are talking with each other about a decision that can dramatically affect their careers, their families and their teams.

Whether to get vaccinated against the coronavirus or not.

Mason Jones, who played for the Houston Rockets and Philadelphia 76ers last season, decided to take the shot.

“In the locker room, there are mixed emotions,” Jones said. “Some people got it just to have it, while others have conducted their own research,

“I’m vaccinated because I feel like it’s the right thing to do. The vaccine will keep me healthy, safe and out on the court.”

Jones said his COVID-19 vaccination paid dividends almost immediately.

As a Rocket, Jones made his first career start in the seventh game of the regular season when multiple players were out with injuries and others couldn’t play due to coronavirus safety protocols. Jones erupted for a career high 24 points in a loss to the San Antonio Spurs.

He also has seen what happens when players aren’t vaccinated.

While playing with the Washington Wizards in the NBA Summer League in Las Vegas this year, the team had an outbreak of COVID-19. Due to contact tracing rules, the NBA postponed their first game against the Indiana Pacers, because the Wizards didn’t



Ron Shade, seen in the photo next to NBA champion Giannis Antetokounmpo and former President Barack Obama, said that he is giving his clients the best information possible and leaving it up to them to take the vaccine. HUNS

have enough eligible players.

“That was frustrating because summer league is crucial to making an NBA roster,” Jones said. “Every game counted, and we were ready to showcase our talent.”

The vast majority of NBA and NFL players are vaccinated, at least 90% in each league, league officials said.

The NBA has taken a strong stance by saying players who do not comply with local vaccination rules will not be paid for missed games.

In late July, the NFL informed clubs that if a game cannot be rescheduled during the 18 week season in 2021 due to a COVID-19 outbreak among unvaccinated players, the team with the outbreak will forfeit the game and be credited with a

loss for playoff seeding.

Additionally, San Francisco and New York City have mandated that participants, fans, players and staff must be vaccinated to attend an event inside an enclosed arena. Consequently, if players are not vaccinated, they can’t play in those stadiums, regardless of the team.

One immediate example of the consequences was apparent during the Brooklyn Nets media day in the Barclay Center where the Nets play. Perennial All-Star point guard Kyrie Irving was not allowed to participate in media day, because he was not vaccinated.

Despite the leagues’ high vaccination rates, controversy still hovers around the topic, because some high profile athletes, like Irving, still have not been vaccinated.

Ron Shade is senior director and agent with Octagon, one of the world’s top sports agencies. The firm has 50 offices in 22 countries.

Shade represents a slew of professional athletes, including Bryn Forbes, a shooting guard with the San Antonio Spurs; Jarrett Culver, a shooting guard with the Memphis Grizzlies; Monté Morris, a point guard for the Denver Nuggets, and Bam Adebayo, a center for the Miami Heat who won a gold medal this year with the U.S. Olympic basketball team in Tokyo.

Shade, who has been an agent for nearly a decade, said he gives his clients information about the vaccines, but ultimately it is up to them to do what’s best for them and their families.

“I believe a lot of agents and agencies are doing the

appropriate thing,” Shade said. “We all are providing our clients with evidence and information regarding the vaccine and leaving it up to them.

“I personally have taken it and would not advise someone to do something that I would not do myself. I also feel that the NBA is handling the situation properly by working with the (NBA) players association to get as many players comfortable as possible.

“The NBA is a multibillion-dollar business. They would not allow or encourage any of their athletes to

but taking the vaccine was the best decision for his career.

“I took the vaccine because we are always traveling, and with family visiting, I didn’t want to put anyone at risk,” Green said. “I also didn’t want to receive a huge fine from the NFL and felt that life would be easier if I just took the vaccine.

“Everyone should do what’s best for them but losing a key player for a few weeks could be costly, and we could forfeit games.

“Players don’t have a problem taking the vaccine,



Mason Jones, former player for the Houston Rockets and Philadelphia 76ers, said that he is vaccinated because it will keep him healthy and out on the court. HUNS

take something that would be detrimental to their health.”

