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15th Annual
Taste of Soul
2020
Family Festival

Taste of Soul 2020

The 15th Annual Taste of Soul Brings Community Food Distribution to Crenshaw

The food distribution comes at a critical time as our community struggles with economic downturn during COVID-19 pandemic



COURTESY PHOTO
The Taste of Soul family festival took on a more noble cause in the feeding the community at the food distribution portion of event on Crenshaw Blvd.
{See FULL STORY on C-1}



Danny J. Bakewell Sr. | Taste of Soul Founder/Creator
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Despite COVID-19 Pandemic, Bakewell Media & Hyundai Celebrate Unprecedented Taste of Soul Virtual Experience

{See FULL STORY on B-1}

SENTINEL EXCLUSIVE ■ SENTINEL EXCLUSIVE ■ SENTINEL EXCLUSIVE

LIVWRK DEVELOPMENT TO BUY BALDWIN HILLS-CRENSHAW MALL



COURTESY PHOTO
The Baldwin Hills-Crenshaw Mall will soon take on new ownership who say they want to work with with the community with inclusion and job opportunities.

BY DANNY J. BAKEWELL, JR.
Executive Editor

Asher Abehsera, founder and CEO of LIVWRK, talks candidly about his purchase of the mall, his commitment to community inclusion, his partnerships with CIM and the Kushner Family.

Abehsera wants people to understand he is not from New York. In fact, he was born and raised right here in Los Angeles. He explains he grew up in the Pacific Pan Park area (Fairfax District), and his first job was at a gas station on La Brea at the age of 15. Abehsera's mother is fifth generation Angeleno and his father is of Moroccan (North Africa) decent, and has spent his entire life embracing the diversity and multi-cultural lifestyle he grew up a part of.

These days, abehsera finds himself and his company, LIVWRK Development, in the middle of a heated debate regarding his company's plans to purchase the Baldwin Hills-Crenshaw Mall; a vastly outdated shopping mall built in 1947 in the heart of the Crenshaw Corridor, and entrenched in heart of the African American Community.

In early 2005, a group of investors, led by Quinton Primo (one of the few African American-owned investment firms) Capri Capital Partner, purchased the shopping mall. In 2010, the mall added new interior embellishments, a modern and a larger food court on the first level. Capri has also redesigned the theme Baldwin Hills-Crenshaw {See CRENSHAW MALL A-21}

West Basin Director Gloria D. Gray Re-Elected as Metropolitan Board Chairwoman

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Gloria D. Gray
{Read Full Story Online at www.lasentinel.net}

Earvin "Magic" Johnson & Maxine Waters Endorse Herb Wesson for Supervisor



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Entrepreneur
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POLICE CHIEF (Ret) & CITY COUNCILMAN (Ret) BERNARD PARKS SAYS WHY WE SHOULD VOTE FOR JACKIE LACEY



Bernard C. Parks



Jackie Lacey

Chief Bernard Parks: DA Candidate George Gascon is Not Who He Says He is

BY BERNARD PARKS

In the wake of the tragic death of George Floyd, we witnessed an outpouring of grief and support. We have also begun a long-overdue conversation about police & community interaction, most notably concerning the use of violence by police officers towards people of color. As an African American man and a former Chief of the Los Angeles Police Department, I welcome this conversation and believe that much good can arise from this discussion. We are all now engaged in the search for effective policies that address these systemic injustices that are deeply embedded within our society and criminal justice system. It is more important than ever that the people with experience in listening to their communities and enacting meaningful change are filling our elected roles.

Based on my personal experiences and by analyzing his problematic and worrisome record it is clear to me that Los Angeles County District Attorney candidate George Gascon is not one of those people. Gascon has positioned himself as a candidate as a reformer on the issue of police accountability. The problem is, that his record simply does not match his rhetoric. His claims should be exposed as fraudulent and he should be labeled as a political opportunist who should not be trusted by the people of Los Angeles.

In 1999, when I was serving as LA's police chief, I was horrified to read the details of an officer shooting case involving the death of a 56-year-old African American man, Gus Woods. The LAPD officer-shot Mr Woods twice, killing him, despite the fact that Mr. Woods was more than 20 feet away, holding only a small metal rod.

I noted that the original radio call specifically stated the suspect appeared to be intoxicated and/or possibly mentally ill. Upon arrival, the officer partially concealed himself behind his car door, while his partner retrieved the bean bag weapon from the trunk. There was no evidence that the suspect presented an immediate threat of death or imminent danger. I supported the findings of the Department's Use of Force Board (UOF) and recommended to the Police Commission that the shooting be found out of policy. The Board of Police Commissioners, by City Charter, is

the final authority on these policy matters and adjudicated the shooting as out of policy. They believed the officer was not in immediate danger and had more than enough time to assess and evaluate alternatives rather than using deadly force on Mr. Gus Woods.

This matter was sent to a Board of Rights, for disciplinary evaluation. Then, Commander George Gascon was selected by the accused officer to be part of this disciplinary review board. George Gascon, acting as Board Chairperson, rejected the Commission's findings and instead, inexplicably found the officer not guilty.

Gascon hid behind a flimsy defense, claiming that the officer was acting on his memories of a ten-year-old training session, which counseled officers that anyone with a knife within 21 feet represented a threat that would justify the use of deadly force. To this day the tape from this training has never been established as an officially approved LAPD training tape and is contrary to the LAPD use of force policy.

The truth is that Gascon has a reputation for going easy on officers involved in disciplinary cases. During my time as Police Chief, it was widely known that officers, accused of misconduct, would routinely select George Gascon as a member of their disciplinary boards because they knew he had a reputation for leniency.

Gascon's actions were totally inconsistent with the direction I was taking the department. During that time, I fired 140 problem police officers; the most in LAPD history. Part I and violent crimes dropped over 30%. Officer-involved shootings dropped 44%. And, non-lethal use of force cases dropped 18%.

Gascon's record in San Francisco on this issue is equally as questionable. During his only full year as Police Chief, officer-involved shootings spiked from the year prior from five to eleven.

As District Attorney Gascon, again failed to live up to his promise to hold bad cops accountable. He was not successful in prosecuting any officers involved in the death of a civilian.

The powerful image of Colin Kaepernick taking a knee was in direct response to the shooting of Mr. Mario Woods. Despite nationwide attention and calls for action, Gascon declined to prosecute Mr. Woods' killer. When protesters showed up at Gascon's house

in response to this case, Gascon, on news video, showed his opinion of the seriousness of the situation (<https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/sf-district-attorney-files-restraining-order-against-protesters/63725/>) by throwing watermelon at the protesters and then filing a restraining order against them).

More recently, in 2018 the San Francisco Department of Police Accountability found that the officer who shot and killed Jessica Williams in 2016 should have been terminated. Gascon declined to file charges against the officers in contradiction to the findings of the Police Department.

Gascon claims he represents change in the D.A.'s office, but records show that, while serving as the San Francisco DA, he routinely sought the advice of Los Angeles DA Jackie Lacey's office on how to proceed with cases involving officer's excessive use of force. This comes as no surprise for someone who has no experience as a trial lawyer.

The stakes are too high to take a chance on someone who will do plenty of talking but has never shown a willingness to act. It is clear to me that George Gascon lacks the legal experience and the ability to bring people together to deliver the measured reforms that we need to make the city & county a safer and fairer place. Further, Gascon demonstrates massive hypocrisy in calling for reforms and action in places where he has only shown the most retrograde and conservative of policies himself.

I am proud to support Jackie Lacey to be reelected so that she can continue her fine work as DA. She and her diverse team have tackled the biggest cases and made significant inroads on everything from addressing mental health issues in our criminal justice system to safeguarding children from human trafficking. It is more important than ever that we choose a leader with substance and a record of achievement over shallow rhetoric and broken promises.

Bernard Parks was the Chief of the Los Angeles Police Department from 1997 to 2003. He served on the Los Angeles City Council representing the 8th District from 2003 to 2015. He recently retired from his role after nearly 50 years of public service. Parks holds a B.S. from Pepperdine University and an M.P.A from the University of Southern California.

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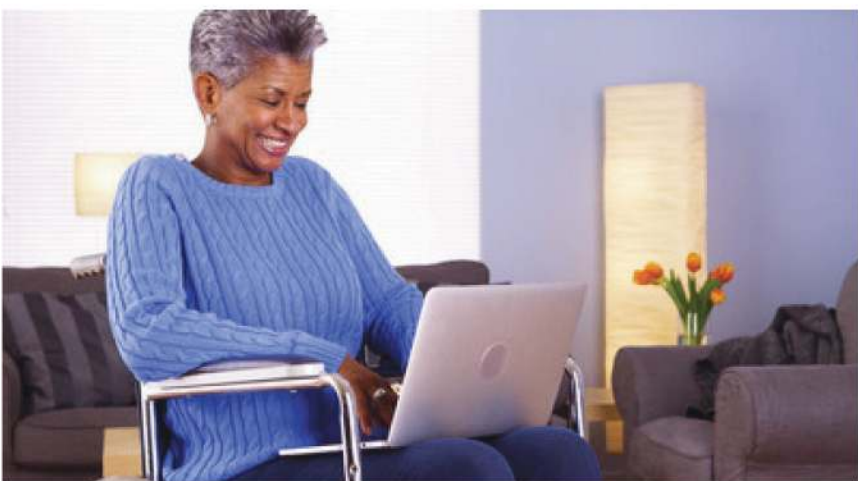
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Even in the midst of a global healthcare crisis, rise in homelessness, and an attack against the Heroes Act, Congresswoman Waters has continued to fight in Washington to make sure California residents aren't left behind.

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You can learn more at vote.ca.gov

In-person voting locations will be available in all counties. Many counties will offer in-person voting for at least four days beginning the Saturday before the November 3, 2020 Election. Voting locations will offer voter registration, replacement ballots, accessible voting machines, and language assistance.

Assessing the Million Man March: Lessons Learned from the Mission Statement

The Million Man March/Day of Absence was clearly a historic event with enduring meaning for us as a people. It was rightly posed in its Mission Statement as “a timely and necessary statement of challenge, both to ourselves and the country, in a time of increasing racism, attacks on hard-won gains, and continually deteriorating conditions of the poor and the vulnerable, and thus, an urgent time for transformative and progressive leadership.” Moreover, the March and its companion project the Day of Absence was a reaffirmation of the fundamental principle and constant practice that we are our own liberators and “that no matter how numerous or sincere our allies are, the greatest burdens to be borne and the most severe sacrifices to be made for liberation are essentially our own.”

Especially was it “an example and encouragement of operational unity,” a concept I advanced in the midst of the Black Liberation Struggle in the Sixties. Indeed, operational unity was a call for unity in diversity, unity without uniformity and unity in principle and in practice. Clearly, Min. Louis Farrakhan is to be credited with the insightful concept and timely call for the March and the Nation of Islam for providing the foundational organizational support for the March. But it was through operational unity and the mobilizing and organizing efforts of local organizing committees in over 318 cities which ensured the success of the March and the Day of Absence.

The Million Man March/Day of Absence Mission Statement, which I

wrote as a summary consensus of the Executive Council of the Organizing Committee, stands as an essential and enduring public policy document and way forward in the ongoing and now intensified struggle to be ourselves and free ourselves and live the good and meaningful lives we deserve and demand. It offers an agenda enduringly real and relevant. And on this 25th Anniversary of the March, it is important to raise it up and extract the lessons learned from its Mission Statement about how we can understand and assert ourselves in liberating ways in the world.

The Mission Statement intentionally starts with the phrase, “We, the Black men and women, the organizations and persons” because it wanted to affirm the fact that our project was an inclusive and united one, requiring our people as a whole for its ultimate significance and success. And therefore, although the first focus was on the self-raising and rising of Black men, it unavoidably reached out to and included Black women and the Black community as a whole. For we reasoned that real liberation and a good and meaningful life, must be the will and work of the whole people. Now, the priority need and call for Black men to stand up and assume a new expanded sense of responsibility was based on the common consensus that the health and well-being of our community depended on it. For not only were Black men indispensable to family, community and our liberation struggle, but also “some of the most acute problems facing the Black community within are those posed by Black males who have not stood up” and assumed their needed and rightful responsibility.

Thus, we reasoned and said in the Mission Statement that “unless and until Black men stand up, Black men and women cannot stand together and accomplish the awesome tasks before us.” But given understandable concern that this priority emphasis on Black men not disadvantage or minimize concern for Black women, we stated that this priority emphasis on Black men standing up is made “without denying or minimizing the equal rights, role and responsibility of Black women in the life and struggle of our people.” Thus, we reaffirmed the indispensable unity of our people, the moral necessity of shared respect and responsibility in all we do and dare as persons and a people.

We raised three basic themes: atonement, reconciliation, and responsibility. Atonement was defined as engaging in self-criticism and self-correction, “being humble enough to admit mistakes and wrongs and bold enough to correct them.” Reconciliation called for settling disputes, stopping character assassination, overcoming conflicts, putting aside grudges and hatreds in our relationships and organizations and between our organizations, rejecting personal and communal violence, and building and sustaining loving mutually respectful and reciprocal relations in the interest of our lives, our work and our struggle. And responsibility called for us to stand up and stand together



FILE PHOTO
DR. MAULANA KARENGA

in liberating practice as conscious and committed men and women.

Our demands were public policy positions. And we called for reparations in the fullest sense of the concept: public admission, public apology, public recognition; compensation and discontinuation of oppressive practices. And, of course, this means a radical reconstruction of society. We also called for a halt to criminalizing our people and undoing hard-won gains, such as affirmation action and voting rights, to halt the privatization of public wealth and space, spend money on education, not imprisonment, and protect and preserve the environment.

We called for universal, full, and affordable healthcare, affordable housing, passing of the Conyers' Reparations Bill (HR 40), an economic bill of rights, and plans to rebuild devastated urban areas. Also, we called on our people to continue the struggle against police abuse, government suppression, violations of

civil and human rights, and the industrialization of prisons. And we called for support of the freedom of political prisoners, prisoners' rights and their efforts of self-transformation in returning to society.

Moreover, we reaffirmed our standing in pan-African solidarity and struggle with African peoples everywhere and with Native Peoples, and other peoples of color in their just and liberation struggles. And we called on corporations to respect the rights and dignity of working peoples, to reinvest profits back into the Black community, and to stop plundering, polluting and depleting the environment.

In addition, we called on our community to practice an active, aware and independent politics, rebuild and expand its economic base, and above all rebuild and strengthen the Black family and community to struggle to reduce and end poverty, increase employment, achieve a culturally-grounded quality education, and enhance our institutional and organizational capacity to define, defend and advance our interests as a people. We also placed strong emphasis on supporting and challenging our faith communities to put forth the best of our values and practices as a moral and social vanguard in this country and the world. And we committed ourselves to embrace and practice in our daily lives the Nguzo Saba (The Seven Principles):

Umoja (Unity); Kujichagua (Self-Determination); Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility); Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics); Nia (Purpose); Kuumba (Creativity) and Imani (Faith).

Noting the historic character of the moment and of our project, we stated in conclusion that “in standing up and assuming responsibility in a new, renewed and expanded sense, we honor our ancestors, enriches our lives, and give promise to our descendants.” This, of course, is a reaffirmation of the Kawaida contention that this is our duty: to know our past and honor it; to engage our present and improve it; and to imagine a whole new future and to forge it in the most ethical, effective and expansive ways. And on this, the 55th Anniversary of the Organization Us, we raise up and remember this historic March and Day of Absence and the role of our men and women who played a key role in it.

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.

•TIMOTHY WATKINS & MARK RAVIS•

ALL IS NOT WELL IN WATTS

Councilman Joe Buscaino recently replied to a series of articles by the undersigned setting forth facts demonstrating that Watts is and has been a politically neglected appendage of Los Angeles. Mr. Buscaino takes issue with that contention and responds that Watts has not been neglected and cites several recent projects to support his argument. At the outset, we need to express appreciation for Mr. Buscaino's efforts for the people of his district and his willingness to debate the larger political issues relating to Watts in particular, and the city generally. Healthy debate always leads to positive results. That said, let us take a closer look at Watts.

According to county statistics and data contained in Mr. Buscaino's own “Community Studio Report,” forty-two percent of Watts' residents have not completed high school, only 48% are employed, 8.6% have post-graduate degrees, 34% are below the federal poverty limit, 10% are homeless, 35% have HIV/AIDS, and there is a 30% homicide rate for those 15-34 years old. Nearly, sixty percent of residents believe their neighborhood is unsafe. Worse yet, according to the City of Los Angeles Health Atlas, if you are born in Watts, your life expectancy is 12 years less than if you were born on the Westside. These statistics likely understate the situation in Watts as they include other portions of South Los Angeles.

Watts also has the highest population density in the city and has the least amount of green space.

If you walk the streets



TIMOTHY WATKINS



MARK RAVIS

of Watts, you will not find a single, non-fast food, sit-down restaurant, few grocery stores, and very few banks, none of which are friendly lenders to residents and businesses.

Without the support of banks, the community lacks capital to develop like other Los Angeles communities. This is systemic racism. And it is the result of a lack of political power sufficient to direct needed resources to the community. This political distortion has been

in place for many decades regardless of who represented CD 15. Located within CD 15, Watts is on the tail end of the district which includes the much larger anchor communities of San Pedro and Wilmington fifteen miles away. The populations of San Pedro/Wilmington dwarf that of Watts. Consequently, CD 15 never has had and never will have a councilperson from Watts. For these reasons, Watts desires to be part of CD 9, a district en-

compassing South Los Angeles, where its votes will be more impactful.

Historically, Watts is a community which rose from the migration of blacks from the Deep south.

They were looking to escape the worst remnants of chattel slavery, Jim Crow laws, and segregation. It was doing modestly well until it was annexed by the City of Los Angeles in 1926--by a vote of 1356 to 535. It has been downhill ever since. Thirty-nine years later Watts erupted in violent protest over its dismal fate.

In response to the Los Angeles Riot (locally known as the Watts Revolt), the McCone Commission was created to study and report on the underlying causes of the riot. The Commission detailed the deplorable living conditions and lack of resources in the community. It recommended a significant in-

{See WATKINS A-7}

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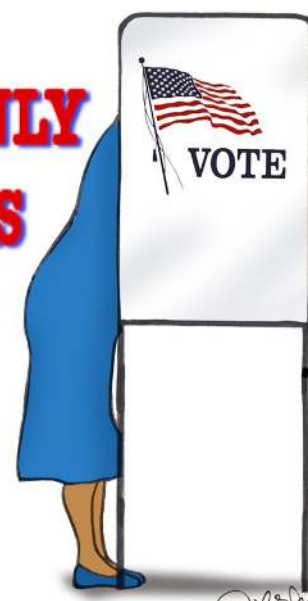
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• CHARLENE CROWELL •

Civil rights groups oppose fast-tracked Supreme Court nominee: Nation's diversity not represented in its courts

One of the most consequential decisions that presidents make are lifetime federal judicial appointments at every level: circuit, appellate and the U.S. Supreme Court. The independent federal judiciary is charged with ensuring that the nation's courts are fair to all people. Even the phrase "equal justice under law" is carved in the stone facade of the Supreme Court building.

to-title, and high-cost installment loans. Even the nation's half-century old Fair Housing Act could be revisited due to the Trump Administration's roll-back of an Obama-era fair housing rule known as disparate impact. If allowed to stand, the burden of proving discrimination will be shifted to consumers instead of powerful corporations and others alleged to have violated the law.

1999, Judge Coney Barrett has frequently lauded him as her mentor, and praised his judicial philosophy both as a law school professor and as a judge.

At the September 26 White House Rose Garden announcement of her nomination, Judge Coney Barrett said, "I clerked for Justice Scalia more than 20 years ago, but the lessons I learned still resonate. His judicial philosophy is mine too: A judge must apply the law as



CHARLENE CROWELL

which over seven million people have already voted, the Barrett nomination is as illegitimate as it is corrupt," wrote Derrick Johnson, NAACP President and CEO to the Judiciary Committee. "On issue after issue, we have found her to be stunningly hostile to civil rights."

"Early and absentee votes are already being cast for the November election —and nominating a candidate for a lifetime appointment to this nation's highest court during this electoral period undermines the democratic process

nominees, leaving millions of Americans vulnerable to financial hardship", said Mike Calhoun, President of the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL).

With less than three weeks before election day, the Senate began the confirmation process on Monday, October 12 with its Judiciary Committee hearings, chaired by Senator Lindsay Graham of South Carolina. The committee is expected to vote on the nomination on October 22. As Senate Majority Leader, Kentucky Senator Mitch McConnell is planning a floor vote for the week of October 26.

The rapid review of Judge Coney Barrett is a stark contrast to the lengthy, Senate-engineered delay of President Obama's 2016 election year Supreme Court nomination.

On February 13, 2016, Associate Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia passed. Weeks later on March 16 that year, President Obama nominated Judge Merrick Garland, Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Cir-

on February 1, 2017. The Senate confirmed Gorsuch on Friday, April 7, 2017 and was sworn in the following Monday, April 10. In real time, that nomination process took just two months.

It is also noteworthy that as the nation is increasingly diverse, the federal bench remains dominated by White judges.

A recent Associated Press analysis of the Trump Administration's judicial appointments found that White men were nearly 86% of the 206 lifetime appointments made. Similarly, White men were 85% of all Senate-confirmed U.S. Attorneys.