A.J. Green, a cornerback for the surging Cleveland Browns football team, said he and other Browns players have discussed the pros and cons of the medication,

but no one wants to feel forced. The coaches feel that players should take the vaccine, because it gives players a secure and competitive advantage knowing that everyone is safe.”

At least Four Black Females were Murdered Each Day in 2020

{continued from Pg. A-1}

Black women and girls, but reports have strongly suggested that the number represents an undercount.

Those reports don’t surprise or comfort victims’ families but only serve as another reminder about the lack of value attached to the lives of Black females.

“There’s been no justice,” stated Claumisha Reed, whose daughter Zymia Joyner was shot and killed last year.

A little more than one month before her 20th birthday, Zymia and 19-year-old Rashard Waldo were shot by an unknown assailant in the 3100 block of Waclark Place in Southeast Washington, D.C.

Since the murder, Zymia’s mother and siblings have tried to keep one foot in front of the other.

“Zymia had a lot of



More than four Black women and girls were killed each day in 2020, according to the FBI. PHOTO: ISTOCKPHOTO / NNPA

ucts, and she really wanted to work in obstetrics and gynecology. We lost an angel. Her dreams were cut

that murders overall have climbed about 30 percent during the pandemic.

“Black women are at

National Black Women’s Reproductive Justice Agenda.

“We face the sting of racism at work, in school, on the streets, and in our own homes. We cannot escape it, nor deny racism it’s too-often deadly toll. We most certainly cannot count on the criminal justice system to value our lives or deliver justice for the Black lives taken by police.”

Rosa Page, the founder of the advocacy group Black Femicide U.S., told The Guardian news outlet that the increase in murders of Black women in 2020 did not surprise her.

In her work as a nurse, Page listened for years as Black women and girls described the history of abuse they had experienced or knowing someone else who was abused or murdered.

“Black women and girls have been indoctrinated to believe everyone matters but themselves,” Page told the outlet which first reported on the latest FBI statistics.

According to the National Crime Victimization Survey, Black women were twice as likely as white women to encounter an offender armed with a handgun even before the pandemic.

Further, the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-

vention reported that homicides of Black women had continued to rise before 2020.

Parents, activists, and others said concrete early prevention and intervention plans are desperately needed. They argue that it’s past the time when Black women are honored with the same value as others.

“Zymia was the type of person you would love to be with,” her mother, Claumisha Reed, remarked. “Her friends loved her, and our family loved her.”

Before her death, Zymia had recently completed her sophomore

standout student at Dunbar High School, Zymia set her sights on specializing in obstetrics and gynecology.

Her love of her children and passion to help others served as a driving force behind her nursing desires.

She lit up a room,” Reid proclaimed.

“She was an outgoing person and was more motivated than most other people we knew. But, on top of that, she was so focused, and you couldn’t tell her to stop at something because she was going to accomplish whatever she had set her mind out to accomplish.”

Zymia enjoyed a large social media following and provided advice to friends who sought it, Reid recalled.

“She inspired her friends, and they felt they could talk to her,” Reid noted. “Zymia



PHOTO: ISTOCKPHOTO / NNPA



PHOTO: ISTOCKPHOTO / NNPA

things that she had going on,” Claumisha Reed remarked.

“She started a small business selling hair prod-

short.”

Zymia counts among the many victims of an increasingly murderous country, with reports noting

risk of police violence and systemic racism every day, all day and all night.” Marcela Howell, founder and president of In Our Own:

year at Trinity Washington University in Northeast, D.C. Her aspirations included nursing and owning a business.

After graduating as a

would always listen attentively, and when she gave advice, it was the kind of advice that came from the heart, and she would tell it like it is and tell her friends it was up to them if

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Forgiving for Living



Time For a Hometown Girl!

In school, math was not my favorite subject, but I do understand the importance of numbers. I want to share with you some numbers associated with the great city of Los Angeles. The city is 240-years-old; it is the second largest city in the United States, it is the third largest city in North America, it has hosted two Olympics, it currently has 11 professional sports teams, it has had 42 mayors, it has had one Black mayor and it has had zero women mayors.

In 2022 that zero can be changed to one. To make this happen she will need your help, your support and most importantly your vote, to make her the next Mayor of Los Angeles.

After six terms representing the 37th Congressional District (Venice/Fairfax) the same area she grew up in, she has decided to come back home and take Los Angeles to the next level of greatness. She is a graduate of California State Dominguez Hills,

the University of Southern California's School of Medicine Physician Assistant Program, and the USC Master's Program in Social Work. Prior to her election to Congress, Chairwoman Bass served in the California State Assembly, where in 2008, she made history by becoming the first-ever African American woman in United States history to serve as Speaker of any state legislature.

I started my professional career close to three

decades ago serving the community in the greater Los Angeles area. One of my first clients was Community Coalition (CoCo), leading the organization during that time was Karen Bass. Having the privilege of working closely with her, I saw a woman who was not only committed to the organization's mission, but also dedicated to improving the lives of everyone that crossed her path. I have watched her ascension throughout her political career, but no matter how high she has climbed, she has never forgotten about home – Los Angeles. Why Los Angeles has never elected a woman mayor is a mystery because many major cities have had women mayors, and some of the largest cities have recently elected Black women mayors like: London N. Breed of San Francisco, Lori E. Lightfoot of Chicago, Keisha Lance Bottoms of Atlanta, and Muriel Bower of Washington, D.C. Los Angeles now is the time for a woman's touch, talent and tenacity.

I know without a shadow of doubt that her experience in Congress serving on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs where she is the Chair of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Global Human Rights, also having served on the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism and as the Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus in 2019 and 2020 has made her more than prepared to lead this great city. She will be able to take her global experience and locally make a big difference.

Karen believes that the potential of Los Angeles is endless. Her vision is to focus on tackling head on the various problems and crisis' that face the city such as homelessness that is causing a deep humanitarian crisis, the lack of affordable housing, health care, job training, mental

health services, as well as drug and alcohol counseling. She comes from a healthcare background making her very aware of the severity of these issues. There is no reason why one of the richest cities in the world cannot provide the basic necessities of food and shelter to its residents.

We all have a choice who we will vote for. As a woman who has had the privilege of working with her close up and personal, I hope Karen Bass will be the next Mayor of Los Angeles.

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'What Do People Say (Think) About Us?' Part 2

"Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me." Oh, yeh? That's one of the biggest lies told. Words are very injurious...both long ago and today. False words and accusations can be beyond hurtful. Paul had been seen with a Gentile and thought he had taken that person into the

Temple. Without investigation they assumed Paul had taken Trophimus into the Temple area. Gentiles were not permitted past the Court of the Gentiles under the direct threat of execution. This event was reported as though it had actually happened (Acts 21:28.) "Paul had been seen with Trophimus, an

Ephesian was traveling with Paul. Paul's enemies made a giant leap, deciding without checking the facts, that Paul must have brought Greeks into the temple. False accusations are a common way that the enemy tries to make not only Christians look bad. Distorting the truth and twisting the facts or

assuming the worst about us is a common way today with the attempt to ruin reputations. Today, social media is a pass to corrupt (if used unwisely) lives. (Life Application Bible Commentary pp 366, 367) Paul was not intentionally trying to cause disruption. He was not even guilty of wrongdoing. But, he was falsely accused. This is the way of the adversary, the father of lies. Woodrow Wilson said, "If you want to make enemies, try to change something." This is especially true when trying to bring justice to a situation. The whole city was "up in arms" so to speak. A great riot followed. When Paul was dragged out of the Temple the gates were closed behind him" (Acts 21:30-31). Paul had to defend himself. He was beaten, arrested and bound with chains. The Roman soldiers also seized Paul. There was was a terrible

uproar and confusion. The crowd following shouting, "Kill him, kill him!" Paul was adamant and convincing and politely said to the commander, " May I have a word with you?" Paul spoke Greek, which was surprising to the commander. For the commander had also mistaken Paul for an Egyptian who led a rebellion some time ago taking 4,000 members of the Assassins out into the desert. By speaking in Greek he was "reclassified" as an intelligent man and not a common rebel going around starting riots. Paul held to his Christian beliefs and would not deny his real purpose of being there in the first place. So, what does this speak to us? The only thing that holds up together in the confrontation of false accusation is "our faith." It's difficult to hold on to our faith. Sometimes, it takes a while to get our message across to those who are unbelieving and