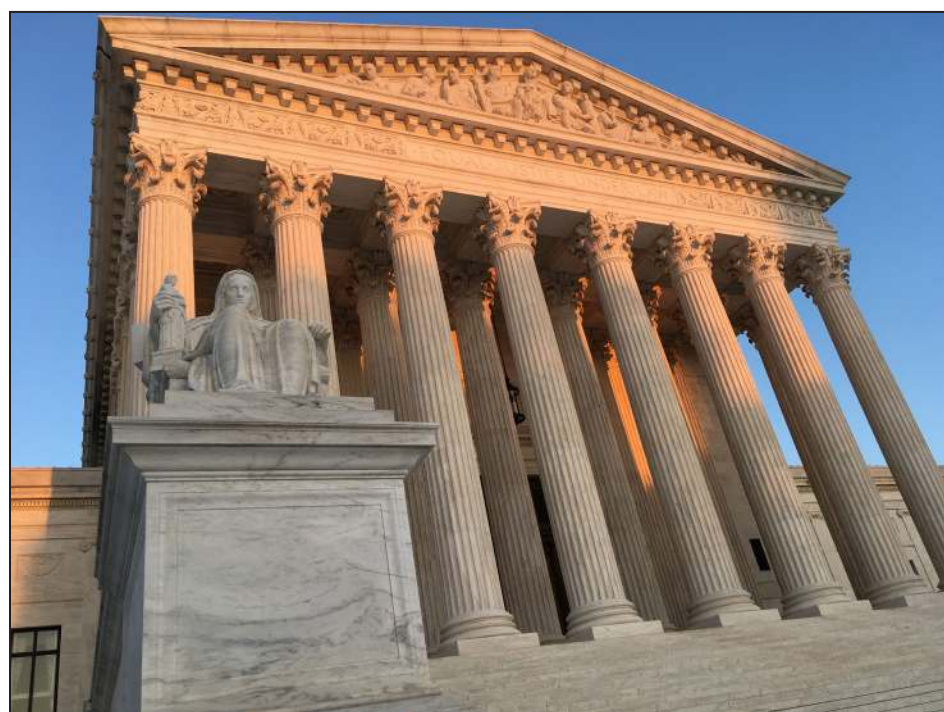
A court system that does not reflect the people it is sworn to protect is hard-pressed to ensure diverse backgrounds, experiences and viewpoints in judicial deliberations. Continuing the trend of nominating and confirming White, conservative justices strain -- if not ignore -- the nation's pledge of equal justice.

In the words of the Leadership Conference on Civil & Human Rights, "During this pandemic and amid nationwide calls for racial justice, we cannot allow Trump to select a third justice who he has pledged will devastate our hard-fought civil and human rights — including access to health care for millions of people."

The approaching electoral decisions include the future of hard-won civil rights, and whether they will continue to be systematically dismantled. It is in the hands of voters to decide. And the choices should be clear: a return to the multiple ills of bygone years or hopeful future with justice and opportunity for all.

Choose wisely, America.

Charlene Crowell is a senior fellow with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.



A recent American Bar Association blog states, "For the nation to continue to have trust in the integrity and independence of the federal judiciary, the process that places judges on the bench must be viewed as fair, unhurried and unbiased."

But for Black America and other communities of color, throughout our history and continuing even today, 'justice' is often far from fair, nor is it unbiased. In recent years, the Supreme Court has declared that corporations should be treated like people, and that voting rights no longer need to be protected. In November, the high court is scheduled to revisit the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare.

Other issues that may reach the Supreme Court could include whether federal agencies can preempt state laws protecting consumers from bad actors in the student loan servicer arena, and in payday, au-

"Over the next several years, the Supreme Court will make important and lasting decisions that affect every facet of our lives, including income inequality, the racial wealth gap, access to health care — including reproductive rights — and many other issues," states a new CRL policy brief.

For these reasons and others, the passing of the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg created a significant moment for the future of the court. As the second woman to ever serve as a Supreme Court Justice, the fondly-recalled 'Notorious RBG' broke gender barriers throughout her legal career, forging freedom and access for many who were historically marginalized.

And the nomination of Judge Amy Coney Barrett to fill that vacancy has triggered a chorus of civil rights organizations expressing their adamant opposition. As a former clerk to Justice Scalia, 1998-

written. Judges are not policymakers, and they must be resolute in setting aside any policy views they might hold."

Despite high praise by conservatives and the Senate Majority's commitment to ram through her nomination, civil rights organizations and other advocates have expressed strong opposition to Judge Coney Barrett.

"We stand opposed to her confirmation to the Court," said Kristen Clarke, president and executive director of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund. "Her confirmation would dramatically alter the Supreme Court in ways that would prove devastating for Black communities and other people of color across the country."

Similarly, the head of the nation's largest and oldest civil rights organization recently advised the Senate Judiciary Committee of the NAACP's position on the nomination.

"Coming in the middle of a presidential election in



and is a disservice to the American public", said Sherilynn Ifill, President and Director-Counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund. "Senators must also respect the clear will of the American people, and honor the precedent they set in 2016, by declining to consider any nominee until the winner of the presidential election is inaugurated."

"The Senate majority needs to prioritize COVID-19 relief legislation for the rest of this year and not use the remaining time of this session to confirm judicial

But the U.S. Senate refused to hold committee hearings or a floor vote for almost a year, and thereby denied President Obama the right to fill the court vacancy.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell publicly boasted in a speech that August, "One of my proudest moments was when I looked Barack Obama in the eye and I said, 'Mr. President, you will not fill the Supreme Court vacancy.'"

Nearly a year later, the lengthy high court's vacancy enabled President Trump to nominate Neil Gorsuch

ALL IS NOT WELL IN WATTS

{continued from Pg. A-6}

vestment in Watts, including laying the groundwork for a project that would become known as the Cultural Crescent.

The Cultural Crescent was to be a complex consisting of iconic structures, museums, commercial enterprises, and parks, the great and historic Mafundi Institute, all incorporating Black history themes. It was intended to be a source of pride for the Black community, a source of jobs, a commercial success, as well as a large tourist attraction. Watts, like Harlem, has a worldwide reputation, and with the Cultural Crescent it could easily develop a large tourist industry. The city has also repeatedly promised the creation of significant

green space as Watts is the most densely packed area of Los Angeles and has the least amount of green space.

Promises be damned. Nothing happened to further the intentions of the McCone Commission and Watts again exploded in violent rioting following Rodney King's beating.

Once again, promises to the people of Watts were renewed and concrete plans for the Cultural Crescent began to take shape and leaders reassured the community of their support for it. Architects created designs, construction plans were proposed and submitted, culminating in a flurry of activity in the years 1993 to present.

Recently, over fifty-five

years after the McCone Commission Report, the people of Watts learned that eleven parcels of land on which part of the Cultural Crescent was to be established were actually reserved by the city council for a Westside developer. This transaction took place on Mr. Buscaino's watch and we look to him to explain how it came about. From what we know to date, the developer intends to construct more than 190 units of "housing" with a handful of "low-income" units to satisfy some technical requirement. The Watts Neighborhood Council recently voiced its opposition to the project. By the way, the World-Famous Watts Towers have been compromised in the process by the

forfeiture of the main street that leads to the Towers. So how did it happen? We look to Mr. Buscaino to weigh in and explain it.

As to the Watts' projects mentioned by Mr. Buscaino, the fact is the Jordan Downs Housing project started more than 16 years ago under the name "Watts Rising." Community protest to the way the project was being advanced caused the Housing Authority to pause the project. As to the new retail space, it does little to advance Black business ownership and continues the tradition of Blacks as consumers and the enrichment of outsiders. We acknowledge that the Transformative Climate Communities grant is a significant benefit to the com-

munity. It had been in the works for years and finally came to fruition during Mr. Buscaino's tenure and, to the extent his office may have facilitated its conclusion, his efforts are appreciated.

We should never hesitate to acknowledge the good work done in CD 15 and those responsible for it. But, we also expect them to answer for questionable events occurring on their watch, such as the 11-parcel set-aside for what was to be the Cultural Crescent. The set-aside underscores the point that Watts needs to have a larger political voice IF it is to remain part of Los Angeles.

We accept on faith that the elected officials, like Mr. Buscaino, are sincere

people who want to do the best they can for their constituents. Still, Watts has been in bad shape for over 70 years and it remains in bad shape. It is a proud neighborhood with a rich history that needs to be honored and preserved. Yet, it is starving in the midst of plenty and largely ignored by the city to which it is attached. We only ask Mr. Buscaino to account for what has happened on his watch and nothing more.

*Timothy Watkins, President & CEO
Watts Labor Community Action Committee
Mark Ravis, M.D., J.D., M.P.A.
Public Interest Attorney*



**IN PERSON OR BY MAIL
VOTE, VOTE, VOTE
By November 3, 2020 or Before**

IT'S VOTING TIME

NOVEMBER 3, 2020

Wendy's

WINDOW

Forgiving for Living



What Does Your VOTE Mean?

Plato said, "One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors." We are in countdown mode with less than two weeks before the election. Some of us have already cast our vote, either in person where we stood in long lines, or we sent our ballots in by mail. For those

that may still be on the fence regarding if you are going to vote, I am telling you it is not an option. Too many people have fought, sacrificed, or even died for us to have the right to cast our vote. It is imperative that each one of us does our research about the candidates and the issues that are before us right now. If you are not sure, I am here

to tell you your vote means everything.

I decided to take a personal look at how I view the importance of everyone's vote, especially during this 2020 election.

V – is for letting your VOICE be heard. For your voice to count it is essential that you do your research and understand what is at stake and how

your vote will affect how you (and others) will live for possibly generations to come. This goes for candidates and the various measures on the federal and local levels.

O – is for expressing your OPINION. To express your opinion, you must have one. Now is the time to be clear and understand what you believe and what are your core values. If you are not sure spend some time searching your core and go back to your basics. What is important to you? What are you willing to live or die for? This will help guide your heart and mind to make the decision you feel is best.

T – is for the TIME is now. We are literally running out of time. I think some of us fell asleep and have been on auto pilot and we think that everything will work itself out. No. We must act now and do all that we can to help

make a difference. If we do not like the way things are, it is up to us to make a difference. We must put our money, resources, time, and expertise to work right now. Have you done your best to make a difference for this election? If not, then pour yourself into whatever you can during these last few days before you look back and it is too late.

E – is for EQUALITY. It is sad that we are still fighting for equality for all Americans. As I look at the injustices in our society, it saddens me that a white man can walk down the street with a gun in his hand after killing someone, while an unarmed Black man (or woman) can be killed while sleeping in their own bed. It also saddens me that even still, some Americans do not see the inequality that persists today. Equality is also on the ballot if we want to

achieve a better society.

No matter what your political affiliation, the time is now. You must let your voice be heard and express your opinion by casting your vote. America is crying out for equality and justice for all. Do not stand on the sidelines. George Jean Nathan shared, "Bad officials are elected by good citizens who do not vote." We need everyone to show up and be heard. The future of our children and grandchildren depends on the choices we make today.

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‘Yeah, Man!’ Part 5 ‘She’s THE One To Have and To Hold!’

During the "olden days" many young women thought if they had sex with a young man that meant marriage. Not true. Based on the family training of those young people, they may have been taught that. To some extent that may have been true. Promiscuous behavior has defied that principle. However, some men (I have

to always say "some," because it's not a one size fits all premise) still live by that principle. Some of the constraints lie with the woman (young lady). Ask yourself, "What type of woman do I want to marry?" Some men don't want to marry at all. That's fine. But, you still keep running into that "God thing." Yes, what would God say about

you (even the man) sleeping around and why do you keep on doing it if you believe it to be immoral. Yes. Morals apply to men too. Because if you have diminished moral standards and you plant your seed anywhere and anytime, this comes back to society and has an impact on all of us. So, you want to be a eunuch? I don't be-

lieve it. The word comes from perhaps the positions (job functions of the man). For example, the man's assignment may have been to guard the bedchamber of women. Okay. Let's get back to our point here. This is the kind of woman we're talking about here... I suggest a woman like Abigail. Let me tell you about her. She was very beautiful, a wise woman and of good understanding, organized and circumspect in her dealings. She was not impulsive, but thought things through with quick, wise resolutions. In some instances she thought like a man, but was a desirable woman in all respects. She was married to Nabal. She tolerated him and his gross boorish faults, made excuses for his shortcomings (which is putting it mildly) and where necessary, she took up the banner to correct and intercede on his behalf when he made terrible mistakes. He was wealthy and very prosperous with one thousand goats and three thou-

sand sheep. Here's a great example. Nabal and his men went to Carmel to shear sheep. This was a type of celebration to have sheep to be sheared and the men look forward to having other sheepshearing celebrations. David (yes, the mighty warrior) heard about Nabal shearing his sheep in Carmel and sent his young men to greet Nabal peacefully: "go up to Carmel and greet Nabal in my name and say to him who lives in prosperity, "Peace be to you, peace to your house, and peace to all that you have!" Your shepherds were here with us. We watched over them and your goods and nothing was stolen; we kept them safe. As your young men and they will tell you that it is true. For this kindness, I would like my men to come and feast with you in exchange for this kindness we rendered to you for looking after your goods. Nabal, who was short tempered, arrogant, selfish, inconsiderate and unthinking, stated,

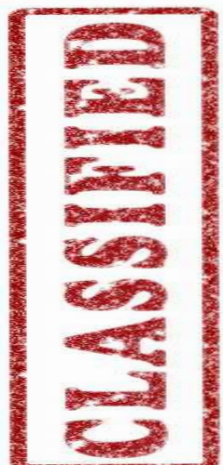
"Why should I take my hard earned goods and implied they were run away slaves! The STAR of this true account, Nabal's wife, Abigail comes into the picture. She hears about what has happened. She hears that David has girded four hundred men (leaving 200 behind to watch over everything). His intent is to kill Nabal and all his men. As soon as Abigail heard about this devastating news, she knew it sounded like her drunken husband. She acted swiftly and wisely, gathered food from their store; such as two hundred cakes of figs, five sheep already dressed and more stuff and loaded the goods on the donkey. She rode on a donkey and came upon David where she honored him and took up for her wicked husband, "do not regard this scoundrel, Nabal, my husband. I didn't know all this was going on, but now that I know, the Lord has held you back from killing all

{See PARKER A-11}

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ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 20STCP03049

CIVIL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 20STCP03163 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Petition of: Kamen Nkrumah Butler for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Kamen Nkrumah Butler filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 20STCP03049 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Petition of: Margaret L. Henderson for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Margaret L. Henderson filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Public Notices

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 20TRCP00225 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Petition of: Baby Boy Hardage for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Baby Boy Hardage filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 20CHCP00227 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Petition of: Ivan Sebastian Escobedo for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Ivan Sebastian Escobedo (on behalf of Clarissa Escobedo/Jaime Quintero) filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 20LBCP00212 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Petition of: Delliah Tabios Alay-Ay for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Delliah Tabios Alay-Ay filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

185TLC02897 NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): MELANIE BANKS, an individual; ESTELA ZAMBRANO, an individual; and Does 1 through 10 YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO) EL DEMANDANTE) INTERN SURANCE EXCHANGE OF THE AUTOMOBILE CLUB, an insurance exchange.

Public Notices

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 20TRCP00225 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Petition of: Baby Boy Hardage for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Baby Boy Hardage filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 20CHCP00227 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Petition of: Ivan Sebastian Escobedo for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Ivan Sebastian Escobedo (on behalf of Clarissa Escobedo/Jaime Quintero) filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 20LBCP00212 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Petition of: Delliah Tabios Alay-Ay for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Delliah Tabios Alay-Ay filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

185TLC02897 NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): MELANIE BANKS, an individual; ESTELA ZAMBRANO, an individual; and Does 1 through 10 YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO) EL DEMANDANTE) INTERN SURANCE EXCHANGE OF THE AUTOMOBILE CLUB, an insurance exchange.

Public Notices

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): 19STCV03234 NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): World on Wheels, LLC; DOES 1 through 50 YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO) EL DEMANDANTE): Suresh Salinas; Alphonso Gray; Evrol Andrews

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): 19STCV03234 NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): World on Wheels, LLC; DOES 1 through 50 YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO) EL DEMANDANTE): Suresh Salinas; Alphonso Gray; Evrol Andrews

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Public Notices

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES

Personal Injury or Wrongful Death
To: World on Wheels, LLC Plaintiff: Suresh Salinas seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows: 1. General damages Pain, suffering, and inconvenience \$50,000.00 2. Special damages a. Medical Expenses (to date) \$3,300.00 3. Punitive damages: Plaintiff reserves the right to seek punitive damages in the amount of \$50,000.00 when pursuing a judgement in the suit filed against you.

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

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Black SuperPac Urges Candidates, Parties to Spend Millions with Black Businesses

BY THE FLORIDA COURIER STAFF

One of America's leading Black conservative political action committee has instituted a national effort to help Black-owned businesses earn some of the billions of dollars spent during America's political campaigns as the 2020 election year hits the home stretch.

BlakPAC, a federally-registered "Super PAC" (political action committee), is spearheading an initiative urging all candidates, political parties, political action committees, and donors to take "The Art Fletcher Pledge" to commit to spending ten percent of their funding, revenues, or both with Black-owned and businesses and financial institutions.

Billions spent

According to the Center for Responsive Politics website at [opensecrets.com](https://www.opensecrets.com), which tracks campaign funding and expenditures, the 2020 presidential candidates have raised more than \$2.8 billion thus far – all to be spent prior to Election Day, November 3, 2020.

That amount does not include campaign fundraising or expenditures for congressional, state, or local elections, or campaign dollars raised by fundraising committees or political parties.

"The purpose of the pledge is simple," explained BlakPAC Chairman George Farrell.

"Any candidate, Democrat, Republican or independent, that cannot execute the ability to spend 10 percent of campaign funds with Black businesses cannot be trusted to operate honestly as an elected government



PHOTO: ISTOCKPHOTO

BlakPAC, a federally-registered "Super PAC" (political action committee), is spearheading an initiative urging all candidates, political parties, political action committees, and donors to take "The Art Fletcher Pledge" to commit to spending ten percent of their funding, revenues, or both with Black-owned and businesses and financial institutions.

official and should not earn our votes."

Farrell, a Washington, D.C. native who attended Howard University, is a real estate developer and entrepreneur. He and his wife Sandra Lopez co-founded BlakPAC with former Florida Lieutenant Governor Jennifer Carroll.

Carroll was the highest-ranking Black female elected official in the state's history. She served as the second in command to former Florida Gov. Rick Scott from 2011-2013.

'Economic flesh'

The pledge is named after Arthur Fletcher, a former assistant secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor in the Nixon administration. Fletcher, a Black Republican and lifelong civil rights activist referred to himself as "the father of affirmative action enforcement" for his work with the 1969 "Philadelphia Plan."

The plan required federal government contractors in Philadelphia's construction trades to set goals and timetables for hiring minority workers. It gave the businesses autonomy on how to

increase minority employment. However, if the goals were not reached, the contracts could be terminated by the federal government.

"The name of the game is to put some economic flesh and bones on Dr. (Martin Luther) King's dream," Fletcher is quoted as saying.



FILE PHOTO
Jennifer Carroll



FILE PHOTO
George Farrell



FILE PHOTO
Vernon Robinson

Fletcher went on to work with successive Republican presidents, including Gerald Ford, Ronald Reagan, and George H.W. Bush. Later in his career, he also served as chairman of the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights, and as the head of the United Negro College fund.

Growing support

"The Art Fletcher Pledge should be a demand!" exclaimed Carl Marbury, a Pittsburgh,

Penn.-based entrepreneur. "Extending the ideas of Art Fletcher to campaign spending should be a demand that every organization that supports the economic empowerment of minority-owned businesses should be making of candidates looking for the votes of their members."

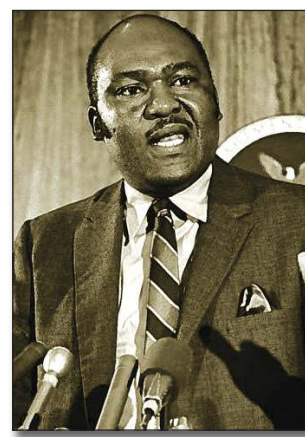
"In response to rioting, burning and looting, many American businesses and organizations are investing in voices that are loud and often irresponsible. BlakPAC is opening the way for investment in softer but experienced and responsible voices which present plans and projects which actually solve problems and benefit Americans," said former Louisiana State Senator Elbert Guillory, a Black Republican. He has signed on as a pledge supporter.

"People often forget those who commit to a

cause and act as a catalyst for historic change," said Robert Whittemore, another pledge supporter.

"Art Fletcher, a Republican civil rights leader, championed affirmative action to assure minority workers' civil rights were protected and represented to assure access to opportunity and economic equality through employment.

"Today, BlakPAC calls upon candidates and campaigns to make a pledge for



FILE PHOTO

Art Fletcher

affirmative political action, assuring minority activists and minority-owned businesses receive the funding needed to get the right candidates elected."

Electing conservatives

According to its website, www.blakpac.gop, "BlakPAC contributes to conservative candidates who share our values and serve as positive role models. They are our best advocates for conservative ideas to be showcased in the community." The organization has been in operation since January 2015.

BlakPAC also provides candidate training, exit polling, voter research, and social media campaign services, and has set up paid internships for Black youth who are interested in working on political campaigns.

Easy to do

"Meeting the Art Fletcher Pledge is easy if the commitment is there for affirmative political action," Farrell said. "There are some 200 Black-owned newspapers in the United States covering every possible market with a very loyal readership. Many of these papers are weeklies and therefore

have a long shelf life compared to daily newspapers.

"There are more than 100 Black-owned radio stations. There are even Black-owned television stations and Byron Allen's Weather Channel," he said.

"National and statewide candidates should be serious about reaching swing voters – otherwise known as Black voters – who provide the margin of victory in Florida, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Texas."

The 2018 Florida governor's race was decided by 44,000 votes. According to Farrell, Republican Ron DeSantis owes his victory in the Florida gubernatorial election to about 100,000 African American women who unexpectedly chose him over Democrat candidate Andrew Gillum because of a school choice-oriented get out the vote effort by BlakPac.

Black Republicans sign up

New Journey PAC President Autry Pruitt and Vernon Robinson of Black Americans for the President's Agenda PAC are both Art Fletcher Pledge signers and have spent more than \$1 million on advertising targeting Black voters and on Black-owned radio stations in Ohio, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Florida.

Black Republican congressional candidates Carla Spalding of Florida and Casper Stockman from Colorado have signed and have agreed to meet the commitment.

For more information on the Art Fletcher Pledge and to see the latest list of Pledge signers, go to www.blakpac.gop.



“We’ve fought hard for housing justice. Prop 21 will hurt homeowners of color who worked hard to purchase a family home while facing discrimination and unequal policies that still disenfranchise communities.”

DIANE R., SOUTH LOS ANGELES RESIDENT & LANDLORD

VOTE NO ON PROP 21

Californians are experiencing a severe housing affordability crisis in the most devastating economic and public health emergency of our lifetimes. The last thing we should do is pass an initiative like Prop 21 that will stop new housing from being built, cost jobs, and hurt the economic recovery.

Not only will Prop 21 hurt homeowners, it allows landlords to raise rents by up to 15% even among the lowest-income renters, which could lead to mass evictions.

Visit NoOnProp21.vote to learn more.