set on destruction. Faith is the substance of those things we hope for and it is the evidence of those things we desire to see happen. But, it can happen. Remember anything in your life which you have had to wait for, but you did see the outcome work in your favor. We stand for our belief in Christ and right doing. We know that even today many are persecuted for having "faith in Christ." It is widespread persecution and not only for that reason but for many other reasons too.

Thanks for reading!
Jeanette Grattan Parker is Founder-Superintendent Today's Fresh Start Charter School 4514 Crenshaw Boulevard, LA 90043 323-293-9826 www.todayfreshstart.org (Ask Dr. Jeanette TM) Askdrjeanetteparker.successontheway@gmail.com

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D-1

Student Athlete of the Week: Solomon Bailey

By AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Writer

Crossroads freshman guard Solomon "Solo" Bailey has basketball in his DNA. Having a mother who played division I soft-

moved frequently as his father competed in several different countries.

As he got older, Bailey began training alongside his parents.

"I literally woke up at six in the morning every

back, eat breakfast and then I go to school."

Before the age of 13, Bailey dunked for the first time. His highlight reels showcase his vertical and his ability to attack the paint. He takes on this style of play to make sure that his offensive effort is effective.

"Shooting is cool, but it's 50/50," Bailey said. "It's a certainty when you go to the basket that you're going to score."

Bailey plays for the Compton Magic, the same team that NBA champion Jordan Bell and Atlanta Hawks forward Onyeka Okongwu played for. Since he started playing for the Compton Magic, Bailey has gotten exposure to several college coaches.

"They have the best resources of anything that I've ever played for," Bailey said.

Like his father, Bailey was able to show off his basketball skills overseas. Bailey earned a spot on the USA Boys U14 National Team, allowing him to compete in the Asian Pacific Cup tournament in Singapore. His efforts earned him MVP honors.

"We played teams from Australia, China, Japan, then I got MVP," Bailey said. "And I was 12."

Bailey knows that aca-

demics must come first, his favorite class is history with a special interest in Greek mythology. Bailey also enjoys creating music,

Middle School Combine, a coach told him to avoid distractions while playing basketball.

"He told me to play my

running track and looks to pursue the sport during his high school years in the 100m and 200m events.

During his time in Sin-



PHOTO BY MICHAEL TYRONE FREEMAN

Solomon "Solo" Bailey is a freshman at Crossroads High School.

ball in college and a father who played pro basketball, Bailey has been emersed in sports since a young age. Throughout his life, Bailey

morning with my dad to train," Bailey said. "All throughout middle school every day we'd wake up, go to the gym at six, come



PHOTO BY MICHAEL TYRONE FREEMAN

Bailey shows off his dunking skills during the CP3 National Middle School Combine.

skateboarding, and painting. He mentioned how he took his first art class when he was in kindergarten.

"It's like a stress reliever, it helps me stay creative," Bailey said. "It's something different, not a lot of people that play basketball can say they paint."

Bailey recently participated in the CP3 National

game, I can't focus on anything but what I can control," Bailey said. "Don't talk to the refs, just play my game and stay focused on what I got to do and get my job done."

At Crossroads, Bailey hopes to win a state championship and become a McDonalds All American. Bailey also has experience

gapore and Indonesia, Bailey volunteered to help the homeless.

"There was a lot of poor kids, homeless kids and we donated clothes, we donated food," Bailey said. "In California, I do work with a lot of homeless shelters; I go donate stuff with my dad and talk to the foster kids."

Inglewood Football are Southern Section Contenders

By AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Writer

The Inglewood Sentinels football team are currently ranked 23rd in California and has a 6-0 overall record. Last Friday, the Sentinels shut out the Hawthorne Cougars 59-0 for their homecoming game.