THAT'S WHY

PROP 21 IS OPPOSED BY A BIPARTISAN COALITION INCLUDING:

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CALIFIA NOW Chapter of Greater Los Angeles
California Council for Affordable Housing
Coalition of Small Rental Property Owners
Crenshaw Chamber of Commerce
Disabled American Veterans, Department of California
LA Metropolitan Churches
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Vice President Joe Biden & Sen. Kamala Harris Endorse Rep. Maxine Waters for Congress

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Today, former Vice President Joe Biden and Senator Kamala Harris announced their support of Congresswoman Maxine Waters who is running for reelection to Congress from California's 43rd Congressional District. The 43rd Congressional District of California includes a large part of South Central Los and the diverse cities of Gardena, Hawthorne, Inglewood, Lawndale, Lomita and Torrance.

"In her years of service to California's 43rd Con-

gressional District, Congresswoman Maxine Waters has delivered results as a legislator, community organizer, and fearless advocate for women and children, people of color, and the poor," said former Vice President Joe Biden. "She has fought to protect and strengthen the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and to ensure affordable housing for all - I'm proud to support her legislation to end homelessness nationwide. The first African American and first woman to chair the House Financial Serv-



AP PHOTO
Joe Biden and Kamala Harris

ices Committee, Congresswoman Waters has been critical in confronting the devastating impact of the COVID-19 crisis on working families, the poor, and

small businesses across the country, securing relief including small business funding and a moratorium on evictions and foreclosures. Congresswoman Waters is a proven champion for her district and working families across the country, and I'm proud to support her reelection."

"I'm so proud to endorse my friend Congresswoman Maxine Waters to represent California's 43rd Congressional District," said Senator Kamala Harris. "In times of crisis or collapse, Congresswoman Waters has



Maxine Waters

always met the moment with vigor and enthusiasm, understanding that change is always possible for those who are willing to fight for it. She is a leader in her caucus and has worked with the Speaker of the House, Treasury Department, and Federal Reserve

to advance legislation to confront the devastating impact of the coronavirus pandemic on our nation's public health and the economy. I encourage everyone in California's 43rd district to get out the vote and support Congresswoman Waters for reelection."

Councilman Wesson Believes in Second Chances, Providing for Those in Need

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Councilman Herb Wesson believes in second chances. He also believes in looking out for those down on their luck, and there's no better example of these values than the food box giveaway program he started when COVID-19 struck in March.

Since the pandemic began, Wesson has personally organized the delivery of more than 1.5 million pounds of food to families in need and senior citizens. As a councilman, he has delivered meals to those in need in the city of Los Angeles,



COURTESY PHOTO



COURTESY PHOTO

and as a candidate for Supervisor, he has used his limited campaign resources to expand the food box program and deliver meals to those in need throughout the Second Supervisorial District, including in Carson, Inglewood, and Compton.

To make the program possible, Wesson partnered with several local non-profits including Mothers in Action and Community Inc. and hired a team of four people to put the boxes together and deliver the boxes. All four members of the team were recently incarcerated, some for decades.

"The United States is the land of second opportunities," said Wesson. "We all make mistakes, but true character is built and revealed in how we respond to these mistakes. Your life shouldn't be ruined forever because of one mistake. One of the biggest flaws in our criminal justice system is that we don't have real pathways from being incarcerated to going back into society and contributing as a productive member of it."

Terry Dean, one of the employees who helps put the food boxes together and deliver them, served 25 years in state prison. When

he got out, he had trouble finding a good job that would hire him given his criminal record. Then he got connected with Wesson and his team.

"Coming out, you're stereotyped," said Terry. "Being incarcerated makes it hard to get a good job. But Herb Wesson and his team gave me the opportunity to try to better myself and give back. Instead of the negativity I used to feel, I'm all about being positive now, and I'm out here being positive doing good things."

For Terry, this new job has been more than just a way to pay the bills and get back on his feet. It's a way for him to give back to those in need, and a way for him to make peace with some of his decisions earlier on in his life.

"Herb didn't have to take a chance on me," Terry said. "But he opened his arms and gave me a chance. I respect and appreciate him to the highest degree."

While Wesson's food box program has been a new opportunity for second chances, anti-recidivism and gang reduction has been a priority of Wesson's throughout his career. Before the Mayors' Office of Gang Reduction and Youth Development was created in 2008, Wesson implemented programs like



COURTESY PHOTO

Safe Passage to create peace on the blocks so students could walk to school safely, and the Midnight Hoops program to provide at-risk youth a productive activity for after-school. He also has three formerly incarcerated people on his city staff.

On the policy front, Wesson was instrumental in the city's legislation to "Ban the Box," which made it illegal for employers to ask job applicants whether they have a felony on their record.

And according to Wesson, he has no plans to slow down the food box delivery program anytime soon.

"The need for assistance to the community is overwhelming," Wesson said. "I don't see this program that we're doing now stopping anytime soon. It's about always being there. It's about the public knowing you're going to deliver."



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CDC Greenlights Evictions Despite Continued Pandemic

By STACY M. BROWN
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

Landlords can resume eviction proceedings after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued clarifications to a previous executive order from President Donald Trump.

The CDC's memo released this week noted that its order "isn't intended to prevent landlords from starting eviction proceedings, provided that the actual eviction of a covered person for non-payment of rent does NOT take place during the period of the Order."

Further, the memo states that "landlords are not required to make their tenants aware of" Trump's eviction moratorium and the CDC's declaration form that renters must fill out to qualify.

Following the coronavirus pandemic outbreak, Trump issued an executive order that forced the CDC to temporarily halt evictions through the end of the year.

Diane Yentel, the nonprofit National Low-Income Housing Coalition president, suggested that Trump's order should have been accompanied with legislation and substantial emergency assistance.

Yentel declared that monetary aid was necessary because of a "wave of homelessness" facing the country.

Many experts said the government should mimic Washington, DC Mayor Muriel Bowser and the DC City Council.

In September, the DC City Council voted unanimously an extension to Bowser's state of emergency order, which prohibits evictions and ties them to the health emergency.

The Council's action allows Bowser to extend the city's moratorium on evictions as long as she opts for one.

The District's law also bans new eviction filings, a

move that will last for an additional two months following the end of the pandemic.

Further, notices to vacate are legally unenforceable during the eviction ban.

"When ... my email box is flooded with resident outrage, we want to act quickly, and I agree," D.C. At-large Councilmember Elissa Silverman told reporters. "But we also need to act thoroughly. The entire eviction process needs to be, I think, examined, and all of these recommendations made in the story deserve our consideration."

A study conducted by Harvard University's Department of Housing Studies revealed that half of Americans who rent are either severely rent-burdened or moderately rent-burdened.

For African Americans and Hispanics, researchers at Harvard determined a triple pandemic for those communities.

Black and Hispanic households were "much more likely to contract COVID-19, suffer lost income, and face housing insecurity as a result of the pandemic," the researchers concluded.

"It's a good time for the United States to really relook at our housing policies," Yentel told Yahoo! News. "And see what changes need to be made post-pandemic or even during the pandemic to help those who were already struggling."

The U.S. Census Bureau reported that about 30 percent of American adults face some form of eviction or foreclosure by December.

To help protect against eviction, tenants must show that their 2020 income is less than 2019, and they have to prove that the coronavirus caused them to lose employment or the ability to earn money.

The CDC memo did provide a steadier position for homeowners with Feder-



"It's a good time for the United States to really relook at our housing policies," Diana Yentel, the nonprofit National Low-Income Housing Coalition president, told Yahoo! News. "And see what changes need to be made post-pandemic or even during the pandemic to help those who were already struggling."

al Housing Administration-insured loans through the end of 2020.

The memo prohibits banks from foreclosing on homes until January 2021 at the earliest.

The CDC memo also reinforced cries for a new federal stimulus. However, the Trump administration and Democrats have remained apart in negotiations.

"If Trump walks away from passing a stimulus, we are staring down the barrel of one of largest mass evictions in American history," Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez said in a Twitter post.

Vermont Democratic Sen. Bernie Sanders also tweeted his concern.

"The tsunami of evictions we are about to see is unacceptable."

In a statement, the American Civil Liberties Union also called for a stimulus agreement to assist financially ailing Americans.

"Every day, people in our country are suffering through unemployment and evictions. People are dying in prisons and jails and from lack of access to testing and treatment. This is all happening while the clock ticks down to Election Day. People need relief now," the organization stated.

As Clinical Trials Halt, U.S. COVID Cases Surge

By STACY M. BROWN
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

Eli Lilly announced recently that it would pause a government-sponsored COVID-19 clinical trial because of a potential safety concern.

The drug manufacturer did not specify the concern, but the experimental vaccine is reportedly similar to the one President Donald Trump has claimed cured him of the coronavirus.

Earlier, Johnson & Johnson put the brakes on a COVID-19 vaccine trial after the company noted an "unexplained illness" reported by a participant.

In September, Great Britain officials held off on a potential vaccine when a participant reported a concerning reaction.

The difficulty in producing a vaccine for the deadly virus comes as a new wave of COVID-19 infection has begun.

Data provided by Johns Hopkins University in Maryland revealed that the U.S. surpassed 51,000 new daily cases on Oct. 13, marking the first time in over two months that the number exceeded 50,000.

The average daily number of new cases stands at 48 percent higher than two months ago when 34,354 were reported.

More than 36,000 COVID-19 patients were



Of the top 50 counties with the highest death rates, 31 are populated mostly by people of color. "Put simply, America's history of racism was itself a preexisting condition," study authors wrote for USA Today.

hospitalized on Oct. 13, the highest number recorded since August.

Statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reveal that African Americans remain three times as likely as Whites to contract the coronavirus, five times as likely to end up in the hospital, and twice as likely to die from COVID-19.

While the race and ethnicity of those who contract the virus are known in just 52 percent of cases, 7 of the 10 U.S. counties with the highest death rates from COVID-19 have populations where people of color make up the majority, according to data compiled by USA Today.

Of the top 50 counties with the highest death rates, 31 are populated mostly by people of color.

"Put simply, America's history of racism was itself a preexisting condition," study authors wrote for USA Today.

Additionally, one report noted that had African Americans died at the same rate as Whites; approximately 20,800 Black people would still be alive.

Dr. James Hildreth, the president of the historically Black Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, told the Black Press that his school is among four HBCUs preparing to host on campus COVID-19 clinical trials.

Dr. Hildreth previously advised against any vaccine touted by Trump, where the president exclaimed would be ready before Election Day.

"It's true that Black people have little trust in clinical trials, and that's understandable," Dr. Hildreth stressed. "We've engendered a level of trust with communities of color that other organizations just don't have, and it's imperative for us as HBCUs to rise to this occasion."

Dr. Hildreth noted that Meharry's trial would feature a vaccine made by Novavax.

"I'll be the first patient," Dr. Hildreth said, again punctuating the trust that's needed to secure African American participants.

"By engaging with the four Black medical schools, [participants] will have individuals who look like them, sitting across the table, having these conversations, and we think that's going to make a huge difference."

Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson Convenes Public Health Professionals for Community Health Forum

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Racism and inequality continue fueling coronavirus-related deaths among Black and Brown Angelenos. Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson recently hosted a public forum for residents in South Los Angeles to hear directly from Black public health professionals about how to protect our community from COVID-19. Representatives from Charles Drew University, Black Women for Wellness, and the LA County Department of Public Health joined Harris-Dawson to discuss the implications for COVID-19 in South LA communities.

“At every turn, communities of color carry the heaviest burdens. Keeping my constituents informed and engaged is vital as we continue to learn more about the COVID-19 pandemic and move forward with vaccine trials,” said Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson. “We must continue to use what we know about this pandemic to center the health of Black/People of color in an equitable manner. My office remains committed to educating our constituents and helping them connect to public health professionals to increase transparency.”

Trust between physicians and patients is an important determinant of positive health outcomes. However, incidents of



Marqueece Harris-Dawson

FILE PHOTO

medical abuse towards Black African Americans have eroded the trust between doctors and patients of color. From racial and ethnic disparities in pregnancy-related deaths to fraudulent, ill-intentioned test trials where the health and safety of Black patients were not the priority, there are countless examples of Black patients having their rights violated by medical professionals. Black Women for Wellness joined the forum to elevate the importance of centering the experiences of Black Angelenos and addressing this legacy of mistrust to improve health outcomes

for residents. Black Women for Wellness addresses the disparate health outcomes experienced by women of color, and works with policy leaders and health organizations to address the root causes of health inequality. “We look at the intersections of socioeconomic and health to imagine what healthy living looks like in our communities,” said Nourbese Flint, policy Director at Black Women For Wellness. “We see the intersections between lack of access to healthcare, housing and economic opportunities as catalysts for the negative health out-

comes Black people across gender identities experience. We are committed to developing our personal power, by holding leadership accountable and supporting leaders focused on health equity.”

Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science is the preeminent medical HBCU on the west coast and prepares diverse health professionals, dedicated to social justice and health equity to serve communities through outstanding education, research, clinical service, and community engagement. Dr. Carlisle

joined the community forum to highlight the importance of public health professionals representing the communities they serve.

“Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science was founded as a direct result of health inequities in Black and Brown communities,” said Dr. David M. Carlisle, president and CEO of

Charles Drew University. “We exist to address the distrust between medical professionals and the communities they serve by preparing and training health providers to serve under resourced communities like South Los Angeles.”



David Carlisle

FILE PHOTO



FILE PHOTO

Nourbese Flint

communities on public health matters.

“The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health helps communities by analyzing and communicating relevant public health data, and will continue to identify partners and work with them to meet the needs of the communities we serve across Los Angeles County,” said Dr. Muntu Davis, Health Officer at LA Public Health Department.

According to a recent UCLA Report, Latinos and Blacks living in Los Angeles have almost twice the COVID-19 case and death rates of Whites due to the intersections of race and poverty. As flu season approaches and the prospects of a COVID-19 vaccine become more real, this forum provided a space for South LA residents to have their questions and concerns directly addressed by public health experts. Watch a recording of the full community forum at <http://ow.ly/FeVR50BWP5H>.



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An Open Letter From San Francisco Mayor London Breed

Gascon is Always Looking Out for Gascon

By London N. Breed

San Francisco's former district attorney, George Gascon, who left town before his term was finished so he could run for D.A. in Los Angeles, has a long history of going whichever way the winds blow, saying whatever suits his political purposes, and only looking out for himself.

Nevertheless, I was shocked to read how Gascon is now trying to explain why I, along with San Francisco's well-respected city attorney, Dennis Herrera, oppose his candidacy. Gascon claims he "rattled cages" in San Francisco and that's why our city's top leaders oppose him.

This is nonsense. And I can speak for myself.

Like countless others who have witnessed Gascon's brand of "leadership" up close, I have opposed his candidacy from the start, and for very simple reasons: Gascon was bad for San Francisco, and he would be bad for LA.

When Gascon was first brought to San Francisco by then-Mayor Gavin Newsom, he was recruited from conservative Mesa, Ariz. He'd been a registered Republican and was on the record supporting the use of the death penalty "in appropriate cases."

Shortly into his tenure as police chief, Gascon enraged much of the community when he claimed that San Francisco is susceptible "to members of the city's Middle Eastern community parking a van in front of [the Hall of Justice] and blowing it up."

Later, when he decided to run for D.A., Gascon found it politically convenient to re-brand himself as a progressive. He reversed his position on the death penalty. He talked up the need for police reforms, even though he had instituted none when he was police chief.

The flip-flop got him elected, but it didn't do much for reform efforts. While many of us were working to enact meaningful police reforms, Gascon failed to indict any of the officers involved in a series of high-profile shootings. Communities of color continued to suffer disproportionately from violence on our city's streets, even as the D.A.'s office became increasingly cavalier toward victims of violence.

Experienced public servants left Gascon's notoriously mismanaged office in droves. When a senior prosecutor blew the whistle on Gascon carrying a concealed weapon on commercial flights, Gascon retaliated by having him fired. The city was forced to pay \$400,000 to settle the wrongful termination case.

Losing support on all sides in San Francisco, Gascon announced he would not run for re-election, because he wanted to "spend more time with [his] mother." Then he resigned before his term was over, and less than a month after that, filed to run for D.A. in LA.

I grew up in public housing, and as an adult, I've lived and worked in the very communities we talk about when we say "Black Lives Matter." Before I ever ran for public office, when Gascon was a new D.A. and I was running a community center in San Francisco's historically Black Fillmore District, Gascon showed how little actual Black lives matter to him.

A young Black man found himself in the wrong place at the wrong time: a streetfight that resulted in a deadly shooting. I knew the young man from my community center, knew he was not a violent person, and learned he had no part in the shooting. I reached out to D.A. Gascon, pleading with him not to ruin this young man's life by treating him like one of the shooters. But Gascon wasn't interested.

Eventually, the charges against the young man were dismissed, but not before his life was totally derailed. Gascon, who now portrays himself as a flagbearer for the Black Lives Matter movement, wasn't willing to lift a finger for that young man's Black life.

As L.A. voters are asked to consider George Gascon, I hope they will take into account both his poor record as a D.A. and his lack of character as a public servant. And to the Black voters, in particular, whom Gascon is so eagerly courting: I don't believe need self-serving "allies" who are only there for us when it suits their needs, we need true partners who will stand with us through thick and thin in the ongoing fight for justice for all. George Gascon is not that person.

London N. Breed is the 45th Mayor San Francisco.



San Francisco Mayor London Breed

FILE PHOTO

ADVERTORIAL



Bruce Ford
Senior Vice President
City National Bank

Know Your Financing Options for Purchasing Business Real Estate

Black achievement and wealth are hard-won in the best of times. A global pandemic and stalled economy, coupled with the ongoing struggle for social justice, have increased the urgency for a proactive approach to Black entrepreneurship and wealth creation. Opportunities exist, even in the most challenging circumstances.



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Buying a building for your business is a major milestone for any entrepreneur. Once you've made your financial projections, it's time to determine the best way to finance that purchase. I advise business owners to explore all the options to help them acquire the right property with terms they can live with. After all, this asset will not only house your company for years but may eventually become an income-generating pillar of your retirement plan.

David Cameron, City National Bank's head of business banking, sums it up perfectly: "You want to work with a banker who has experience in financing real estate through both U.S. Small Business Administration and conventional loans." An experienced banker can help customize your financing options to maximize loan terms, minimize down payments and ensure your business has sufficient capital to customize or retrofit the property to suit your needs.

504 Loan: 10 percent down and a term of up to 25 years

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) 504 loan is designed specifically for owner-occupied commercial real estate and related fixed assets. These long-term loans, provided by the SBA and participating lenders, generally allow businesses to borrow up to 90 percent of building costs at a fixed rate.

As the borrower, you would make a 10 percent down payment for a loan with a 10- to 25-year maturity. You may use the funds not only for the building and land purchase but also for renovations, parcel improvements, major equipment, furniture and certain other costs.

The turnaround for an SBA 504 loan application takes a month or two. Your bank provides the initial review, followed by the nonprofit Certified Development Company that handles these loans for the SBA in a given region, and then the SBA itself reviews your application.

Conventional Options and Creative Approaches

Conventional financing options generally allow your company to borrow up to 75 percent of the property's appraised value and choose from a variety of terms, with fixed or variable rates and different maturity and

rate-reset options. In recent years, many businesses with sufficient cash flow have locked in low interest rates by securing 15-year loans that are fully paid off at maturity. Typically, though, business borrowers opt for lower monthly payments by taking out 10-year loans amortized over 25 years and refinancing when the debt matures.

At City National Bank, we often combine different types of debt to help clients purchase and retrofit a building, rolling a secondary loan into a real estate loan. No matter which loan you choose, make sure you thoroughly understand the details, including any prepayment penalties for fixed-rate loans. I'm always ready to help my clients, especially those who are buying business real estate for the first time.

Prepare Your Financials for Loan Approval

As with any business loan, in order to qualify you will need solid credit scores and should be prepared to provide the financial documents that the bank and the SBA may require, such as personal and business income tax returns, business financial statements, a debt schedule, and a business plan that includes financial projections.

Banks often look at two and sometimes three repayment sources, starting with business cash flow for owner-occupied buildings. The real estate itself serves as collateral that the bank could sell or lease should the business falter. Most lenders also will require you to sign a personal guarantee document promising to pay back the loan.

Get Expert Help with your Financing Decision

An experienced commercial banker, along with an accountant, can help you analyze the numbers and determine which type of loan makes the most sense. City National offers a banking relationship that aims to serve the needs of your entire company, not simply process a loan.

Bruce Ford, senior vice president, is a regional manager of business banking at City National Bank. To learn more about complete financial solutions for business, Sentinel readers may contact Peter Jackson, Crenshaw District branch manager, at (323) 761-5900 or Peter.Jackson@cnb.com.

Veteran TV Executive Channing Dungey Named Chairman of Warner Bros. Television Group

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Veteran TV industry executive Channing Dungey was named chairman of the Warner Bros. Television Group after tenures at ABC and Netflix in which she shepherded hit series including "Scandal."

Dungey, who at ABC in 2016 became the first African American head of a network entertainment divi-

sion, will succeed veteran Warner executive Peter Roth when he steps down from the post early next year, the company announced Monday.

After an ABC career that spanned 14 years, including as a series development executive, Dungey was hired by Netflix in late 2018 as its vice president for original series. She resigned earlier this month, sparking reports that she was destined for Warner Bros.

While at ABC, Dungey was responsible for shows including "The Good Doctor," the revival of "American Idol" and the "Roseanne" reboot with Roseanne Barr — canceling the sitcom in 2018 over a racist tweet from Barr that Dungey called "repugnant."

During Dungey's tenure at Netflix she worked alongside "Scandal" and "Grey's Anatomy" creator Shonda

Rhimes, among the prominent producers and actors lured to the streaming service with lucrative deals. Dungey oversaw projects including "Away" with Hilary Swank and Octavia Spencer's "Self Made: Inspired By The Life of Madam CJ Walker."

The Warner Bros. Television Group is part of parent company's WarnerMedia group that includes HBO and the recently launched HBO

Max streaming service.

"This is such an electric time in our industry, and we have so much opportunity available to us between Warner Bros.' core businesses and HBO Max, I cannot wait to dive in," Dungey said in a statement.

She joins Pearlana Igbokwe, head of NBC Universal's television studios, as a rare Black executive in charge of a TV studio.



PHOTO BY CHRIS PIZZELLO/INVISION/AP, FILE
In this June 13, 2018, file photo, Channing Dungey arrives at the Women In Film Crystal and Lucy Awards in Beverly Hills, Calif.



TURNER CLASSIC MOVIES
Jacqueline Stewart is the new Turner Classic Movies "Silent Sundays" host.

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The Academy Museum of Motion Pictures announced that scholar, programmer, and educator Jacqueline Stewart has been named chief artistic and programming officer. In this new executive position, Stewart will lead strategy and planning for the Academy Museum's curatorial, educational, and public programming initiatives, including exhibitions, screenings, symposia, publications, workshops, and K-12 programs. Stewart will join the museum in January 2021 and will report to the Director and

Jacqueline Stewart Appointed Chief Artistic and Programming Officer of the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures

President of the Academy Museum, Bill Kramer.

Bill Kramer said, "Jacqueline Stewart is a powerful leader in the film world. Her inspiring history of scholarship, teaching, programming, building community partnerships, and archival work combined with her dedication to inclusivity and accessibility make her an ideal leader for the museum. With her remarkable ability to engage the public and her commitment to showcasing the diverse and fascinating history of the movies, she will be a vital part of our mission to advance the understanding, celebration, and preservation of cinema."

"As a scholar who researches, teaches, presents, and archives films, I see how cinema shapes our understandings of history and culture, of other people and ourselves, in profound and enduring ways. In my work to create welcoming spaces for people to experience films, I have seen that

movies have a unique ability to galvanize dialogue and cultivate empathy," said Jacqueline Stewart. "I am excited to join the Academy Museum team at this critical moment for the institution, and for our world, to engage visitors and partners in accessible, multifaceted conversations about the history of filmmaking and the impact that cinema has on our lives."

Stewart joins the Academy Museum from the University of Chicago Department of Cinema and Media Studies, where she teaches American film history, specializing in African American cinema from the silent era to the present. Stewart also is the director of the university's Arts + Public Life initiative, which provides platforms for artists and access to arts programming through artist residencies, arts education, creative entrepreneurship, and artist-led programs and exhibitions. She currently serves on the curatorial advisory committee for the

Academy Museum's upcoming exhibition "Regeneration: Black Cinema 1898-1971," which explores the visual culture of Black cinema from its early days to just after the Civil Rights Movement.

An award-winning writer, Stewart is the author of "Migrating to the Movies: Cinema and Black Urban Modernity," a study of African Americans and silent cinema, and was the co-editor of "L.A. Rebellion: Creating a New Black Cinema—a landmark study of the first generation of film-school-trained Black filmmakers out of UCLA, including Charles Burnett, Julie Dash, and Haile Gerima. Stewart's writings have appeared in Critical Inquiry, Film Quarterly, Film History, and The Moving Image. She has two forthcoming books on directors William Greaves and Spencer Williams.

Stewart's research has been supported by numerous grants and fellowships, including the Schomburg

Center for Research in Black Culture of the New York Public Library, the Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies at Princeton University, the Kluge Center at the Library of Congress, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. In 2019, Stewart was a senior fellow at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) in Washington, D.C.

A thoughtful and engaging programmer, Stewart is the host of "Silent Sunday Nights" on Turner Classic Movies, which showcases silent films from all over the world, and she co-curated "Pioneers of African American Cinema" for Kino Lorber—a collection of works of early African American filmmakers. A native of Chicago's South Side, Stewart founded the South Side Home Movie Project in 2005 to preserve, digitize, and screen amateur footage documenting everyday life from the per-

spectives of South Side residents.

A passionate film archivist and advocate for film preservation, Stewart studied moving image archiving at UCLA and the Cineteca di Bologna in Italy. She is a three-term appointee to the National Film Preservation Board (NFPB), which advises the Librarian of Congress on film preservation policy. As Chair of the NFPB Diversity Task Force, Stewart led the drafting of reports on diversity, equity, and inclusion on the National Film Registry and in the film archive profession. Stewart has served on the boards of Chicago Film Archives, the Society for Cinema and Media Studies, and the Association of Moving Image Archivists.

Stewart has held faculty positions at the University of Chicago and Northwestern University. She earned her PhD in English from the University of Chicago and her BA in English from Stanford University.

COMMUNITY BUILD, INC. OFFERS HOPE AND EMPLOYMENT

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

When the 2020 Census count is finally tallied, states across the nation will receive their proportionate share of government funding for essential social programs and services for the next decade. For three ex-felons, the grassroots work of going door-to-door checking for completed Census forms, provided immediate financial relief and an opportunity to help their community.

David Battle, Robert Madison and Willie Harris, III are three of 170 Census canvass workers hired by Community Build, Inc. (CBI) for temporary work in a final push to ensure all South Los Angeles residents are counted for the 2020 Census. Battle, Madison and Harris are also ex-felons who have served a collective 80 years in prison.

CBI was able to hire Census canvass workers with funding specifically allocated for Census work from the office of Council member Herb Wesson.

Prior to the pandemic, Battle, who served 21 years and six months for armed robbery, had worked installing office cubicle partitions for almost three years. He was doing well and providing for his family, when the pandemic hit and the shelter in place orders were imposed. He had been out of work since March when he heard about CBI's Census Canvass work from Pastor Anthony O. Williams of 88th Street Temple, where Battle attended church.



Community Build, Inc. President Robert Sausedo (center) and CBI accountant Ernest Williams pose with 2020 Census canvass workers. CBI hired 170 Census workers to knock on doors and make phone calls in South L.A. neighborhoods where Census participation was low.

"The Census work with Community Build came right on time. I really needed it because at first we were getting some big unemployment checks, but then it went down and it just was just not a livable wage," Battle said.

Even though employment as a Census canvassing worker was temporary, Battle said he was able to use the \$20 per hour wage to catch up on a few bills.

"All good things come to an end, but I'm grateful for the opportunity," said Battle. "I've been through some adversity in my life. I believe that this struggle will prepare me for the next opportunity."

Robert Madison heard about the Census canvassing work from Derek Hill, outreach specialist at Dad's

Back Academy, a program for fathers reentering society following incarceration. Madison served a 22-year sentence for armed robbery and was released 14 months ago.

Madison said he was eager to find employment. After receiving the Hill's referral, he applied and was accepted into the program, paired with a canvassing crew and started the same day.

According to Madison, after he explained the importance of completing and submitting the Census form, a majority of the residents he spoke to were respectful, receptive and appreciated the inquiry. He said he received a lot of "thank yous" and "good luck" from over 200 houses he visited in his last week

of work.

"It made me feel good that I'm giving back to the community," said Madison. "If it came up again, I wouldn't mind doing it."

Madison said he will continue to look for work now that he Census canvassing assignment is complete. He would like to work with youth in some capacity.

Willie Harris, III, learned about CBI's Census canvassing work through Darlene Burke, founder of Ten Toes In, a support group for women who are involved with an incarcerated or formerly incarcerated men and incarcerated men who are in a relationship with women outside of prison.

After serving a 37-year sentence for murder, Census canvassing was Harris' first job after being release on May 29. He said he enjoyed the feeling of earning his own funds and being immediately welcomed into the group and put to work.

"I would love to have a permanent job and an apartment," Harris said.

According to the California Department of Corrections, hundreds of men and

women with felony convictions who have served their time are released each year. Due to prison overcrowding and Coronavirus outbreaks, hundreds of inmates deemed to be non-violent and unlikely to reoffend are also eligible for early release.



PHOTO CREDIT: CYNTHIA GIBSON
Robert Madison

The NAACP reported that having a criminal record reduces the likelihood of a job callback or offer by as much as 50 percent.

"We know the greatest predictor of recidivism is poverty," said Community Build, Inc. President Robert Sausedo. "Everyone - including those with felony convictions - deserves a chance to contribute to their communities through employment that provides a living wage."

The primary job of the

canvass workers is to remind people to fill out the Census form and answer questions about the Census. The workers received a presentation on the impact of an accurate Census count as well as training. From Sept. 16 to Sept. 30, Census canvassing crews were driven to areas where Census form returns were low and given a script, a canvass map, canvass walk sheets, a safety vest, and a canvass report form. Compensation for canvass workers was \$20 per hour.

The 2020 Census count was scheduled to continue through October 30, but the count came to an abrupt halt two weeks early on October 15 after the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the Trump Administration's request to end the Census count. The Trump administration argued that the head count needed to end immediately so the U.S. Census Bureau would have enough time to



PHOTO CREDIT: CYNTHIA GIBSON
David Battle

calculate the numbers before the congressionally mandated December 31 deadline.

"In the last Census, California lost \$650 billion from being undercounted and that undercount isn't nearly as bad as was before the canvassing started," said Sausedo.

"With these temporary Census positions, we were able to provide immediate support to South Los Angeles residents through jobs, and through an accurate Census count, we can continue that support in the future. It's a win-win for everyone."

City Planning Looks to Ease Regulations, Support Small Business During Economic Recovery

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

City Planning released a draft of its Local Emergency Code Amendment for public comment. The ordinance would take steps to eliminate financial and regulatory burdens on small businesses affected by the novel coronavirus. If adopted, it would expand the city's ability to activate regulatory relief during a declared local emergency.

The COVID-19 global pandemic has not only impacted public health, but devastated the economy through job loss and business closures for many small and local operators. Among those affected are local restaurants, entertainment venues, retail stores, and gyms.

"Neighborhood businesses are critical sources of employment, providers of essential services, plus a staple of community identity," said Director of Planning Vince Bertoni. "The proposed ordinance aims to spur the recovery of these vital businesses as well as prepare a path for neighborhood recuperation in the future during declared city-wide states of emergency." Consistent with direc-

tion by the City Council, City Planning staff proposes a regulatory framework that takes effect during a declared state of emergency and upon emergency order from the Mayor or by resolution from the City Council. The proposed provisions are active for the term of the local emergency and up to 12 months after its expiration or termination. Council can extend these provisions for a maximum of 36 months past the expiration of the local emergency as well as terminate these provisions after the expiration of the local emergency.

The proposed Local Emergency Code Amendment has two main components as outlined below. The first addresses the extension of time limits for the expiration of certain permits, and the second addresses automobile parking requirements. In limited situations, the second component would grant modifications to existing parking requirements for businesses that meet a set of specific eligibility criteria.

Extension of Time Limits:
Conditional Use Per-

mits (CUP) with a term limit or expiration are extended

Utilization periods for certain approvals are extended

Any concurrent entitlement, as part of a multiple approval, is eligible

Automobile Parking Requirements:

Changes of Use for existing buildings will not trigger new parking requirements

Conditions of approval requiring valet parking are suspended

Conditions of approval requiring off-site parking above Code requirements are suspended

In the coming weeks, City Planning staff will hold a public hearing on the draft ordinance, then draft a staff report with recommendations for consideration by the City Planning Commission (CPC). Additionally, the Initial Study of the potential environmental impacts will be released before the item goes before the CPC. Following CPC, the ordinance would move to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUM) before going to the full City Council for consideration.

The California State Conference of the NAACP, Minority Health Institute, American Nurses Association, California, California Medical Association, patient advocates and social justice leaders all strongly OPPOSE Prop 23.



Stop Dangerous & Costly Dialysis Proposition

REJECT
the Dangerous & Costly Dialysis Proposition
Learn more at NoProp23.com

PROP 23: Puts patient lives at risk.

Nearly 80,000 Californians get dialysis treatments three days a week, four hours at a time to stay alive. Missing even one treatment increases the risk of death by 30%.

Prop 23 would impose costly, unnecessary new mandates that would increase dialysis clinic costs by hundreds of millions of dollars every year - putting many clinics at risk of closure.

PROP 23: Disproportionately hurts people of color.

According to the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease, African Americans are 3.5 times more likely to develop kidney failure and need dialysis treatment.

Prop 23 hurts the poorest and most vulnerable individuals in our communities by reducing access to the care they need to stay alive.

Ad paid for by NO on 23 - Stop the Dangerous & Costly Dialysis Proposition, a coalition of dialysis providers, nurses, doctors and patients
Committee major funding from
DaVita
Fresenius Medical Care
US Renal Care
Funding details at www.fppc.ca.gov

Jacqueline Waggoner Named President of Solutions Division at Enterprise Community Partners

Dedicated community leader brings more than 20 years of experience to lead 300-person program, policy, advisory and capacity-building portfolio in support of Enterprise's mission.

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Enterprise Community Partners (Enterprise), following a nationwide search, named Jacqueline Waggoner president of its Solutions division, which operates 11 market offices across the country and delivers policy, program, advisory and capacity-building support at the national, state and local level. As Enterprise embarks on an ambitious new five-year strategic plan, Waggoner will be a critical leader in leveraging all of the Solutions division's capabilities to drive the organization's three major priorities of increasing housing supply, advancing racial equity and building resilience and upward mobility.

Waggoner will remain

headquartered in Enterprise's Southern California office in Los Angeles, where she previously served as vice president and Southern California market leader. This will be the first time in Enterprise's nearly 40-year history that it has a bicoastal team of senior executive leaders.

"Jacqueline is a natural leader and as passionate, creative and thoughtful an advocate for affordable housing as there is. As we execute on our new strategic plan, Jacqueline brings the ideal on-the-ground experience to design and then rigorously implement systemic change at a time when Enterprise needs to push for nothing less," said Priscilla Almodovar, chief executive officer, Enterprise. "Jacqueline will join the presidents

of our Capital division and Communities division to deliver Enterprise's unique end-to-end approach to address our nation's housing challenges from every angle."

Waggoner has 20 years of experience in affordable housing with a unique mix of program design, policy advocacy, community lending and housing finance. She joined Enterprise in 2005 as a senior leader for Enterprise's Community Development Financial Institution, where she doubled production and built relationships with partners that endure today. Promoted to deputy director of our Southern California market, she spearheaded the New Generation Fund that preserved 2,700 affordable homes in Los Angeles.

As Market Leader for Southern California, Waggoner secured additional resources for affordable housing, advanced historic state and local policy wins, and established Enterprise as a leading voice on homelessness and racial disparities, especially during COVID-19. She advocated for the passage of the Affordable Housing Linkage Fee, the City of Los Angeles' first permanent subsidy for affordable housing. She also co-led advocacy efforts to support the passage of Proposition HHH and Measure H, which provided housing and services to people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County.

"Our country and communities face an intersection of crises: a pandemic, a

recession and a long-overdue reckoning with racial justice. Enterprise has the perspective and expertise to help all of us come out stronger on the other side. I'm both humbled and energized to help lead that effort," said Waggoner. "I look forward to bringing the strength of our people, our partners and the communities we serve to bear as we move forward together."

In 2019, she was a Bismarck Los Angeles Power Woman honoree and the recipient of the Community Impact Award from the Los Angeles Business Council, which also named her the Tim O'Connell Philanthropic Partner of the Year.

She currently serves as commissioner and vice chair of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Author-



COURTESY PHOTO

Jacqueline Waggoner

ity. Prior to joining Enterprise, Waggoner served as vice president of Wells Fargo's Community Banking Real Estate Group.

A Los Angeles native, Waggoner holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and a Master of Arts in Urban Planning from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Impact Circle Founder Jenisa Washington is Putting Her Money Where Her Heart is Throughout Her Los Angeles Community

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The Impact Circle Foundation has recently granted over \$60,000 towards multiple organizations with a heart and mission that matches a purpose of social change in underserved Los Angeles communities, including the Birthing People Foundation, the Compton Kidz Club, First Place for Youth and Women's Voices Now.



COURTESY PHOTO

Jenisa Washington

Impact Circle creates social impact through partnerships with innovative nonprofit organizations.

Jenisa Washington founded Impact Circle in order to make every effort to expand the ways in which supporters care for and understand one another as a human community. Established in 2018, Impact Circle has granted over \$200,000 to local community nonprofit organizations

providing maximum impact allowing these organizations to achieve their goals and grow to make a difference in the communities they serve. Washington claims that the partnerships go way beyond donations. The Impact Circle Foundation is committed to establishing long-term relationships providing relevant resources, experience, and time that support their nonprofits to be successful,

especially in this time of gender and social inequalities that have underpinned so many communities in the United States as the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic intensifies.

Washington is the epitome of a true visionary that has expanded the way we care for human beings with strategic partnerships that go beyond financial assistance. Washington has

proven to be devoted to implementing long-term relationships within the community and pledges to continue to be that voice. It is with no debate that the motivational force and vision of Jenisa Washington and The Impact Circle are of purpose, strength and empowerment to society. The camaraderie is welcomed; race, creed, color, or socio-economic status do not matter.

JUSTICE AND EQUALITY ARE ON THE BALLOT



JOIN CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **ALEX PADILLA**

VOTE YES ON PROPOSITIONS 16, 17, & 18



Ad Paid for by Alex Padilla Ballot Measure Committee for Democracy and Justice – Yes on Propositions 16, 17 and 18

JPMorgan Chase Commits \$30 Billion to Advance Racial Equity

New commitments and public policy efforts will address key drivers of the racial wealth divide, reduce systemic racism against Black and Latinx people, and support employees.

NNPA NEWSWIRE

JPMorgan Chase announced new long-term commitments to advance racial equity. The firm will harness its expertise in business, policy and philanthropy and commit an additional \$30 billion over the next five years to provide economic opportunity to underserved communities, especially the Black and Latinx communities.

Structural barriers in the U.S. have created profound racial inequalities that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The existing racial wealth gap puts a strain on families' economic mobility and restricts the U.S. economy. Building on the firm's existing investments, this new commitment will drive an inclusive economic recovery, support employees and break down barriers of systemic racism.

"Systemic racism is a tragic part of America's history," said Jamie Dimon, Chairman and CEO, JPMorgan Chase & Co. "We can do more and do better to break down systems that have propagated racism and widespread economic inequality, especially for Black and Latinx people. It's long past time that society addresses racial inequities in a more tangible, meaningful way."

Over the next five

years, the firm expects these new commitments, which include loans, equity and direct funding, to:

I. Promote and Expand Affordable Housing and Homeownership for Underserved Communities

A. Originate an additional 40,000 home purchase loans for Black and Latinx households. To do this, the firm is committing \$8 billion in mortgages. Efforts include:

B. Improving key home lending products and offerings, including substantially increasing the Chase Homebuyer Grant in underserved communities.

C. Help an additional 20,000 Black and Latinx households achieve lower mortgage payments through refinancing loans. To do this, the firm is committing up to \$4 billion in refinancing loans.

D. Finance an additional 100,000 affordable rental units. To do this, the firm will provide \$14 billion in new loans, equity investments and other efforts to expand affordable housing in underserved communities. Efforts include:

E. Investing additional capital in vital community institutions and increasing funding for the construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing for low and moderate-income

households nationwide.

II. Grow Black- and Latinx-owned Businesses

A. Provide an additional 15,000 loans to small businesses in majority-Black and Latinx communities. To do this, the firm will deliver \$2 billion in loans. Efforts include:

B. Launching a new program designed to help entrepreneurs in historically underserved areas access coaching, technical assistance and capital.

C. Accelerating a digital lending product to better support the needs of small Black and Latinx-owned businesses seeking quick access to capital.



Jamie Dimon

D. Spend an additional \$750 million with Black and Latinx suppliers.

III. Improve Financial Health and Access to Banking in Black and Latinx Communities

A. Help one million people open low-cost checking or savings accounts. To do this, the



PHOTO: ISTOCKPHOTO / NNPA

JPMorgan will also provide \$2 billion in philanthropic capital over the next five years to drive an inclusive economic recovery and support Black, Latinx and other underserved communities.

firm commits to hiring 150 new community managers, opening new Community Center branches in under-

served communities and materially increasing marketing spend to reach more customers who are currently underserved, unbanked or underbanked. Other efforts include:



Janet Murguía



Michael McAfee



Lisa Rice



Marc Morial

B. Continuing to open 100 new branches in low-to-moderate income communities across the country as part of the firm's market expansion initiative.

C. Building awareness and trust in Chase Secure Banking to meet the needs of Black and Latinx unbanked and underbanked households and expand access to traditional banking.

D. Invest up to \$50 million in the form of capital and deposits in Black and Latinx-led Minority Depository Institutions (MDI) and Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI), and continue to mentor and advise select MDIs and CDFIs to help them achieve future success.

IV. Accelerate Investment in our Employees and Build a More Diverse and Inclusive Workforce

A. Continue to build a more equitable and representative workforce and hold executives accountable by incorporating priorities and progress into year-end performance evaluations and compensation decisions for members of the Operating Committee and their direct reports.

B. Provide financial coaching services to the firm's U.S. employees.

The firm will also provide \$2 billion in philanthropic capital over the next five years to drive an inclusive economic recovery and support Black, Latinx and other underserved communities. This extends and increases the firm's current five-year \$1.75 billion philanthropic commitment made in 2018. It will also include an emphasis on supporting Black and Latinx-led organizations.

A fact sheet detailing JPMorgan Chase's new commitments is available here.

Holding Ourselves Accountable

Measuring impact and ensuring accountability is central to these new com-

mitments. Progress will be tracked regularly and shared with senior leadership across the firm, as well as externally with the Chase Advisory Panel, to assess performance and hold the business accountable. These efforts will further allow for maximum impact and bring an enhanced equity lens to the firm's business.

Comments on the Importance of Advancing Racial Equity

"We have a responsibility to intentionally drive economic inclusion for people that have been left behind," said Brian Lamb, Global Head of Diversity and Inclusion, JPMorgan Chase. "The COVID-19 crisis has exacerbated longstanding inequities for Black and Latinx people around the world. We are using this catalytic moment to create change and economic opportunities that enhance racial equity for Black and Latinx communities."

"To ensure the Latino community can thrive, we must work together to break down persistent obstacles to opportunity created by systemic racism," said Janet Murguía, President and CEO, UnidosUS. "JPMorgan Chase's new commitments will help ensure that the American dream is accessible to more Latinos today, create a multiplier effect through generations, and lead to a stronger country with greater shared prosperity."

"America's racial wealth gap has been a persistent injustice, and it can no longer be tolerated as business as usual," said Marc Morial, President and CEO, National Urban League. "I am heartened to see JPMorgan's specific, measurable commitments that we believe will address decades of systemic racism toward Black communities

and will bolster the well-being of families across the country, as well as our collective economy. We are proud to work alongside JPMorgan Chase to make these changes and help craft conditions for lasting racial equity."