The Inglewood defense kept Hawthorne's possessions short, frequently denying them first downs unless a penalty was involved. Inglewood senior wide receiver Tomarion Harden noted how they did not let penalties called on them deter them.

"Just keep your composure, don't keep your head down," he said. "Just keep your head up and move on from that."

Although Hawthorne forced Inglewood to have two turnovers on downs, it was not enough to quell the Sentinel's campaign. Inglewood's offense made big plays while their defense committed sacks and interceptions that led to touchdowns.

"I got four sacks," said Inglewood senior linebacker Marshon Oxley. "Defense, we executed as we should, offense did they stuff."

Inglewood excelled during their abbreviated season last spring and are happy to compete in a full nine-game season.

"I'm excited, it gets me prepared for college," said Inglewood senior quarterback Justyn Martin. "Just getting out here and playing is a blessing always."

Oxley knows how important it is to put aca-

demics first, especially during the pandemic. Focusing

other's best."

Several Inglewood play-

that was challenging, but I overcame it."



AMANDA SCURLOCK/LA. SENTINEL

Inglewood quarterback, Justyn Martin (3).



AMANDA SCURLOCK/LA. SENTINEL

Inglewood is currently second in the Ocean League.

on his goals helped him persevere academically.

"I wasn't gonna allow myself to fail, that's what kept me motivated," he said. "College kept me motivated to stay on my stuff in school."

Throughout this season, Inglewood held their opponents to 12 points or less. Three teams, including Hawthorne were scoreless. Senior linebacker Taariq Al-udqah noted how their work ethic attributes to Inglewood's undefeated status.

"Our coaches stay on us everyday, always working hard," he said. "We stay on each other, make sure we're playing at each

ers have been getting offers and recognition for their talents. Wide receiver Louis Brown IV recently committed to Nevada. Al-udqah and Clint Stephens have been invited to compete in the All-American Bowl. The Bowl invites the top 100 high school football players in the United States, it is the most watched high school event.

Al-udqah persevered through a knee injury during his ninth grade year to reach the success he has now.

"I was out for six months and the physical therapy and still going in at practice and in the weight room," he said. "I feel like

Martin de-committed to Cal Berkeley, but still has offers from several universities, including UCLA, Ole Miss, Oregon, and Michigan. He noticed the different ways in which his leadership skills have been improving.

"This whole year for me was leadership and just trying to bring the guys around me together and make them better," Martin said. "I feel like I've gotten a lot better since the first game of the year... I'm gonna keep progressing."

Inglewood will travel to compete against the Compton Centennial Apaches this Friday at 7:00 P.M.

NBA Icon Allen Iverson Partners With CEO of Viola Al Harrington

BY KHARI JONES JR.
Contributing Writer

NBA Icon Allen Iverson partnered with Viola, a Black-owned multinational cannabis business, co-founded by former NBA player and CEO Al Harrington. ‘The Answer’ secured a multi-year partnership that spans cannabis, products and merchandise.

says the NBA icon. During the Iverson 96 launch party, the CEO of Viola mentioned how ecstatic he was to partner with the NBA legend.

“Not too many people get to do collabs with icons and we all know Allen Iverson is an icon. He shaped the culture. When I came into the NBA it was super corporate, everybody had suits, nobody was being

Wellness umbrella. There are only 4% Black people that have

come together and pick a side,” said Harrington. Earlier this year Har-

jacket. “Now we’re about to make a billion dollars,” said the CEO of Viola.