"All Americans deserve equitable access to affordable housing and the physical, emotional and financial security it represents," said Lisa Rice, CEO, National Fair Housing Alliance. "JPMorgan Chase's new commitments will help make owning or renting a reality for more Black and Latinx families, whose housing access has been impeded by decades of systemic racism and are now disproportionately affected by the impact of COVID-19. Addressing the affordability crisis, now overlaid with the pandemic, will require many players on many fronts, and these commitments are concrete, meaningful steps in the right direction."

"This moment requires leaders and their institutions to shake off the husks of complacency and to stand in transformative solidarity with the more than 100 million in America who face the burdens of a democracy and economy that does not yet allow them to participate, prosper, and reach their full potential," said Dr. Michael McAfee, President and CEO, PolicyLink. "JPMorgan Chase is beginning the journey to answer this call. Its targeted investments in Black and Brown communities and its leadership advancing public policy ensures all people in America participate in a just society, live in a healthy community of opportunity, and prosper in an equitable economy is the type of creative spark that will usher in America's renewal."

YES ON 22

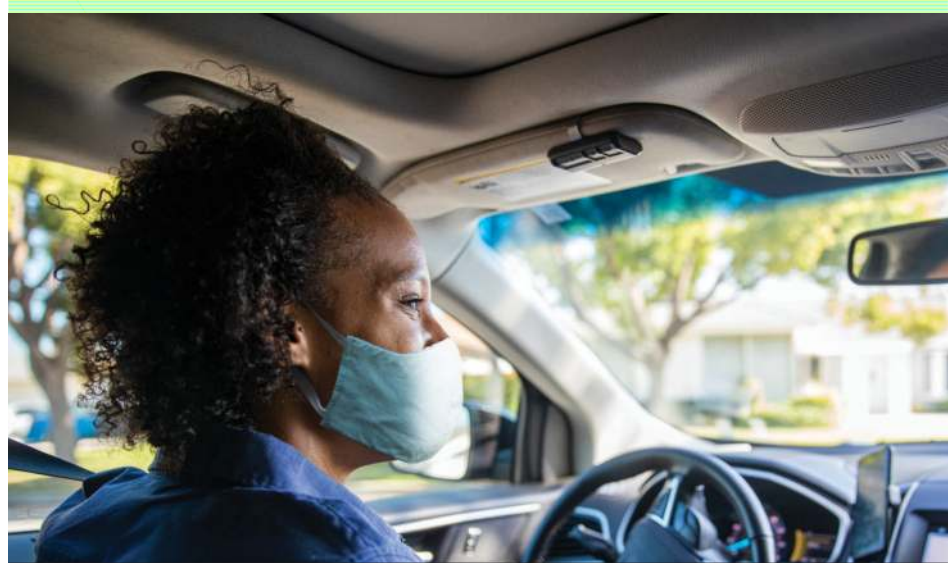
Protect App-Based Work for California's Black and Brown Communities at a Critical Time

Four million Californians are out of work. But hundreds of thousands have been able to make ends meet by driving with app-based platforms, delivering food, groceries, prescriptions and other essential supplies. Large numbers of Black families in California count on the income and flexible schedules that this independent app-based work provides.

Prop 22 www.YesOn22.com

- **Protects the ability of app-based drivers to work as independent contractors**
- **Saves hundreds of thousands of jobs**
- **Preserves rideshare and food and grocery delivery services**

Ad paid for by Yes on 22 – Save App-Based Jobs & Services: a coalition of on-demand drivers and platforms, small businesses, public safety and community organizations. Committee major funding from Uber Technologies Lyft DoorDash Funding details at <http://fppc.ca.gov>



Crenshaw Mall

{Continued from A-1}

Bridge to a glass see-through bridge overlooking Crenshaw Boulevard. Macy's was renovated and Walmart opened inside the mall. Other new tenants came into the mall including Cinemark XD Extreme multiplex cinema, Pink, Victoria Secret, Forever 21, and Lane Bryant. The mall got new restaurants to come into the complex including Buffalo Wild Wings, Post & Beam and Chipotle Mexican Grill. Unfortunately, Walmart made a sudden and unexpected exit from the mall on January 17, 2016 (ironically, on the MLK, Jr. Day weekend), and on November 7, 2019, Sears announced it would be closing its doors as part of a 96-store nationwide closing. Sears closed in February of 2020.

In 2017, Capri got a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) processed and approved by the city council. In 2018, the site received entitlements to transform the shopping mall into a 24-hour mixed-use complex with commercial, office and residential structures. The expansion on the 43 acres site would include: a luxury 400-room hotel and resort, an office tower with a penthouse level, an open-air plaza, mid-to-high upscale restaurants, acres of public space, a multi-story parking structure and residential units with low-rise condominiums and apartments.

Despite the early success of the mall, the investor group led by LACERA (Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association) grew weary of the investment and made the decision to sell the mall. In April, 2020, the CIM Group agreed to buy the mall for more than \$100 million. It cited the mall's proximity to a soon-to-open light rail

station, and its plan to convert the former Sears and Walmart into offices, in order to drive more foot traffic into the remaining retail stores. However, by June 2020, the sale was dropped due to community opposition to the plan without the residential component. The mall has been closed for much of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

LIVWRK and its partners, DFH, are now proposing to purchase the mall, and at press time the clos-

and I want to see a group of African American Investors own and be afforded this opportunity within our community."

The other issue that has plagued LIVWRK since it was announced that they were the selected purchaser at the end of a long and protracted bidding and proposal process, is their connection to Donald Trump and Jared Kushner, as well as the previous buyers the community opposed with was CIM. To these issues, Abeshera explains "We have never had any relationship with the Trump Organization in any

with them. He explains, "If they wanted to come into this deal, we would have to say NO; we have no future or active deals with them."

Abeshera also wants the community to know that the Jared Kushner who he was in business with is far different from the Jared Kushner of today. He explains, "At the time when we were doing business, they had no association with any political platform what so ever." He says Jared Kushner was a democrat, a liberal, who did a lot of community work in soup kitchens, funded charity programs and was far

ity, is going to run between 1.2 and 1.5 billion dollars all in, but he believes its worth creating a development that will be transformative and good for the community and his company as well.

"I like to identify projects that are large and that are impactful, so that when you plant trees for yourself, you plant trees for your neighbor as well. I see a transformative development with input from the community. That will be aesthetically pleasing and economically uplifting for everyone." He says he has been out in the community,

why there was a big gate around the project which makes no sense, and tried to really understand what's happening and how we can turn this into an opportunity for major growth in the area.

I wanted to figure out how we can swing the pendulum to an opportunity of major growth and game changer."

Another key element of community concern is African American ownership and participation in the project. Asher explains that he does have a group of five African Americans who have been offered an opportunity to purchase an economic interest in the development. While other sources outside of Abeshera say these investors include community organizer Shari Franklin and noted architect Roland Wiley of RAW Architecture. Abeshera says that he cannot reveal the identity of these people without their approval (as of Sentinel press time, Abeshera has not confirmed or denied Franklin, Wiley or any other African Americans as part of the team).

He does say that there is a group of five stakeholders who have been given the opportunity to invest in the project. They will have an unparalleled opportunity to purchase as large a stake in the project as they would like. However, given the massive cost, Abeshera is proposing the development will cost, even a small stake of five-to-10 percent, would be in excess of \$100 million.

Abeshera says that these partners will have a say in the design and programming of the development. He says all of potential partners are passionate about doing a great development; that they are African American residents from within the neighborhood and local business leaders with a proven record of serving the community.

Abeshera says he is committed to working with all of the community stakeholders to create a development that everyone enjoys and is proud of "My vision is to have a conversation, first, with several of the stakeholders in the community and to collectively come up with themes that we can all agree with. Culturally relevant themes that will pay homage to the rich cultural history of the site but also illustrates the future that can be in a thriving eco system of equality," he said.

"This is not about checking boxes, this is about getting to know the constituents and having a relationship that the community can feel good about. It needs to be beautiful; it needs to be inviting, it needs to be a place people don't want to leave."

Abeshera says local resident are first priority for employment. Having partnerships with the community colleges and high schools, will groom and incubate residents and local businesses that will prepare them to work and flourish within this development.

Abeshera and LIVWRK want the community to know that he is not a fancy guy. "I don't hide behind lawyers, or lobbyist; I am an approachable guy, I'm available for meetings, conversations and want to speak to the community at their clubs and group meetings and get a chance to get to know each other. Perception is reality but the best perception is the perception you get to build when having a relationship with someone."

Given the track record of the Baldwin Hills-Crenshaw Mall, this is a complicated development with a lot of money at stake and we are sure there is time to figure out who and how this project will ultimately unfold.



The Baldwin Hills-Crenshaw Mall has been a staple for shoppers in the Black community.

ing seems to be eminent. "LIVWRK – is a development company that invests in communities where we look for themes to bridge gaps between infrastructure and culture," stated Abeshera.

But, despite all of his good intentions and promises to bringing forth a quality and inclusive development, many in the community have been reluctant to support LIVWRK as the buyer for the mall. Rev. William Smart of SCLC says "This mall is a landmark building within our community

capacity or realm – never happened."

As it relates to Jared Kushner and his family company, Abeshera acknowledges that when LIVWRK first started, "We had done five separate deals with the Kushner's, of which in the middle of some of those deals, they were no longer involved." Abeshera says that in three of those larger projects, his Kushner group contact left the business and they stopped working with them all together. Abeshera says they have no intention of doing any future deals

different from the guy we see today.

"This thing came out of the sky, that my partner ended up working for his father-in-law who ended up becoming the President of the United States. This was not even in the cards or in the universe I was in," he explains.

As for CIM, he does acknowledge that he does do business with them. And explains out of respect for their relationship, he called the highest-ranking executives in the firm, informing them there was no opportunity for collaboration on this project; which he says they understood and wished him well.

Damian Goodman, who led the opposition against CIM, who withdrew their offer to purchase the mall, sees it differently. "LivWrk will lie, deny and buy-off some questionable Black "leaders" to confuse and an attempt to hoodwink the people. But the facts are what they are. A google search of "LivWrk" and "Kushner" returns over 90 hits. Five out of the nine projects listed on their LivWrk's website are partnerships with Kushner Companies, CIM, or both. By the LivWrk CEO's own words, he talks daily to CIM and Kushner Cos.

This is an attempt by Donald Trump and Jared Kushner's business partners to take over our Crenshaw mall, and cash in on displacing Black people and Black businesses by using opportunity zones created by Trump. And people should be very concerned, because of the zoning is so generous at the mall site that a literal Trump Tower, with zero parking spaces for the residential units, could be built on the site by right.

Abeshera in his defense says he reached out to Damian before he even offered to buy the mall to congratulate him on his victory, successfully pushing CIM out and offered to meet with him. He provided the Sentinel with an email that he sent to Damian on July 20 of this year, but Damian says he never received it.

What LIVWRK an Abeshera hopes is that they can put all of these past partnership issues behind and focus on bringing forward a state-of-the-art, mixed-use development with community input and community inclusion as part of the overall development. He says this project, in its total-

meeting with various community groups, block clubs, community leaders, all in an effort to get to better know the community and for the community to get to better know him. He says he has met with the Empowerment Congress, The Baldwin Hills Estates Association, the Leimert Park Block Club, the Crenshaw Chamber of Commerce, Community Build, McClung Block Club, Cherrywoods Block Club, Baldwin Village Association, and the Crenshaw Manor Residence Association just to name a few.

He has also talked to Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson and while he wouldn't get into specifics about their conversation, he said that the Councilman was receptive to his ideas and cared first and foremost about what was in the best interest of the community, and that he looked forward to future discussions about the proposed development. The Sentinel also reached out to the Councilman who said he did not want to influence or bias the purchase process in any way, but that he would wait and see how this process unfolded before he got involved.

LIVWRK says they understand the importance of bridging the gap between infrastructure and culture, that you can't just come to an area and tell people what is good for them and how it's going to be. Abeshera says he wants and will listen and invites the community to become active participants in the project.

What many people have asked Abeshera and he has asked himself is, why do I want to do this? Knowing about all the previous opposition of this project, why would he or anyone want to invest years of capital, energy and effort into this project?

"What I saw was a community that was being underserved that companies or corporations don't understand. But what these companies don't understand, is how explosively good the potential is. I saw an opportunity to make people not be fearful of gentrification, but be excited about a development that makes people look towards hope and pride of how good the community can be and not want to leave," said Abeshera.

"Before I was awarded the project, I started making calls, I started meeting people; I talked to the councilman, I tried to understand

PROPERTY OWNERS CAN MAXIMIZE ON THEIR RETURNS
by partnering with The Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8)



HACLA CARES

Thanks to funding through the CARES Act, HACLA has launched a new incentive program for Property Owners called "HACLA Cares." This new program aims to increase Owner's participation in Section 8 while recognizing the added difficulties of making rental units available for participant families during stay-at-home orders and social distancing practices.



SIGNING BONUS

\$2500 paid directly to property owners upon successful execution of new HAP contract beginning on or after 7/1/2020.



SECURITY DEPOSIT

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www.hacla.org

🐦 @hacla1938



To the People of California:

As members of clergy representing tens of thousands of people of color across our state, we see painful reminders every day that most jobs in America don't pay enough for families to get by. And today, there are far too many residents from Black and Brown communities working full-time jobs who are still unable to make ends meet.

In recent years, we've seen some change on this front. While America hasn't fixed the primary problem—apparently a living wage remains too much to ask for—companies like **Uber, Instacart, DoorDash and others have created opportunities for thousands of people in our community to earn extra income—in a manner that lets them work on their own terms and on their own schedule. This is why we support Proposition 22.** Because flexibility in one's schedule is a real, legitimate benefit. Because dollars earned through this work puts food on our tables. Because it's wrong to force people to choose between family obligations and work. Because it's wrong, in this current work-from-home environment, to view flexibility as a white-collar benefit only.

So why would anyone want to take this flexibility away from communities that need it the most? Current legislation in California—Assembly Bill 5 (AB 5)—threatens the ability of residents in our communities to work as independent contractors with app-based platforms and instead makes them full-time employees with flat wages and set schedules. Guess what? That's not going to work for most of them. In fact, it will have the unintended consequence of eliminating the very tool that allows them to make additional income—the flexibility.

The California Legislature acted with good intent—they wanted to ensure independent contractors received benefits like health care and paid time off. Admirable. But their solution merely trades one problem for another. What good are benefits if only a small fraction of people earning money as rideshare drivers can take advantage? Those folks often have a full-time job already. They don't need 40 hours of shift work. They need benefits commensurate with the hours they put in behind the wheel. And that's what Proposition 22 gives them.

In fact, the California Legislature has realized that this could be harmful and recently passed a bill exempting over 100 industries. What's even more interesting, most of those exempted—accountants, composers, dentists—employ few people of color. But, rideshare and delivery, industries which offer opportunities to tens of thousands of people of color, is still targeted by this legislation. Why, at a moment in time when we are fighting for economic and social justice, and in the middle of a pandemic, are some trying to take away opportunities from Black and Brown families to make ends meet?

Let's face it, if we're being really honest, AB 5 does more to harm than to help the people in our community. Take it from those who live and serve here—it's a bad bill for Black people who rely on driving and delivery to make extra cash so that they can help their families survive during this very uncertain time. Slow down and put the brakes on this one. **Vote yes on Proposition 22. It's what's best for our community.**

LEARN MORE >>
www.YesOn22.com

Pastor K.W. Tulloss, President of Baptist Ministers Conference of Los Angeles and Southern CA

Senior Pastor Tecoy Porter Sr., Genesis Church, Sacramento

Pastor Jonathan Moseley, National Action Network, Los Angeles

Pastor Darryl A. Scarbrough, Boss Church, Sacramento

Pastor Jason C. Reynolds, Emmanuel Baptist Church, San Jose

Pastor Nathaniel Haley, United Christians Baptist Church Los Angeles

Pastor Torrey Collins, St. Rest Friendship Church Los Angeles

Bishop Harrington McFraizer, New Beginnings Christian Church Los Angeles

Pastor Al Johnson, Southside Bethel Baptist Church Los Angeles

Pastor Stan Richards, Beacon of Light Baptist Church Los Angeles

Pastor Bill Hemphill, Concord Church Los Angeles

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Pastor Donald Robinson, Community Baptist Church Redlands

Pastor Eugene Bryant, New Philadelphia Baptist Church Los Angeles

Pastor Ronald Bolden, Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Los Angeles

Pastor James Perkins, True Friendship Baptist Church, Inglewood

Pastor Bill Turner, New Revelations Baptist Church, Pasadena

Pastor LA Keese, Bethany Baptist Church, Los Angeles

Pastor J.W. Brown, Welcome Baptist Church, Los Angeles

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Pastor Lavelle Gates, Faith and Hope Church, Los Angeles

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Funding details at: <http://fppc.ca.gov>

Dialyses Nurses: Prop 23 Poses Grave Threat to Black Patients

By QUINCI LE GARDY
California Black Media

Ahead of the November election, a group of dialysis nurses and patients have come out in strong opposition to Proposition 23.

If passed, Proposition 23 would require all kidney dialysis clinics to have a physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant on site during dialysis treatment. It would also prohibit clinics from reducing their services without state approval and make it illegal for them to refuse treatment for patients based on their insurance or payment source.

Although the proposition's supporters say passing it would improve clinics across the board, opponents argue that requiring the presence of a physician at each clinic would force many clinics to shut down and increase healthcare costs for 80,000 California dialysis patients. Opponents

also point out that the ballot measure would not require the physician to be a nephrologist or kidney specialist.

Dialysis is an important medical procedure for patients with kidney failure, with risk of death increasing by 30% after one missed appointment. Patients need to attend a regular clinic to avoid complications in treatment that may arise if patients were forced to visit emergency rooms.

Opponents of Prop 23 argue that many smaller clinics would not be able to afford the new staffing requirements and would be forced to shut down, leaving dialysis patients without a regular clinic.

"They're not going to be able to operate because they're not going to be able to afford the additional expense of paying this doctor when some of these expenses could be utilized to improve the equipment we



SHUTTERSTOCK PHOTO

have and which basically impacts the improvement in the care of a patient. It's a waste of money," said Kim Bailey, an Inglewood-based dialysis nurse.

African Americans make up the majority of dialysis patients. According to the National Kidney Foundation, more than 35% of all patients receiving dialysis for kidney failure in the U.S. are Black, even though Black people make up only 13.2% of the U.S. population.

Bailey spoke about her staff, using tasks her employees perform as examples of the services that dialysis clinics already provide without Prop 23 in place. She emphasized that the patients, who come three times a week, are treated by nurses who match their shifts. This allows the nurses to bond with their patients and understand their conditions through familiarity.

"This clinic is one of the largest ones in Southern California. I have 58 chairs, I have about 350 in-center patients, and then I have a home program as well. I have a medical director and associate medical director that are very accessible to us at any given time. Each patient has an assigned nephrologist. My physicians frequent the clinic. There is always someone in this clinic," said Bailey.

Los Angeles-based dialysis patient DeWayne Cox spoke about his own experi-

ence with dialysis, including what happened when he missed treatment, as an example of what might happen to other dialysis patients if the proposition passes.

"I missed a shift for work on a Friday. I ended up in the emergency room that Saturday, and the physicians there did not know how to treat me. I received kidney failure because of high blood pressure, but I am not diabetic, but the physician there treated me like I was a diabetic and gave me insulin. I'd never had insulin before in my life, and I nearly died. And other patients do because of something like that, because they end up in the emergency room, because they miss a session," said Cox.

Kathy Fairbanks, the No on Prop 23 spokesperson who hosted the presentation, also spoke about the political backstory behind the ballot measure.

Prop 23, she said, is a

predecessor of 2018's Proposition 8, which was voted down. Both the previous proposition and this year's are supported by the SEIU-UHW West, a labor union for healthcare workers. Opponents of Prop 23 argue that Prop 23 is the union's latest attempt to unionize dialysis clinic workers.

"I think this is all part of a plan to put these initiatives on the ballot every two years, and essentially use it as a lever to force the dialysis provider to allow a union. If that were to happen, these initiatives every two years would cease to exist. We'd never seen another one on the ballot," Fairbanks said.

"I don't like the fact that it is involving patient care. They need to continue to address the teammates that work in the dialysis facilities in terms of their union and not involve the patients in this," Bailey said.

On Your Nov. Ballot: Proposition 20 Calls for Changing Some Misdemeanors to Felonies

By QUINCI LE GARDY
California Black Media

California voters will decide whether or not to go tougher on crime through a November ballot initiative that makes changes to previous propositions and bills designed to reduce the state's prison population.

California's Proposition 20 proposes expanding the list of offenses that disqualify incarcerated persons for parole. It also calls for upgrading several theft-related fines from misdemeanors to felonies. It would also require law enforcement to collect the DNA of people who commit certain misdemeanors.

If Prop 20 passes, vehicle theft, firearm theft, unlawful use of a credit card and other specific types of theft and fraud crimes will be chargeable as "wobblers," which means the prosecutor will decide whether to charge them as misdemeanors or felonies. Under the current criminal code, these crimes are considered misdemeanors.

Prop 20 would establish two new types of crimes: serial crime and organized retail crime, and it would increase penalties for repeat shoplifters.

Changing the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's (CDCR) parole review pro-

gram, Prop 20 would reclassify 51 crimes and sentence enhancements as violent in order to exclude them from the program, which is only available to nonviolent offenders. It would also



SHUTTERSTOCK PHOTO

require that an incarcerated person's entire criminal record is taken into account before becoming eligible for parole, instead of only looking at that individual's most recent offense. It would also

allow prosecutors to request a review of the parole review board's final decision.

The initiative makes critical adjustments to 2011's AB 109, 2014's

Proposition 47, and 2016's Proposition 57, all of which were California legislative responses to the 2011 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that declared overcrowding in California's prisons violated

the Eight Amendment's ban on cruel and unusual punishment. Together, those measures changed several crimes from wobblers to misdemeanors, increased parole chances for incarcerated people convicted of nonviolent crimes and shifted the imprisonment of non-violent and non-sexual offenders from state prisons to local jails.

Prop 20 is supported by the Republican Party of California, the California Grocers Association, police and peace officer associations, Crime Victims United and Crime Survivors, Inc. Supporters argue that the previous criminal justice reforms were misguided and caused

significant public safety problems, and that Prop 20 would close loopholes that let out violent offenders.

They also say that the proposition would rightfully reclassify crimes as violent that are currently considered nonviolent, including felony assault with a deadly weapon, human trafficking of a child and rape of an unconscious person.

"Prop. 57 was misleading because it promised that only nonviolent inmates would be released from prison early," said Citrus Heights Police Chief Ron Lawrence, former president of the California Police

[See PROP 20 on A-26]

"To reform California's unfair and racist bail system, Vote Yes on Proposition 25"

THE SACRAMENTO BEE • OCTOBER 9, 2020

YES ON 25

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VOTE YES ON 25 to replace California's unfair money bail system that disproportionately punishes communities of color with one that prioritizes fairness.

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To learn more please visit: yesoncaprop25.com

Ad paid for by Yes on Prop 25, a coalition of justice reform and labor organizations. Committee major funding from John Arnold, Connie E. Ballmer and affiliated entities, Steven A. Ballmer and affiliated entities. Funding Details at fppc.ca.gov/transparency/top-contributors.html.

OUR PRIVACY MATTERS!

"Proposition 24 creates a baseline of consumer privacy protections that can lead to the halting of the legal redlining, voter suppression, and geographic targeting all too familiar in our communities. Simultaneously, it ensures small and minority-owned businesses are better able to comply and protect the data of their clients. For these reasons and more we encourage our members and all California voters to vote YES on Prop 24."

C

California Black Chamber of Commerce

"Dedicated to Economic Empowerment"

FOR MORE INFO ON PROP 24 VISIT WWW.CAPRIVACY.ORG

Ad paid for by Californians for Consumer Privacy Committee major funding from: Alastair Mactaggart

President Sandra Evers-Manly Talks About BHERC Complete Program for the 26th Annual African American Film Marketplace & S.E. Manly Short Film Showcase Oct. 23 to Nov. 29, 2020

SPECIAL TO THE SENTINEL

Ms. Sandra J. Evers-Manly is president of the Black Hollywood Education and Resource Center (BHERC), and former president of the Beverly Hills/Hollywood NAACP in Los Angeles, California. Evers-Manly is the cousin of slain civil rights leader Medgar Evers. She is author of the book "Raided Up By Mrs. Manly and Her L's" and ardent philanthropist and recent member of the 2020 Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Academy.

Evers-Manly is the visionary behind the 26th Annual African American Film Marketplace & S.E. Manly Short Film Showcase. The film festival features 140 films from 18 countries, 10 panels and special events, the virtual online premiere of the Films With a Purpose funded "I'm Not Special" from emerging filmmaker Larry Ulrich and star filled tribute to prolific stage/film and television Director Michael Schultz.

LA Sentinel (LAS): Ms. Evers-Manly, you have been holding this festival for 26 years now. Tell us what is new about the festival this year with everything is that has gone on in the world.

Sandra J. Evers-Manly (Evers-Manly): Well the biggest change is that everything will be online this year. Virtual. We launched our streaming service BHERC TV in February of this year, just prior to the pandemic. So BHERC TV has been a saving grace that has allowed us to continue not only this festival, but all of the BHERC festivals and programs we are known for.

LAS: In addition to the COVID - 19 pandemic, the country has been in an upheaval of social and civil unrest. Has this had an impact on the festival?

Evers-Manly: Those events gave us an emboldened sense of responsibility, more urgent, present, and accountable to the social and civil rights events of 2020. So, one of the many things we could easily do was to expand the BHERC film selections to include a more global voice of hope and inspiration with filmmakers. As a result, we have filmmakers from 18 countries sharing their distinctive voice and point of view from lenses not often available to an American public. The festival which includes 140 plus films, an online premiere, 10 panels, special events and a special tribute can be sorted by film by genres that include: Action, Animation, Comedy, Documentary, Drama, Historical, Horror, Inspirational, Music, Romance, Sci-Fi, Spoken Word and Thriller. They may also explore by topics such as Art, Diversity, Family, Faith-Based, LGBT+, Mental Health, People with Disabilities and Social Justice. The festival also plays host to a few young filmmakers from film schools such as: Academy of Art, Florida State University, High Definition Film Academy, Loyola Marymount University, New York Film Academy, Oral Roberts University, University of California Los Angeles, and University of Southern California. However, the youngest filmmaker is self-taught nine-year old.

LAS: The BHERC AAFM festival has always been known for its special

events and programming, what can we look forward to this year?

Evers-Manly: Yes, once again we are very excited to present along with the gifted filmmakers excellent special programs opening weekend. Opening Night Friday, October 23, 5:00 p.m. (PDT) BHERC will spotlight the filmmakers and films and provide a welcome and overview of the festival from our Executive Director John Forbes, curator of the film festival. As we previously announced the festival is dedicated in honor of prolific TV stage and film director Michael Schultz ("Cooley High," "Black Lightning"). We are so pleased to honor Mr. Schultz as well as commemorate the 45th Anniversary of the ground-breaking film "Cooley High" at our fan favorite BHERC signature



Sandra Evers-Manly

when few believe he is innocent. He faces a shrewd law firm, an old school segregationist judge, and an arrogant prosecutor who is preparing to celebrate his 50th consecutive case win.

"The Moore Project" - Zerrick Houston (McKinney, TX). The documentary follows two social activists looking to influence change in their small Mississippi community with a deep racist past.

"Atlanta Black Tech Mecca" - (Short-Docu Series). C'vonzell Dondrico, Vante' Gregory (Atlanta, GA). Taking a look at the emerging Black Tech Ecosystem in Atlanta, Georgia while highlighting leaders in the industry and celebrating diversity and inclusion.

"I'm Not Special" - Larry Ulrich (Los Angeles, CA). A new film from

ing social justice advocate in Los Angeles who navigates housing instability and familial dependency on their journey to adulthood.

"Every Vote" - Sharee Silerio (USA). Man tries to raise funds to pay court fees to register to vote for his own son who doesn't want his father's prior record to tarnish his campaign.

"The Dope: The Story of Latasha Harlins" - Allison A. Waite (USA). A personal retelling of the life and death of Latasha Harlins, the forgotten spark igniting the Los Angeles uprising of 1992, popularly known as the LA riots.

"I'm Good Bro: Unmasking Black Male Depression" - Corbin Coleman, Charles Crouch (Raleigh, NC). This film addresses the historical impact of depression in its many forms. Documenting the journey of individuals with firsthand experience dealing with depression from the perspective of those who have personally dealt with or who have been diagnosed with the disease.

"The Littlest Angel" - Aisha Raison (Palm Desert, CA). While an exuberant 6-year-old is playing a 1940's era version of Fantasy Baseball in his backyard, he has an unexpected encounter with the Heavenly Coach. The young, diminutive Albie Pearson understands who is speaking and what He is calling him to do. When he says "Yes," his life is marked thereafter.

Again, these are just a few of the executive director's picks. There are so many more for children, family, sci-fi, etc....

LAS: Well it sounds like there is plenty for anyone to enjoy in the comfort of home. What are the ticket prices and is there any other information you would like to share?

Evers-Manly: First of all go online to www.BHERC.TV. Festival passes are available online at \$75.00 for a full Festival Pass, \$25.00 for a Day Pass and \$10.00 for a block of 5 films. Remember all panels and special events are free. We know that if you log on, you will be enriched by the many stories, and if you are a filmmaker the panels will help you take your craft to a new level!

Remember to log on to www.BHERC.TV and register today!



event "A Great Day in Black Hollywood," Saturday, October 24. We will screen The Black Classic Film "Cooley High" at 3:00 p.m. PDT. So get your family and friends, snacks and popcorn and get ready to enjoy the film gem. Then following at 5:30 p.m. (PDT), our tribute to Michael Schultz begins with original cast members Glynn Turman (" Fargo"), Garrett Morris ("Jackpot"), Gloria Schultz ("Cooley High"), Lawrence Hilton Jacobs ("The Jacksons: An American Dream"), Brandon Schultz, Steven Williams ("X-Files" "Cooley High") and Jackie Taylor ("Chi-Raq") along with industry icons director Bill Duke ("Black Lightning"), producer Charles Floyd Johnson ("NCIS"), director Oz Scott ("Black Lightning") and director Warrington Hudlin ("Boomerang") will join in the tribute and celebration. On Sunday, October 25, 5:00 p.m. PDT, Films With A Purpose presents the Online premiere of "I'm Not Special" a new film from emerging filmmaker Larry Ulrich. In this film, Ulrich tells the story of an eleven-year-old down syndrome athlete who battles for a once in a lifetime opportunity to participate in the Special Games, while battling against his drug dependent father's addiction. The film is followed by a Q and A with the cast.

LAS: I understand that you are offering all of your special events and panels free of charge. Tell us about the panels.

Evers-Manly: BHERC has brought together industry professionals and filmmakers to share a wealth of knowledge with both newcomers, veterans, and film fans over a variety of topics. Space is limited so early registration is suggested. The following are the times and dates of the panels. However, we encourage everyone to check the website to register, for update and additional information.

- 11/1, 2 p.m.: The Art of Documentary
- 11/8, 5 p.m.: Atlanta Black Tech Mecca
- 11/14, 11 a.m.: Editors on Editing
- 11/15, 2p.m.: I'm Good Bro' addressing Black Male Depression
- 11/20, 5 p.m.: Road to Television designed for 1st timers in the Industry
- 11/21, 11 a.m.: Cinematographers on Cinematography
- 11/21, 5 p.m.: The McHenry Trial...
- 11/22, 4 p.m.: Black Filmmakers on Social Justice

Log on to www.BHERC.TV for the complete schedule.

LAS: With 140 plus films both you and the director must have your favorites. What are they?

Evers-Manly: John Forbes, and his team worked very hard to cull the final film selections from the 1500 entries and 18 countries from around the world. The films offered in the 2020 festival are diverse and offer humor, insight, love and much more. No,

we do not have "favorites" but we do have some executive Directors' picks that include:

"Appreciation" - Tomisin Adepeju (United Kingdom). An African pentecostal pastor questions everything she believes after a life-changing event.

"The McHenry Trial" - Ken Sagoes (Los Angeles, CA). A young and brilliant academic phenom who not only passes the bar exam at age 14 but finds himself defending his homeless father on a murder charge

emerging filmmaker Larry Ulrich. In this film Ulrich tells the story of an eleven-year-old Down Syndrome athlete who battles for a once in a lifetime opportunity to participate in the Special Games, while battling against his drug dependent father's addiction. The film is followed by a Q and A with the cast.

"Sheár Avory: To Be Continued" - Abram Cerda (Greely, CO). A coming of age story of Sheár Avory (pronouns: they/them/theirs), a 17-year-old aspir-



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This material was made possible by funds from the County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Health, Substance Abuse Prevention and Control.

Supporters and Opponents of Prop 24 Make Last-Minute Pitches to Voters Before Election

BY QUINCI LE GARDY
California Black Media

Two years after California lawmakers passed the first consumer data privacy act in the country, voters have a chance to expand the law or leave it as it is.

Proposition 24 on the November ballot would update the California Consumer Privacy Act to add new provisions and create an agency to enforce the laws.

California's consumer data privacy laws were established by the California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018 (CCPA), which requires that large tech companies disclose the kind of data that they collect from people who use their apps and websites. It also allows users, referred to as consumers in the legislation's language, to opt out of having their data sold to third parties, including advertisers.

If passed, Prop 24 would give consumers an opt-out option so businesses would not be able to use their sen-

sitive personal information, such as their race, Social Security number or exact location, for advertising or marketing. It also requires businesses to obtain permission before collecting data from consumers who are younger than 16. For children younger than 13, businesses need permission from a parent or guardian to collect data.

The initiative would also establish the California Privacy Protection Agency (CPPA), which would enforce the consumer privacy laws. This new office would be separate from the California attorney general's office, which currently handles privacy concerns, and the office would receive at least \$10 million in funding annually.

The initiative would also triple fines for violations concerning customers under age 16.

Prop 24 was filed by San Francisco real estate developer Alaistair Mactaggart, who was a proponent of the CCPA in 2018. The measure is endorsed by the California

NAACP, Consumer Watchdog, and former presidential candidate Andrew Yang.

Opponents of Prop 24 include the ACLU of California, Color of Change, League of Women Voters of California and Consumer Federation of California.



SHUTTERSTOCK PHOTO

Those in favor of the law argue that consumer privacy laws need to be stronger, especially now that so much of life has been moved online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Sean Dugar, social activist and Yes on Prop 24 supporter, spoke with California Black Media about the need for more data privacy to stop targeted ads and discrimination.

"You hear the horror stories every day. You hear about women who were at Planned Parenthood clinics being targeted by anti-abortion groups, kids who are logging into their classrooms being targeted by pornographic ads, folks who

activist and Yes of Prop 24 supporter.

The Yes on Prop 24 campaign also issued a statement highlighting concerns regarding Black consumers' data privacy, after recent reports found that the Trump campaign used sensitive personal information to suppress the African American vote in the 2016 presidential election. Prop 24 would stop businesses for compiling racial data.

"Everything you can imagine is online and available to be sold, or even worse hacked, about you. And so, we need not just strong laws, but an enforcement agency that will be able to ensure that our privacy and our data are protected, and that we as Black folks specifically are no longer targeted and no longer racially profiled online," said Dugar.

Opponents of the ballot initiative argue that Prop 24 actually weakens consumer rights by including an Internet "pay for privacy" scheme, where those who don't pay get inferior serv-

ice and more pop-up ads. Also, they argue that Prop 24 would force consumers to notify each website and app they use individually to protect their data.

Opponents also emphasize that the ballot measure was written with input from giant tech corporations, and that the measure's sponsor rejected input from privacy and consumer rights groups.

"No one reads the thousands of words of legal fine print that you have to accept before you can use an app or visit a website. The fine print is where you sacrifice your privacy. The same is true of Proposition 24. Its 52 pages are full of privacy reductions and giveaways to Facebook, social media platforms and big tech companies that misuse our personal information," said Richard Holober, President of the Consumer Federation of California. "Advocacy groups that fight for the rights of Californians have read Prop 24's fine print and that is why they oppose it."

Black Republican Running for Congress Files Complaint Against Facebook, Twitter and Google

BY ALDON THOMAS STILES
California Black Media

Aja Smith, a Black Republican running for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, has filed a complaint against Facebook, Twitter and Google.

In her grievance dated Oct. 6, 2020, and addressed to U.S. Attorney General Bill Barr, Smith accuses the three California-based tech companies of violating the Federal Election Campaign Act by supporting Democratic candidates.

Smith, who is on the ballot to represent California's 41st congressional district, which covers an area in Western Riverside County, also claims that those companies engaged in "shadow banning" of her and other conservatives. Shadow banning, she says, involves manipulating a digital platform's algorithm to hide certain posts from end users.

"We're seeing more censorship when people post their own opinions, and

they're good opinions," Smith said. "I see them getting shadow banned on Twitter and Facebook."

Smith said she first noticed the practice around the last presidential election.

"I saw this starting back in 2016 as conservatives were getting more active on Facebook. A lot of things were being censored when we started talking about being pro-life, the First Amendment, the Second Amendment. And I saw it beginning to happen more and more over the years."

President Donald Trump has been a vocal critic of social media companies that censor conversations on their platforms. In May, Twitter hid one of the POTUS' tweets, claiming it violated their policy about glorifying violence.

That same month, President Trump issued an executive order aimed at social media platforms after Twitter added a fact check link to another of his posts about mail-in ballots.

"In a country that has long cherished the freedom of expression, we cannot allow a limited number of online platforms to hand pick the speech Americans may access and convey on the internet," the executive order reads. "This practice is fundamentally un-American and undemocratic."

Currently, sites like Twitter and Facebook are protected by law when they block content that they deem violent, offensive or "otherwise objectionable, whether or not such material is constitutionally protected." The president's executive order makes the argument that these protections should be removed if a tech platform engages in hiding or placing warnings on posts, setting the stage for legislation or new federal regulation aimed at those companies.

"It's really bad if even our own president is getting censored on Twitter and Facebook," Smith said.

Earlier this month, Twitter announced that it

removed fake accounts of people pretending to be Black conservatives and supporters of President Trump.

This week, California Attorney General Xavier Becerra today a letter urging Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter to do more to stem disinformation on their platforms that could "harm the upcoming U.S. election."

"In 2016, we saw a concerted campaign to use social media to amplify disinformation in order to disrupt our election," he wrote. "As a country, we must reject these tactics. As Californians begin voting in another election of national importance, I'm calling on our technology giants to do everything in their power to put a stop to election interference. These companies should take responsibility for their role in spreading misinformation and voter suppression."

Smith keeps her focus on the censorship. She, along with other conservatives, insist that digital media platforms should be investigated, and the government should reevaluate their status.

"Either you're a free speech platform or you're a publisher," Smith said.

Last week, the progressive publication Mother Jones reacted to news that Facebook's adjustment of its algorithm in 2017 in an effort to stem misinformation, specifically targeted certain left-leaning publications, reducing significant amounts of traffic to them. The effort led to the company losing more than \$600,000 over 18 months.

"One reason this is so enraging is that I've so long insisted on giving Facebook some benefit of the doubt. I was convinced we were a



SHUTTERSTOCK PHOTO

random casualty of their broader trajectory, a fly on their windshield. But it's always, always worse," Monika Bauerlein, CEO of Mother Jones, tweeted.

Smith believes that the tech companies are targeting some conservatives specifically because of their race.

"They're really suppressing our free speech; especially candidates who are trying to get our messages out -- not only to our constituents, but also to a lot of other people across the country to say 'hey, we're running, we're conservative, we're minorities, we're running in blue states and we're here to make a difference,'" Smith said.

Many conservatives have discussed making the move to another social media platform called Parler, a micro-blogging service popular among far-right conservatives and Saudi nationalists that allows users to moderate their own content as opposed to a tech platform regulating posts it classifies as hate speech or misinformation.

While Smith says she appreciates the freedom of self-moderation, she does not want conservatives isolated in an echo chamber only speaking to each other.

"I don't want to stick to one social media platform where I'm talking to people who are all like-minded," Smith said. "I want to speak to people on the Independ-

ent side, the no-party preference side and even moderate democrats. I want to say, 'Hey, I'm different than my opponent and this is what I stand for,' especially on fighting sex trafficking and fighting homelessness."

Smith also mentioned how Twitter and Facebook have made it difficult for her to speak to her supporters about her opponent, Rep. Mark Takano (D-CA-41), whose relationship with Ukraine she has questioned.

Smith says she also takes issue with Facebook and Twitter's fact checking practices, claiming that they, "remind me of Nazi Germany." She also claims that the social media giants rely on sources that are "far-left leaning" to support their fact checking and that they "change historical facts."

"How are you fact checking what I'm saying, and you're only using the sources that you think will justify my post or anyone else's post as wrong?" Smith said. "That's the problem. That's why we have open debate."

Smith feels that if her posts, and posts from others like her, did not face these challenges, many voters would get a clearer picture of the current Republican party.

"We're beating the narrative that there aren't any conservative minorities and that we're the party of racists," she says.

{Continued PROP 20 from A-24}

Chiefs Association. "But under California law, a number of violent crimes are classified nonviolent."

Opponents of Prop 20 argue that tough-on-crime stances do not reduce crime, and that Prop 20 would only increase the state's spending on prisons and tear facilities apart. They also highlight that the criminal justice system disproportionately incarcerates Black and Brown people, and that the proposition would only deepen the

devastation mass incarceration has caused in Black and Brown communities.

Groups that oppose Prop 20 include the ACLU of California, the California Labor Federation, the California Teachers Association, Equality California, the Public Defenders Association, Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice and the National Center for Crime Victims.

Gov. Gavin Newsom and former Gov. Jerry

Brown also oppose it.

Brown, who signed AB 109 and developed Proposition 57, said, "Proposition 20 is supported by a very narrow group of people who don't accept even the modest prison reforms that I was able to achieve. It's driven by ideology and, in some cases, by a total lack of understanding of human nature and no sense of redemption or allowing people to put their lives on track."

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My Plan to Lift Every Voice in Black America

BY JOE BIDEN

There is injustice in America. There is discrimination. There is a legacy of racism and inequality that lives still in our institutions, our laws, and in too many people's hearts that makes it harder for Black people to succeed. These are facts in the United States of America in 2020, and we must all do more to move our nation closer to the ideals inlaid at our founding—that all women and men are created equal.

This year has also brought us too many examples of the dangers Black people can face in the course of going about their lives. With grieving hearts, we learned to say the names of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Rayshard Brooks, and many more. I've spent time with the families of George Floyd and Jacob Blake, sharing their grief and anger and seeing the incredible resilience of communities that for too long have had a knee on their neck. And I was inspired by their commitment to turn their pain into purpose.

Today, there are Americans all across this country, especially Black Americans, who are exhausted and hurting. Who are disappointed by a system that never seems to deliver for your communities. Who are

sick and tired of a cycle where, in good times, Black communities lag behind, in bad times they get hit first and hardest, and in recovery, they take the longest to bounce back.

We're in the midst of four simultaneous crises—a pandemic that has claimed more than 200,000 lives, a disproportionate number of whom were Black; an economic crash that has hit Black workers and Black business owners especially hard; a long overdue reckoning on racial justice; and a climate crisis that is already hurting Black and Brown communities the most.

It is our job to do everything in our power to rip out systemic racism across our society, root and branch. It will be hard work in any case. But we will not succeed without a leader who understands our history and is ready to grapple with our challenges.

President Trump wants to paper over the living wound of racism. He's issued Executive Orders and established a new national commission designed to whitewash our history—and deny the daily reality of being Black in America. He actively appeals to white supremacists and fans the flames of hatred and division in our country, because he thinks it benefits him politically. He ignores the most basic job

of every president: the duty to care for all of us, not just those who voted for him.

It's the polar opposite of what I will do as president. I was proud to serve for eight years alongside President Obama. I watched up close how he filled the Oval Office with dignity and compassion for others. And, together with Senator Kamala Harris as my vice president, we will restore honor, integrity, and competence to the White House.

We will build an administration that looks like America, including nominating the first Black woman to serve on the Supreme Court.

We will work to unite the country around solutions that will push our country forward, and most importantly, I will listen to those impacted by the longstanding inequities in our system—especially Black Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, and Native Americans.

That's how we will work together to deliver real, lasting change. Criminal justice and policing reforms, but also economic opportunity and financial stability. Building wealth for families of color and passing it down. Closing the racial wealth gap is one of the most powerful ways we can build real equity in our society, and it's going to require a full-court press.