pensary Elevate in Los Angeles. It will also be available in the dispensary



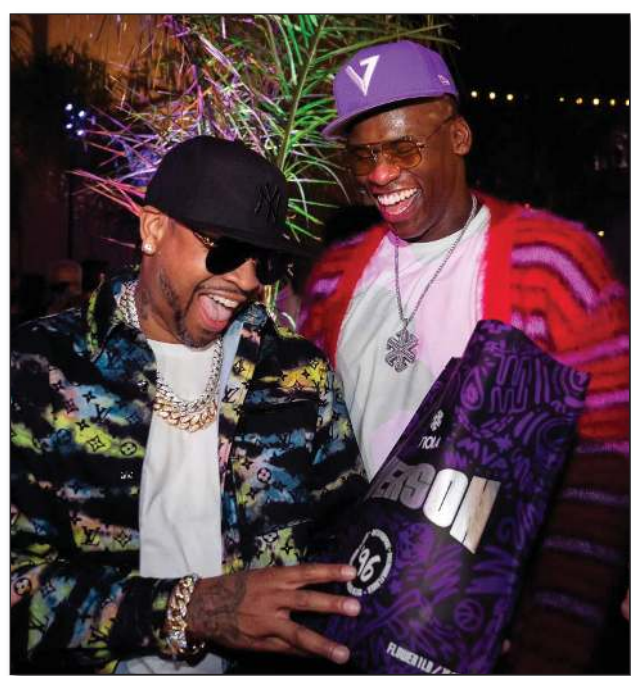
‘Iverson 96’

PHOTO BY VIOLA



Allen Iverson partners with the CEO of Viola Al Harrington

PHOTO BY VIOLA



Allen Iverson and Al Harrington celebrate the launch of ‘Iverson 96.’

PHOTO BY VIOLA



Al Harrington gifts Iverson custom lab jacket.

PHOTO BY VIOLA

In March, Iverson visited Harrington’s grow in Detroit and got an in depth of the growing process. After understanding Viola’s dedication to empowering minorities in the industry, Iverson was locked in and knew this partnership was destined to happen.

“I’ve had a lot of people approach me with business opportunities but this one with Al was different. After seeing how devoted he is to this business, and him educating me on how beneficial the plant is, it just felt right. I’m excited to be a part of it. Together we’re going to change the game,”

who they really were, he came in and changed the game for everybody. For me, that’s why doing this collaboration makes so much sense, because that’s what we’re trying to do for Blacks in cannabis.”

Harrington and Iverson plan to further impact the cannabis industry and keep pushing boundaries. The collaboration will feature a variety of cannabis and non-cannabis products.

In addition to the Viola partnership, Iverson is partnering with Harrington on his wellness CBD brand rePlay and they will make announcements in the future under the Harrington

ownership in the cannabis business. “That’s fucked up because 85% of cannabis companies are open because of us, that’s why right now it’s time for us to

rington stated he wants to help Black people make millions in the industry.

At the Iverson 96 launch party, Harrington gifted Iverson his own custom lab

The first strain in the Iverson 96 collection, ‘96 calls back to 1996, the year the cultural icon, Allen Iverson, was drafted.

Iverson 96 products will be available exclusively at the cannabis dis-

Jade Room in Santa Ana and Torrence.

Viola is the leading Black-owned producer and licensed wholesaler of premium cannabis products founded by former NBA player Al Harrington.

Influenced by His Dad and Tiger Woods, Wyatt Worthington II Hopes His Success Opens More Golfing Opportunities for People of Color

BY STACY M. BROWN
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

Wyatt Worthington II got his start in golf as a

young teen growing up in Ohio.

To hear Worthington tell his uplifting story, his ascension up the leaderboard was both a product of his father’s

commitment to the game and a chance meeting with Tiger Woods.

“I was 13 when I met Tiger,” Worthington recalled. “But [before that meeting], I would watch my dad hit balls. I didn’t think much of it at the time because no one I grew up with at the time knew anything about the game.”

Worthington remembers picking up one of his father’s golf clubs and swinging.

“I got the ball up in the air, and I was hooked,” he exclaimed.

Worthington’s career has soared.

This summer, he won the 76th Southern Ohio PGA Professional Championship in Columbus, shooting 10-under-par.

“It is historic,” Worthington said, noting the rarity of an African American topping the leaderboard.

Worthington credits his father and Tiger Woods, a 15-time major champion, for his success.

As a young teen, Worthington met woods during a First Tee and Woods Foundation event. Woods helped the young man with his swing and provided the kind of confidence that helped Worthington qualify to play for the PGA Championship in 2016.

Only the second African American in nearly a quarter-century to qualify for the PGA Championship, Worthington barely missed qualifying a year earlier.