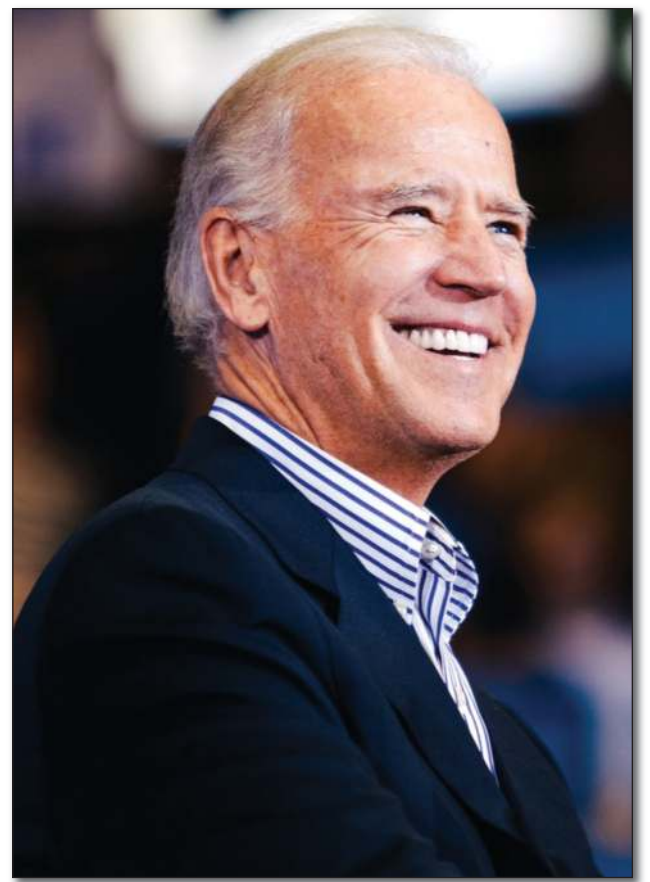
That's what my Lift Every Voice plan is—a comprehensive agenda to take on the range of issues that drive inequality in Black America.

We'll tackle student debt and invest more in our HBCUs, so higher education is a pathway to wealth and opportunity instead of to debt that prevents you from owning a home or starting a small business.

My plan will empower Black-owned small businesses, with short-term relief to get you through this tough time and long-term investments to help you build back better—with access to new capital and financing and government contracts.

Critically, we're going to tackle the racial homeownership gap head on. There is no greater vehicle for wealth creation than homeownership. That's why my plan will restore the steps President Obama and I took toward eradicating housing discrimination, including redlining; end racial bias in how we judge which families are credit-worthy; and provide a \$15,000 down payment tax credit to help millions of young Black families buy their first home.

We'll fix our upside-down tax system to finally reward work, not wealth. Trump thinks billionaires deserve more tax cuts. But under my plan, I'll make



Joe Biden

FILE PHOTO

sure the super wealthy and big corporations pay their fair share, while ensuring that no one making less than \$400,000 a year sees their taxes go up.

And I'm going to fight like hell to defend your family's health care, just like I would my own. Right now, in the midst of a pandemic, Donald Trump is asking the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn Obamacare—all of it. He wants to overturn the very law that expanded coverage to an additional 3 million Black Americans. If he succeeds, more than 20 million Americans will lose their coverage, and more than 100 million people with preexisting conditions will no longer be protected against their insurance companies charging them more, or denying them coverage all together.

I'll defend Obamacare and build on it—adding a

public option that will automatically enroll 4 million more people that Republicans shut out by refusing to expand Medicaid in their states. We're going to get to universal coverage and lower health care costs. We're going to give working families a bigger subsidy to lower their premiums. And we're going to take on pharmaceutical companies, bringing down the cost of your prescription drugs by 60 percent.

As my friend John Lewis used his final words to remind us: "Ordinary people with extraordinary vision can redeem the soul of America." We cannot be tired. We cannot be hopeless. The choice in this election couldn't be more stark, and we must vote for the future we want for every single one of our children. I'm ready to fight for you and your families, and I hope to earn your vote.

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Opening Night Celebration

Introduction of the 2020 S. E. Manly Short Film Showcase Filmmakers
Hosted by Sandra Evers-Manly, President & John Forbes, Executive Director

Saturday, October 24th | 3pm PDT

A Great Day In Black Hollywood

3:00 pm to 5:00 pm – Film Screening
5:30 pm – A Salute to the Genius Michael Schultz

Honored Guests – Cast Members
Lawrence Hilton Jacobs, Actor/Writer/Director "The Jacksons: An American Dream"
Gloria Schultz, Actor "Cooley High"
Garrett Morris, Actor "Jackpot"
Jackie Taylor, Actor "Chi-Raq"
Steven Williams, Actor "True Detective"
Brandon Schultz, Actor/Producer "Cooley High"
Glynn Turman, Actor/Director "Fargo"

Special Guests
Bill Duke, Actor/Writer/Director "Black Lightning"
Warrington Hudlin, Producer "Boomerang"
Charles Floyd Johnson, Executive Producer "NCIS"
Oz Scott, Director "Black Lightning"
Hosted by William Allen Young, Actor/Writer, "Code Black"

Sunday, October 25th | 5pm PDT

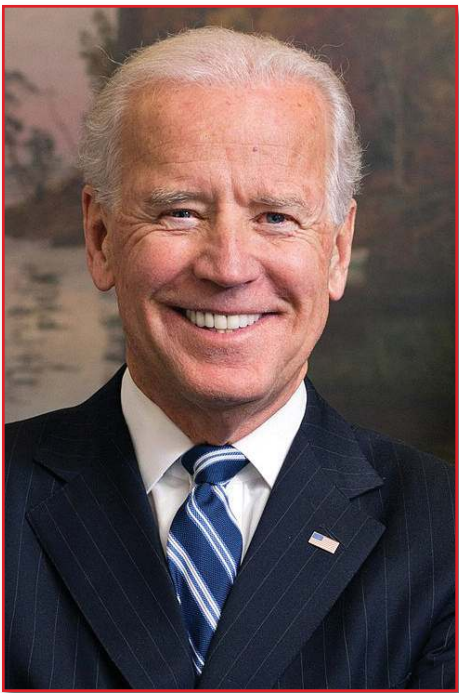
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Congressional District



Maxine Waters
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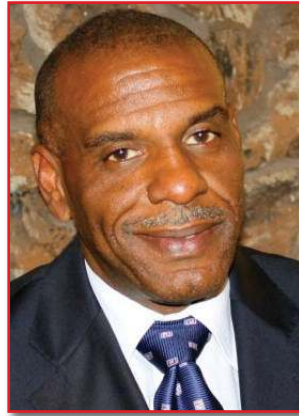


Karen Bass
CA - 37th Congressional District



Nanette Barragán
CA - 44th Congressional District

Senate District



Steve Bradford
CA - 35th Senate District



Anthony Portantino
CA-25th Senate District

LA County Supervisor



Herb Wesson
LA County Supervisor - 2nd District

LA County District Attorney



Jackie Lacey
LA County - District Attorney

LA City Council



Mark Ridley-Thomas
LA City Council - District 10

Assembly District



Reggie Jones-Sawyer
CA-59th Assembly District



Autumn Burke
CA - 62nd Assembly District



Chris Holden
CA - 41st Assembly District

LAUSD Board



George McKenna
LAUSD Board - District 1

LACCD Community College



Tori Bailey
LA Community Colleges - Seat 1

LACCD Community College



Gerald Anderson
Community Colleges - Seat 3

LACCD Community College



Scott Svonkin
Community Colleges - Seat 5



Sydney Kamlager-Dove
CA - 54th Assembly District



Mike Gipson
CA - 64th Assembly District

Mayor - City of Pasadena



Terry Tornek
Mayor - City of Pasadena

Carson City Council



Jawane Hilton
Carson City Council

Long Beach City Council #8



Al Austin
Long Beach City Council #8

Inglewood - City Clerk



Aisha Thompson
Inglewood - City Clerk

Judges



Myanna Dellinger
LA Superior Court - Judge 72



David Berger
LA Superior Court - Judge 80



Scott Yang
LA Superior Court - Judge 162

PROPOSITIONS

- Proposition 14 - Yes
- Proposition 15 - Yes
- Proposition 16 - Yes
- Proposition 17 - Yes
- Proposition 18 - Yes
- Proposition 19 - Yes
- Proposition 20 - No
- Proposition 21 - No
- Proposition 22 - No
- Proposition 23 - Yes
- Proposition 24 - Yes
- Proposition 25 - Yes

MEASURE

- Measure J - Yes
- Measure RR - Yes





ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2020

www.lasentinel.net

B-1



Taste of Soul 2020 Despite COVID-19 Pandemic, Bakewell Media & Hyundai Celebrate Unprecedented Taste of Soul Experience From Taste of Soul Founder

BY DANNY J. BAKEWELL, SR.
FOUNDER / CREATOR OF TASTE OF SOUL,
CHAIRMAN, BAKEWELL MEDIA AND
EXECUTIVE PUBLISHER, LA SENTINEL
NEWSPAPER

On Saturday, October 17, the Taste of Soul family festival, despite of the current COVID-19 pandemic, found a way to bring the energy, spirit, love, essence, and tradition of the beloved festival with the Virtual Taste of Soul Experience, a three-hour program hosted by comedic actress, Kym Whitley, whose beautiful personality and talent was a major highlight of the show. The show was loaded with soulful musical performances from classic R&B, old-school rap, and gospel artists, with community panels, and segments empowering and supporting Black-owned restaurants.

While the COVID-19 pandemic canceled the in-person aspect of the festival, Zafar Brooks, Hyundai's Director of Corporate Responsibility and Diversity Inclusion, lived up to his title and wouldn't take no for an answer. He wanted to help continue the festival's uplifting influence to a hurting community and partnered with Bakewell Media to expand the festival's outreach from its usual Crenshaw Boulevard setting to a virtual Hyundai Sound Stage.

The Taste of Soul's planning team worked with Brooks to create a program and line-up that not only entertained, but, in the true fashion of Taste of Soul, provided supportive resources and brought to light ongoing issues in the Black community. Brooks masterfully curated a concert that treated a first-time global audience on a trip down a musical memory lane, literally and virtually. And despite the limitations and challenges, the team produced three hours of original programming.

The Hyundai Sound Stage and Brooks' vision had become a crowd favorite at Taste of Soul, in the past, hosting major artists such as Brandy, Teddy Riley and Blackstreet, Doug E. Fresh, Ginuwine, and many more. The virtual concert portion of this year's performances featured music legends from various eras, such as Anthony Hamilton, Montell Jordan, Fred Hammond, MAJOR, En Vogue, Deborah Joy Winans, Tamela Mann, Kool Moe Dee, and the Human Beat Box himself, Doug E. Fresh. These artists gave this festival their best efforts and we thank them from the bottom of our heart.

This was history in the making; a rare, close-up and nostalgic ensemble of award-winning artists who have created some of the biggest hits in music history, not to mention the healing and inspirational gospel music that the show's audiences are still raving about. It's important to note that the public can view the Virtual Taste of Soul Experience in its entirety on our website, www.tasteofsoul.org and on the Taste of Soul Instagram account.

There were also special virtual appearances and messages from long-time Taste of Soul supporters, such as L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti, Pastor J. Edgar Boyd, Rev. Dr. Bobby Jones, Congresswoman Maxine Waters, Lamman Rucker, Roland Martin, Loni Love and others from the virtual Hyundai Sound Stage.

The Panel Discussion portion was hosted by renown CBS2/KCAL9 Anchor, and long-standing festival supporter and festival host, Pat Harvey and guest panelists, Assemblymembers, Reggie Jones Sawyer, Mike Gipson and LAUSD School Board Member, George McKenna, who gave us their perspective on the State of Community and how African Americans can best navigate during these trying times of racial injustice and hostility.

There were three produced segments that highlighted local Black-owned restaurants, Hawkins House of Burgers in Watts, CA, along with Mel's Fish Shack and Chef Marilyn's in the Crenshaw district. These restaurants have been with Taste of Soul from start and combined, have over 100 years of service in the community. It was imperative that our message appealed to the audience' understanding in supporting Black restaurants and businesses. The

producers brought awareness to veterans introducing them to a local, national, and global audience. Taste of Soul believes in supporting businesses and organizations that support us.

For 14 years, Taste of Soul has brought good 'Soul Food' 'Good Soul Music' and 'Imperative Resources,' including work and housing placement, to guides to providing health resources to the families we see every 3rd Saturday in October, on Crenshaw Boulevard. In this 15th annual year, not only did the show go on, but it did so in an authentic and heartfelt way. We hugged, danced, and 'partied with a purpose' with the virtual masses with images from delicious food and family fun from past festivals the community enjoys each year.

And, most importantly, we were thoroughly entertained with 'GREAT' live entertainment including relevant social justice messages throughout the show. Through technology and persistence, we Livestreamed the improbable.

A BIG, BIG THANK YOU to Zafar Brooks and Hyundai, for being the presenting sponsor and the engine that drove this year's 15th Annual Virtual Taste of



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TAMELA MANN



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EN VOGUE



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MAJOR.

Soul Experience. Zafar brought to our living rooms entertainment by A-1 talent at a time that all of our lives needed the joy that music brings to all of us.

Thank you again Zafar Brooks, and to our other sponsors and partners, Supervisor Mark Ridley Thomas, South Coast Air Quality Management District, Metropolitan Water District, 94.7 the Wave, Radio Free 102.3 KJLH, CBS2/KCAL9.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti has labeled Taste of Soul the best festival in Los Angeles. It is the largest one-day street festival in California. We will see you next year, bigger and better than ever. Remember to view the Taste of Soul Virtual Experience in its entirety on our website, www.tasteofsoul.org and on the Taste of Soul Instagram account. Black, Bold, Taste of Soul!



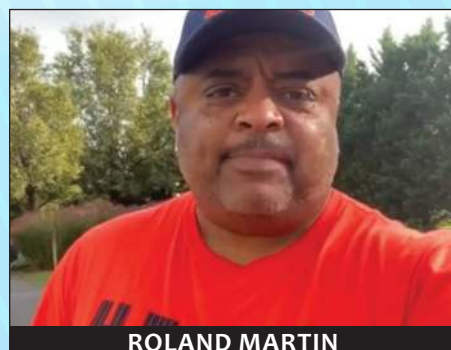
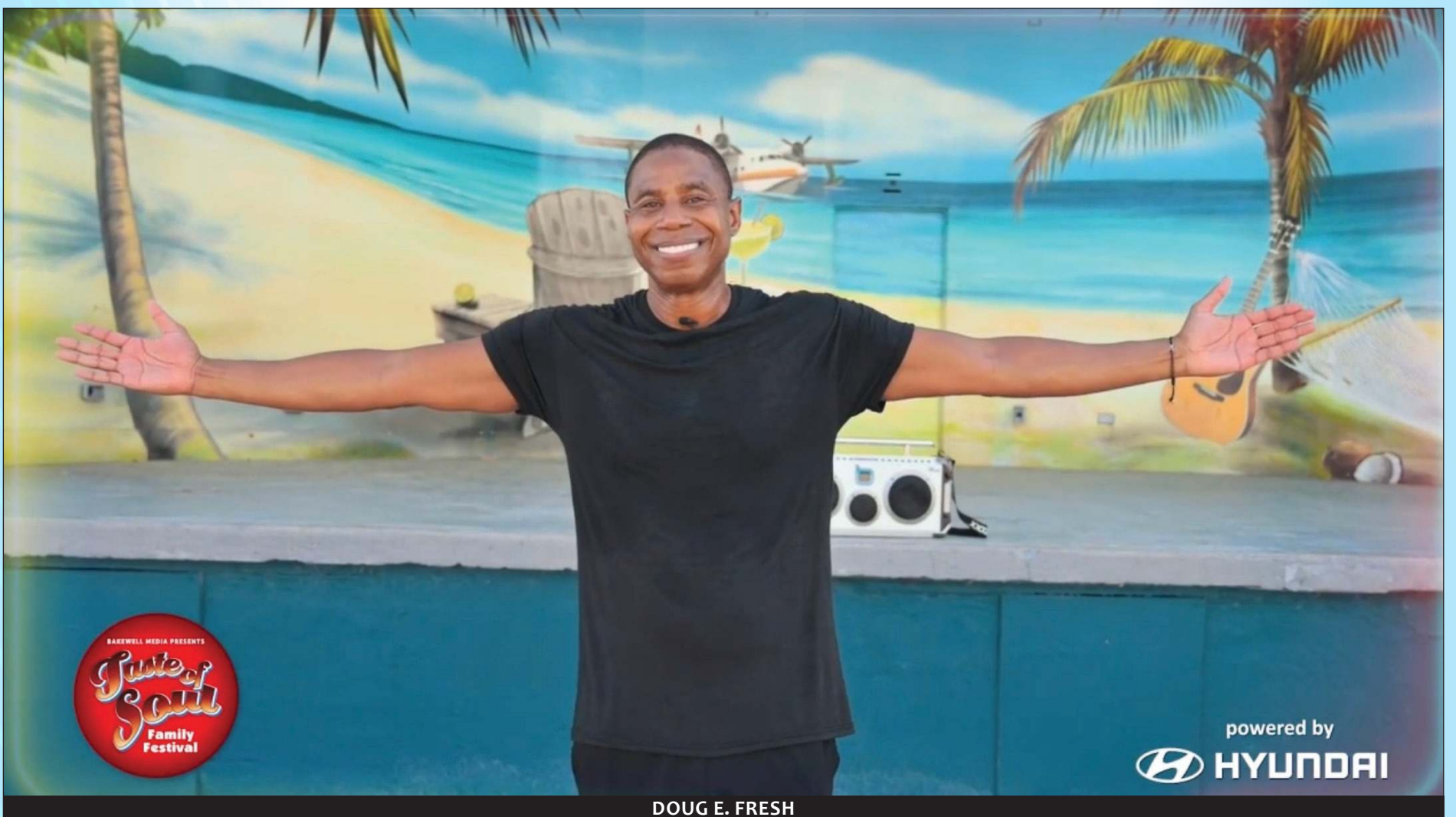
AFTER 7

See more photos on pages B-2 and B-3

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Pat Harvey
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DR. GEORGE MCKENNA



MIKE GIPSON

The 15th Annual Taste of Soul Brings Community Food Distribution to Crenshaw

The food distribution comes at a critical time as our community struggles with economic downturn during COVID-19 pandemic.



By BRIAN W. CARTER
Contributing Writer

On Saturday, October 17, the Taste of Soul Community Food Distribution took place in the block of the Los Angeles Sentinel Newspaper on Crenshaw Blvd. from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The food distribution came at a critical time as the economy has been severely hit due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Because of COVID-19, everything has changed, but this is Taste of Soul, this is Taste of Soul takeout,” said Danny J. Bakewell, Sr. founder/creator of Taste of Soul and chairman of Bakewell Media. “This is Taste of Soul helping the community

during hard times.” He continued, “The Taste of Soul Nation is alive and well, we’re going to feed over 1,500 because we want the community to know, when our community is down, we’re here to help.”

This food distribution was supported by Bakewell Media/L.A. Sentinel in partnership with Mothers in Action, Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Councilmembers Herb Wesson, Marqueece Harris-Dawson and Curren D. Price, Jr., AFGE, Teamsters National Black Caucus, SEIU 1515, L.A. Regional Food Bank, L.A. County Federation of Labor, Labor Community Services, Miguel Contreras Foundation, Brotherhood

Crusade, Bank of America, LA City Controller, Chase Bank, Ron Galperin, South Coast Air Quality Management District, Metropolitan Water District, Radio Free KJLH and 94.7 The Wave, US Bank, L.A. World Airports, Dulans on Crenshaw, Harold & Belles, Mel’s Fish Shack and The District by GS.

“We’re going to feed thousands of people in our community by giving them boxes of healthy food and produce that they need to survive,” said Wesson. “The need is overwhelming—we’re going to try to deliver for that need.”

The food distribution didn’t just help local families, but it also supported Black businesses that are

struggling to stay in business during the pandemic. Pre-packaged meals were also purchased from Dulans on Crenshaw, Harold & Belles, Mels Fish Shack and The District by GS. Coffee was purchased from Sip & Sonder. These businesses are a part of the Sentinel’s Support Black Business Campaign which is an ongoing program designed to provide extra business support to our local businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The drive-thru event saw an endless line of cars come through to receive food and produce delivered by masked volunteers observing social distancing. The L.A. Regional Food Bank provided groceries

and pre-packaged meals that were cooked off-site for distribution following strict COVID-19 health restrictions approved by L.A. County Public Health. The attendees were able to get free COVID-19 Testing, register to vote and receive a customized Taste of Soul bag with PPE supplies, Taste of Soul/MIA merch, journal and other specialty items donated by our community partners.

The food distribution was an event in conjunction with the Taste of Soul Online and the 15th Annual Virtual Concert. The Taste of Soul event kept everyone safely at home watching the festival online and provided entertainment and positive

community messaging to everyone during these challenging times.

“Taste of Soul is an annual event that brings together family, friends, community, businesses, nonprofits,” said Price. “Even with the pandemic that we’re facing, we’re here celebrating, sharing with our neighbors and letting them know—we are working together.”

Bakewell media, the Los Angeles Sentinel, the L.A. Watts Times and, especially, our non-profit partner, Mothers In Action, and its president, Tracy Mitchell would like to thank their partners of the virtual Taste of Soul –

[See FOOD C-2]

The 15th Annual Taste of Soul Brings Community Food Distribution to Crenshaw

{continued from Pg.C-1}



L.A. County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, L.A. County, L.A. City, CBS2/KCAL9, 94.7 The WAVE, 102.3 Radio FREE KJLH, South Coast Air Quality Management District, Metropolitan Water District, Chase Bank, SEIU 2015, Brotherhood Crusade, Law Firm: Ivie, McNeill, Wyatt, Purcell & Diggs.

Thank you to the following staff and volunteers for making this year's Taste of Soul Food Distribution a big success. Thank you to all the unions who worked together on our behalf to make this distribution happen to a standard that our community needs and deserves.