Despite his success – or, perhaps, because of it – Worthington advocates for more African American participation.

“This beautiful, amazing, and majestic game needs more representation and more people who look like me and you involved,” Worthington declared.

“Hopefully, that can change,” he said.

“I think I was the first



Wyatt Worthington II

PHOTO: PGA OF AMERICA

National Newspaper Publishers Association, the trade association that represents the Black Press of America.

Worthington added that he hopes his success will help the game build on its diversity, equity, and inclusion mission.

“We [African Americans] don’t have the support, access, and opportunity, that most of our peers are fortunate enough to have,” Worthington continued.

“It’s tough. As African Americans, we don’t have the type of social network our peers have to get that help and support. I hope I

dropping stat that is the history of golf.”

Continuing efforts to



PHOTO: PGA OF AMERICA

Wyatt Worthington II says he hopes his success will help the game build on its diversity, equity, and inclusion mission.

African American to win a Section Championship in Ohio. I’m one of just a handful of African Americans to tee it up in a major championship, and that’s a jaw-

promote diversity, equity, and inclusion within the sport, the PGA of America and the PGA Tour have entered into a memorandum of understanding with the

can have some type of exposure to the people who may not be introduced into the sport, and hopefully, that can change because this is an amazing game.”

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'TWENTIES' ON BET RETURNS WITH THE SECRET SAUCE!

BY LAPACAZO SANDOVAL
Contributing Writer

Jonica T. Gibbs, Christina Elmore, and Gabrielle Graham are the three actresses holding it down in "TWENTIES," which is now entering its second season.

The show follows 'Hattie (Jonica T. Gibbs) a masculine-presenting queer African American woman in her twenties, and her two straight best friends, Marie (Christina Elmore) and Nia (Gabrielle Graham), as they

ality as the first out, trans non-binary host and executive producer in the network's history. Following each episode of the second season of "Twenties," B. Scott will sit with cast and creatives to unpack the narrative, steeped in the queer Black experience.

The after-show premiered on Wednesday, October 13, at 10:30 p.m., following the scripted series airing at 10 p.m. It is executive produced by Waithe and Rishi Rajani with Rocio Melara overseeing for their

to appear on BET's "106 and Park" and judge the "Rip the Runway" competi-

Christina. **CHRISTINA EL-MORE (Marie):** Well for

she make some new choices. **LAS:** That's so true and what she's going to have to

lead of a show. **LAS:** True talk. **CM:** But it's more than that. Because what has made it so relatable is that she [Hattie] feels like all of us. We all know a Hattie.

LAS: We do. **CM:** We know someone that has that confidence of a lifestyle even though she doesn't have the accomplishments, and JoJo's made Hattie so funny, and so relat-



try to find their footing in life, love, and the professional world in Los Angeles.

Because the show is so popular, BET will premiere a new half-hour series touching on key themes explored in "Twenties" titled "Twenties After-Show With B. Scott" which will showcase the media person-

Hillman Grad Productions banner; alongside B. Scott under their Ahoskie Productions banner; and Sergio Alfaro, Michael Weinberg, Fernita Wynn, and Ray Giuliani for Invent TV with Alberlyne "Abby" Woods serving as a producer. In 2012, B. Scott became the first trans-non-binary person

tion. They've also hosted the "Style Stage Red Carpet" at the annual BET Awards.

Here is what Jonica T. Gibbs, Christina Elmore, and Gabrielle Graham and to share about season two of "TWENTIES."

LOS ANGELES SENTINEL: How have your characters grown from season one?

JONICA T. GIBBS (Hattie): My character has grown a little bit. She has a lot more people guiding her and she has more accountability, and she has a little bit more focus and drive.

LAS: Yes, I agree but she's still messy and that's why I love her so. And you,

Marie, I think, she's waiting to see how she's going to change.

LAS: How so?



CM: Well, her life circumstances have changed, and now we have to see if she's going to evolve with them. The question is, will

deal with, well, a lot of women will understand and relate to. Exciting turn for the character.

LAS: Ladies, why do you think your show was so well received in the first season. Like, what's the secret sauce? Don't be modest.

JG: Well since you said that, it's definitely me.

LAS: Yes Ms. Gibbs, don't be modest. You bring the messy fire.

CM: I didn't want to say that, but I think that Jo-Jo [Ms. Gibbs] is being modest. I think that Hatties' definitely the North Star of the show. It's groundbreaking to see a masculine-presenting Queer, Black woman, as a



able, so authentically truthful, that I honestly think that is the secret sauce.

"TWENTIES" is executive produced by Lena Waithe, Susan Fales-Hill, who serves as showrunner, Rishi Rajani, and Andrew Coles.

Follow Twenties: Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook: @twentiesonbet #TwentiesOnBET

View trailer at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KNajm7cCN7s>. BET.com/Twenties

Last Call for Applications for Disney Dreamers Academy Teen Mentorship Program

Application period closes Oct. 31 for a mentoring experience of a lifetime provided by Walt Disney World

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The deadline to apply for Disney Dreamers Academy, an inspiring and transformational mentorship program for high school students, is fast approaching. The application period closes Oct. 31, 2021, as planners continue to set the stage for

side-the-classroom program is designed to inspire young leaders to dream beyond their imaginations and jump-start their life goals. One hundred high school students will be selected to receive the trip to Walt Disney World to take part in the mentoring program.

Disney Dreamers Acad-

my can be career-defining and even life-changing," she added. To celebrate our return, we'll be adding extra touches of magic throughout the event."

For 15 years, Disney Dreamers Academy has inspired more than 1,300 students from across the country by fueling their dreams and showing them a world of possibilities as they prepare for their futures. Students participate in hands-on, immersive career seminars in a wide range of disciplines found at Walt Disney World. Participants learn how to improve their communication, leadership and networking along with other valuable personal and professional development skills.

Students also participate in a series of sessions and workshops designed to help them imagine bright futures, make exciting discoveries and learn how to put their goals into action. Disney Dreamers engage in a wide variety of experiences at Walt Disney World while working side-by-side and hearing inspirational stories from celebrities, community and industry leaders, Disney cast members, and other special guests.

Past celebrity participants have included stars from the big screen and television, noted sports figures, popular musicians as well as personalities and cast members from across the Disney corporate family including "Good Morning America," ESPN, Disney

Channel and the TV series "black-ish" and "grown-ish." The exciting line-up of participants for the 2022 event will be announced at a later date.

Disney Dreamers Academy is focused on challeng-

ing young people to relentlessly pursue their dreams through the "Be 100" campaign - to be positive, to be "all in" and to apply lessons from their experience to help relentlessly pursue their dreams and make a differ-

ence in the lives of others. This motto is inspired by the powerful impact Disney Dreamers Academy has made on graduates who have gone on to become doctors, nurses, engineers, pilots, journalists and more.



Tracey D. Powell, Disney Signature Experiences vice president and Disney Dreamers Academy executive champion.

the popular program to return to Walt Disney World Resort in Florida March 3-6, 2022.

Program applicants must answer essay questions about their personal journeys and dreams for the future. Students are selected based on a combination of attributes, including strong character, a positive attitude and determination to achieve their dreams. Students must be enrolled in high school in the continental United States and from ages 13-19 to be eligible for consideration. A parent or guardian accompanies each student on the trip.

For more information or to apply visit DisneyDreamersAcademy.com.

This ever-popular, out-

emy returns in-person just in time for its 15th anniversary year. The 2020 program was cut short due to the pandemic and transitioned to a very successful virtual program series in 2021.

Remaining consistent for the 100 students selected for the 2022 class is the opportunity to learn in the vibrant setting of Walt Disney World.

"We're looking forward to hosting our next class of Disney Dreamers again," said Tracey D. Powell, Disney Signature Experiences vice president and Disney Dreamers Academy executive champion. "The powerful life lessons, career guidance and face-to-face connections the students enjoy at Disney Dreamers Acad-

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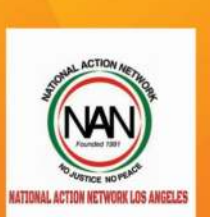
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