- Yvonne Wheeler (AFGE) Rosalyn Austin-Stewart (AFGE president), Robert Turner (Teamsters National Black Caucus)
- April Verrett, SEIU 2015,
- Armando Olivias and Sarah Roschdi, Labor Community Services
- Michael Flood, L.A. Regional Food Bank
- Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza (Jason Lombard) - use of Mall for volunteer parking
- California Bank & Trust - use of parking lot via Fred Leeds Properties
- Quality Equipment Rentals donated forklift
- Rosalyn Crear, Donovan Anderson, Marie Goree, Andrea Robertson, Patrick Muhammad, L.A. Conservation Corps, Mothers In Action staff - stuffed 1,000 TOS bags.
- MIA Staff - Tracy Mitchell, president, Carrell

Howard & Robert Anderson

- Councilman Marqueece Harris Dawson - masks and hand sanitizer
- L.A. County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Sponsor - donated equipment, 1,000 masks
- Community Build - donated masks
- US Bank - sponsor, ear bug holders, first aid pocket kits
- Chase Bank - key chains, water bottles, hand sanitizers
- Metropolitan Water District- 1,500 bottles of hand sanitizer
- Brotherhood Crusade - sponsor, note pads and LADWP resource information
- Blue Shield-tents, tables, chairs, covered CA info
- USC bags with masks, hand sanitizer, wipes
- Mothers In Action- water bottles, masks, hand sanitizers, notebooks, post-its,
- SCLC donated masks for volunteers and registered individuals to vote
- AFGE - brought masks and gloves for volunteers
- Teamsters NBC - donated hand sanitizers for volunteers
- Girl Scout Troop 1565 distributed 1,000 bags and assisted with hospitality area for volunteers
- Lisa Square, Pat Thomas, Tasha Gas-telo, Renee & Jenea Smith served lunch
- Kimani Black sponsored lunch for volunteers

- Councilman Herb Wesson CD 10 - donated 1,000 hand sanitizers, dumpster, trash liners, posted no parking signs, 6 DOT officers, barricades, cones, arranged free COVID Testing
- LAPD South Traffic and LAPD Southwest Divisions had a coordinated effort of 12 officers to help direct traffic, load cars with food, protect us and keep us safe throughout the event.
- Able Solutions security
- Sylvia Lacy helped with city resources
- Irvine Volunteer Association loaded cars
- Pre-packaged prepared meals served by Mel's Fish, Harold & Belles, The District by GS and Dulans on Crenshaw & Sip & Sonder provided the coffee.
- L.A. Sentinel Team: Brandi Bakewell, Tamela Mitchell, Nicole Williams, Lauren Brazile, Mesiyah McGinnis, Robert Torrance, Tom Dorsey, Allen Moret, Jr., Carrington Lee, Jordan Cooper, Pamela Bakewell and Danny J. Bakewell, Jr. David Z, Danny J. Bakewell, Sr., Founder/Creator of Taste of Soul wishes to thank all the volunteers, sponsors and community partners who worked hard to make the 15th Annual Taste of Soul a day of service and giving back to our community.

Please remember to support the L.A. Sentinel in print and digital and look for more information on how you can support our Black Businesses at www.lasentinel.net.



BLACK VOTES MATTER

VOTE ON OR BEFORE

NOVEMBER 3, 2020



Dodgers Foundation Partner with Vector 90, and Councilman Marqueece Harris-Dawson for Drive-Thru Giveaway

BY KHARI JONES JR. Contributing Writer

Once again, the Dodgers Foundation came up for the community in the Crenshaw District. This time around, partnered with Councilman Marqueece Harris Dawson Vector 90, an entrepreneurial workspace founded by David Gross and the late rapper Nipsey Hussle. This event is the Dodgers 14th distribution since April of 2020, close to when the pandemic started and stopped them from doing in-person programming for the kids and families.

The RBI drive-thru has been their new form of giving back to the communities. At the event at Vector 90, their goals were to give-away items to over 200 families with at least 700 kids. Inside the boxes were food, clothes, fun Dodger goodies, PPE supplies, and other essential items they need during these trying times. Dodgers foundation CEO Nicole Watkins said, "We



Community Leaders giving back to families and kids in the Crenshaw District.

are making sure that we continue to show up for the communities in Los Angeles that need us the most."

Dodgers have a sports-based youth development program involving 11,000 families, many from the Crenshaw District. They usually participate with them at the local parks, on the field, or other activities throughout the year. Watkins states, "Because we are not able to be with them in person this year in our normal

programming, we are seeing them this way. They actually signed up to be here for today's distribution, and they are coming to collect things they know are going to help them." The Dodgers Foundation is tackling L.A.'s most pressing problems. During the giveaway at Vector 90, the Dodgers noticed a family outside in a trailer, and they reached out to give the family food and essential items. "When we see people in need, it's our

obligation and our duty to be able to help those people."

Councilman Harris-Dawson said every time he drives by Vector 90; his heart beats a little faster. "I feel warm because you feel the vision that Nipsey Hussle had, folks are carrying it on, folks are making it happen even though we lost him; he was such a big loss to our community." He stated that they are out there, making sure folks have food for the next couple of weeks

and making sure they have Dodger gear during the World Series. Council said he loves giving back to the community. "The sun is shining. The people are smiling; we're giving away food. I was able to attend Taste of Soul and other events. We're here with the Dodgers. This is what it is all about, people helping each other and stepping up when we need it."

The Outreach Manager for Vector 90, Michael Gross, said he was thankful for the Dodgers Foundation having their event at the

workspace and hopes to work with them again. "We got the Dodgers Foundation here at Vector 90; they are here doing a drive-thru giveaway. I think it is great giving back to the kids. They are giving away food boxes, and we are happy to have them here at Vector 90, and hopefully, we have them back again." Gross spoke on the late Nipsey Hussle. "I think this is what Nip set out to do. He was all about giving back and empowering the community. Nipsey and David loved letting people do these types of events."



Over 200 families were given essential items to help survive the pandemic.

LIFEWTR Debuts Digital Time Capsule, 'Black Art Rising,' to Immortalize the Legacy of Black Protest Art

BY STACY M. BROWN NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

LIFEWTR, a premium water brand with a history of amplifying social progress through art, has launched Black Art Rising, a digital exhibition documenting the diverse responses to the Black Lives Matter movement in 2020.

According to organizers, the gallery was created to preserve this moment in time and help keep the movement alive and ensure future generations have access to the art and artists who are acting as vanguards of change.

"People get easily distracted. We must keep the conversations going, and people focused on what real-

ly matters. Art is an influence. Why wouldn't we use our platform," said burgeoning hip hop artist Tobe Nwigwe.

An artist whom gallery officials say lyrics and tone of music tell the story of a difficult upbringing as a first-generation-Nigerian kid in the Alief neighborhood of Houston, TX, Nwigwe has a singular goal in life: "to make purpose popular."

His message reportedly has attracted fans worldwide, including culture heavyweights: Erykah Badu, Sway Calloway, Jill Scott, and Dave Chappelle.

Lo Harris, a digital artist, featured in the gallery, specializes in illustration and motion design and, through bright palettes and relational

compositions, creates work that officials said champions vibrance, confidence, humanity, and celebrations of a more just and kind world.

"There's an emphasis on joy in my work," Harris stated.

"To celebrate Black joy at such a pivotal moment in history is, in itself, an act of revolution."

The gallery also features Shae Anthony, Reyna Noriega, Dr. Fahamu Pecou, Temi Coker, and Thomas Evans (aka Detour).

"Creatives are the historians of current events," remarked Evans, acclaimed as an all-around creative who specializes in large-scale public art, interactive visuals, portraiture, immersive spaces, and creative directing.

"The work that I'm doing is telling the story of what's really happening when it comes to race."

At launch, Black Art Rising features protest art from eight creators at the



Through the Black Art Rising Fund, LIFEWTR said it's committing \$50,000 to increase the number of diverse voices speaking their truth through art.

forefront of racial justice.

LIFEWTR, a part of the PepsiCo family, is also calling upon everyday creators to keep the movement strong by sharing original artwork for the chance to be aggregated into the Black Art Rising infinite digital gallery.

"When we elevate creators equally, allowing them to inspire the world and be inspired by others, creativity can flow freely,"

Michael Smith Sr., the

director of marketing for PepsiCo, stated in a news release.

"Unfortunately, it hasn't been that way, and Black creatives have long been underrepresented in the arts. It will take continued dedication by all, and at LIFEWTR, we are committed to using our platform to spotlight the amazing talents of Black creatives, who now more than ever are inspiring others to use their voices with purpose and push others to address systemic racism head on."

Through the Black Art Rising Fund, LIFEWTR said it's committing \$50,000 to increase the number of diverse voices speaking their truth through art.

Creators who share their work using #BlackArtRisingContest and tag @LIFEWTR could be selected by LIFEWTR and special guest judges, including Tobe Nwigwe now through Friday, October 27.

Those selected will receive a \$500 stipend from

the \$50k Black Art Rising Fund to finance art supplies for their next great creation and recognized on The-BlackArtRising.com.

In the coming weeks, fans will have the opportunity to win original artwork and limited-edition prints designed by Black Art Rising featured artists. Follow @LIFEWTR on Instagram for full details.

In August 2020, LIFEWTR parent company PepsiCo announced a more than \$400 million set of initiatives over five years to support Black communities and increase Black representation at PepsiCo.

These initiatives comprise a holistic effort for PepsiCo to walk the talk of a leading corporation that helps address the need for systemic change. To learn more about these initiatives, visit pepsi.com/racial-equality-journey.

And for additional information on Black Art Rising, please visit TheBlackArtRising.com.

Taste of Soul Cookbook advertisement with images of food and text: "Share a family tradition", "Take one home today!", "ON SALE NOW \$19.95+ tax", website and phone info.

Know the Differences Among the Common Cold, the Flu and COVID-19

Although there are common Symptoms, there are striking differences.

KAISER PERMANENTE NEWS Special to the Sentinel

Understanding the differences among the common cold, the flu and COVID-19 can be challenging, as they share many symptoms that can be confusing and worrisome to many people who may wonder what steps they should take to protect their health.

Dr. Daisy Dodd, an infectious disease specialist with Kaiser Permanente Southern California, notes that although these three diseases share common symptoms, they have distinctive differences the public should become familiar with, especially during the coronavirus pandemic.

"There's no doubt that there are similarities among these illnesses," she noted. "However, there also are

significant differences one should be familiar with, as that will help you better understand when to seek necessary medical attention."

Dr. Dodd noted that while you may feel miserable when you have a cold, the symptoms are generally milder compared to more aggressive viruses like the flu and COVID-19. A cold is typically less severe, and can cause any or all of the following symptoms:

- Runny or stuffy nose.
• A mild cough.
• Fatigue.
• Sneezing.
• Sore throat.
• Aches and pains.

Unlike the common cold, the flu generally comes on fast and furious. Here are some of its common symptoms:

- Fever and/or chills.



COURTESY PHOTO

- Dry cough.
• Fatigue.
• Aches and pains.
• Runny and stuffy nose.
• Sore throat.

When it comes to COVID-19, it shares some symptoms with the common cold and flu, but has other distinctive symptoms. They include:

- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
• Loss of taste and smell.
• Diarrhea.
• Fever and/or chills.
• Dry cough.
• Tiredness
• Aches and pains.

- Headaches.
• Sore throat.

"As we enter the flu season, getting your flu shot may be more important than ever this year because of the pandemic," Dr. Dodd said. "The flu shot is safe and provides good protection against influenza, which will compromise your immune system and make you more vulnerable to getting other diseases, including

COVID-19. You also absolutely do not want to be stricken by both the flu and COVID-19 at the same time, as that could be a deadly combination."

When in doubt whether you have a cold, the flu or COVID-19, Dr. Dodd advised that you contact your health care provider to see if medical attention is necessary.



LOS ANGELES SENTINEL SPORTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2020

www.lasentinel.net

D-2

IN MEMORIAM: Joe Morgan, 'Big Red Machine' Star Dies at 77

NNPA NEWSWIRE SENIOR
National Correspondent

Joe Leonard Morgan, one of the all-time greatest second basemen in Major League Baseball history, and a key cog in Cincinnati's Big Red Machine, has died at the age of 77.

Over 22 mostly magnificent seasons, the left-handed batting Morgan, who memorably flapped his left arm before each pitch thrown to him, totaled 2,517 hits, 1,650 runs scored, and a .271 lifetime batting average.

Additionally, he slugged 268 home runs and stole 689 bases.

Inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1990, Morgan began his illustrious career with the Houston Colt .45s in 1963.

He remained with Houston, which in 1965 changed its nickname to the Astros for nine seasons.

In 1971, the Astros traded Morgan to the Cincinnati Reds.

In Cincinnati, he joined Pete Rose, Johnny Bench, Ken Griffey Sr., George Foster, and others to form the renowned Big Red Machine.

In 1975, the Reds defeated the Boston Red Sox in one of the most memorable World Series ever, an epic matchup where five of the seven games were decided by one run.

The following year, Morgan helped lead the Reds to a sweep of the New York Yankees in the Fall Classic to capture a second straight title.

Morgan earned League



Joe Morgan RICHARD RAPHAEL/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Most Valuable Players in each of those seasons.

He earned selection to the All-Star team 10 times

and won five Gold Gloves. In 1983, Morgan joined

the Philadelphia Phillies and helped lead them to a World Series appearance against the Baltimore Orioles. Baltimore won the series in five games, and Morgan would play one more season, ending his career with the Oakland A's.

Morgan's death is the latest among several legendary baseball players over the past several months, including fellow Hall of Famers Lou Brock and Bob Gibson of the St. Louis Cardinals, Tom Seaver of the New York Mets, and Whitey Ford of the New York Yankees.

"This is so sad," Cincinnati Herald Publisher Jan Michele Kearney said of Morgan's death.

"I'm shocked and saddened by the news."

Tyronn Lue to be Next Head Coach of the Los Angeles Clippers



Tyronn Lue was head coach of the Cleveland Cavaliers (Twitter photo)

AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Writer

Two weeks after parting ways with their former head coach Doc Rivers, the

Los Angeles Clippers are finalizing a five-year deal with assistant coach Tyronn Lue. Lue has been an assistant coach with the Clippers since the beginning of the

2019-2020 season.

Prior to his time in Los Angeles, Lue coached for the Cleveland Cavaliers. He started as an associate head coach during the 2015-2016

season but took the helm of the team when the former coach, David Blatt, was fired. That year, he led the Cavaliers to a championship.

The Clippers are a talented, but disjointed group. After ranking second in the Western Conference with a 49-23 in-season record, they lost to the Denver Nuggets in the second round of the 2020 Playoffs.

One could argue the squad lacked chemistry. However, Lue dealt with internal issues when he coached the Cavaliers to a championship. Throughout the 2019-2020 season, Lue had been building a relationship with Clippers players.

Sources say that 2004 NBA Finals MVP Chauncey Billups and Larry Drew will be members of the coaching staff.

At the beginning of

the 2018-2019 season, the Cavaliers went 0-6 and Lue was fired. He had a 128-83 overall in-season record as the head coach of Cleveland and led them to three NBA Finals appearances with a 41-20 Playoffs record.

In 2019, Lue was negotiating with the Los Angeles Lakers for a head coach position. It was a three-year \$20 million deal and the franchise wanted to choose Lue's coaching staff. Lue did not like the short-term contract nor the lack of freedom in choosing his coaching staff, so the deal dissolved.

Lue is inheriting a franchise that has been bettered by Rivers. In his seven years coaching the Clippers, he took the team to the Playoffs six times and reached the second round four times.

Lue also interviewed

with the New Orleans Pelicans and the Houston Rockets before choosing the Clippers. He and the Clippers are in the process of finalizing the terms of his new contract.

Lue played 11 years in the NBA, being the 23rd overall pick in the 1998 Draft. The Denver Nuggets acquired Lue, but traded him to the Los Angeles Lakers on Draft Night. He ultimately won two championships with the Lakers before playing for several other teams, including the Washington Wizards, the Houston Rockets, and the Milwaukee Bucks.

The Clippers shopped around before choosing Lue. Franchise assistant Sam Cassell, Cavaliers coach Mike Brown, and Denver assistant Wes Unseld Jr. also interviewed for the head coach position.

USC Track and Field Olympians Featured in Virtual Panel

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Writer

The University of Southern California (USC) is hosting "Cardinal and Gold Conversations with USC Olympians," a four-part virtual panel series. Last week, they honored their illustrious Track and Field legacy by featuring Allyson Felix, Canadian Sprinter Andre DeGrasse, World Record-holding hurdler Dalilah Muhammad and heptathlete and hurdler Nia Ali.

NCAA champion coach Caryl Smith Gilbert also was one of the panelists and assistant coach Quincy Watts was the moderator.

The athletes talked about their achievements, goals, and endeavors outside of track. Along with being the most decorated track and

field athlete, Felix is an advocate of women and maternal rights. Being a mother and persevering through adversity keeps her a competitive sprinter.

"I think for me, what's really helped me doing all the sprints ... it's always given me a different challenge and I love to challenge myself," Felix said. "I think about my daughter and showing her what hard work looks like."

Ali was the 2011 NCAA Outdoor champion in the 100m hurdles and won a silver medal in the 2016 Summer Olympics. In 2019, she won a gold medal in the 100m hurdles in the IAAF World Championships after running her personal best: a 12.24s time.

In the moments leading up to a race, Ali is usually



Ali won a gold medal in the 110m hurdles at the 2019 IAAF World Outdoor championship (COURTESY OF USC ATHLETICS)

calm, and she keeps her mind off the race.

"I have done so much mental preparation up to that point, I don't want to distract myself with last minute thinking," Ali said. "I pray before I go out there and then everything is handled in my opinion."

Andre De Grasse was a formidable opponent who competed against the icon-

ic Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt during the 2016 Rio Olympics. In 2015, he won two bronze medals at the IAAF Worlds and two gold medals during the Pan Am Games. During that time, De Grasse was working towards graduating.

"When you go to USC you really have to buckle down," he said. "I had to literally go to class, then

after class, go to practice and then [after] practice, go to tutoring. And then before you know it the day is over."

Muhammad became the world record holder for the 400m hurdles after running a 52.16s time during the 2019 IAAF Worlds. She also won gold for the same event during the Rio Olympics. Her original goal in college was to be a standout among the other notable USC athletes. Now, the goal is to run the 400m hurdles in 51 seconds or less.

"The competition on the 400m hurdles is just gonna be a tough race and a tough journey," Muhammad said. "But I'm looking forward to it, I'm excited."

Smith Gilbert became

the USTFCCA Indoor and Outdoor Women's Coach of the Year. She led the USC women's track and field team to winning the past two Pac-12 championships. She has also worked with Team USA Track and Field, being an assistant coach for two IAAF World Championships.

She enjoys cultivating young talent and preparing them for Olympic competition.

"That's probably one of the more exciting parts of my position," Smith Gilbert said. "We get to develop them from teenagers coming from their homes where we go get them through the college years and then as young adults."



Eagle Wings of Enlightenment Center Celebrates 35th Anniversary



Rev. Mataji (right), of Eagle Wings of Enlightenment Center, opens the evening with prayer.

Sentinel News Service Eagle Wings of Enlightenment Center, a cen- ter in South Los Angeles dedicated to peace and non-violence, celebrated its 35th Anniversary on Saturday, September 26, 2020. Honor was given to the Ancient Ceremonies offered by the Native Chiefs

and Sacred Grandmothers of Turtle Island. Their legacy, which goes back to the beginning of time and not just 500 years as often cited, is often misunderstood. During the anniversary celebration, Rev. Mataji, founder of the center, told stories of their legacies, aided by pictures and songs. Included were stories on the great Lakota Nation, the Ancient Pueblo People, and the Chumash People. Mataji also shared a story about her great grandfather, Elder William Reid. With the blessing of the Creator, it was an inspirational and deeply moving evening of prayers, songs, and story-



Drummers perform at the 35th anniversary

telling. Noting the current crisis in America regarding systemic racism, Mataji noted, "People of color are living in a world where violence is increasingly impacting them. We honor their legacy to never die. Let's continue to pray for equality and the eradication of racism in America. For All Our Relations. Aho!

Preserved by Purpose: The Power of the Do-Over

BY SHEWANDA RILEY

Despite the move to all online teaching this semester and the challenges that come with it, I still love my job as a college English Professor! I absolutely enjoy being able to guide others in understanding the importance of being able to express themselves effectively in writing. However, next to teaching grammar, one of the things I've had the most difficult time in getting my students to understand is the importance of rough drafts.

When I assign papers, I require that students give me at least two rough drafts of every paper. Inevitably,

at least one student will ask, "how do I come up with my second draft?" Many of them think it's extra work and have no problem in letting me know they don't want to do it. Some of them even let me know that they are so used to doing papers at the last minute that doing more than one draft is not an option.

When I explain to them the value of taking the time to re-read their papers and how it makes their writing better, they remain skeptical. In some instances, I've even showed them multiple drafts of my own writing projects so they realize that I'm not giving them advice that I myself don't

follow. They complain but by the end of every semester, many appreciate how this step has improved their writing. It takes extra time but going through the second or third or fourth draft also helps them find mistakes that they may have missed in the first draft.

Lately, God has been schooling me on this same principle of the value of do-over. In the past 6 months, I have spent much time re-evaluating so many areas of my life that I thought were okay. Things that I have done routinely that offered what I thought were good results are no longer bringing that same sense of satisfaction that they once did.



SHEWANDA RILEY

For example, I thought I was doing good by only eating one biscuit. But my health improved tremendously when I learned how to make them healthy with coconut flour or gave up biscuits altogether.

Re-thinking my attitudes toward certain people and situations has also allowed me to develop a healthier and more balanced life perspective. I've been getting acceptable results but what I'm missing out on is the "great" that Ephesians 3:20 promises: "God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, His Spirit deeply and gently within us."

It might be worth it to see how much you can change your life by praying more, seeking God's

direction more, and trusting more in his promises. Like my students, I've had to learn that having a do-over doesn't mean that it was wrong the first time... but it does acknowledge that there are areas that can be improved. You can go from good to great in no time!

Shewanda Riley is the author of the Essence best-seller "Love Hangover: Moving From Pain to Purpose after a Relationship Ends." She can be reached at lovehangover@juno.com, or on twitter @shewanda.

DON'T TALK ABOUT IT, VOTE ABOUT IT

NOVEMBER 3, 2020



Greater Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church. Virtual Worship Service! Sunday at 10AM on Facebook, YouTube and audio live stream.

Brookins-Kirkland Community African Methodist Episcopal Church. Virtual Worship Service - Sunday at 9AM.

West Angeles Church of God in Christ. Virtual Worship Service. Sundays at 8:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 7:00 PM at westa.tv.

Christ Our Redeemer A.M.E. Worship Center. Live Worship Service - Sunday at 9AM at corchurch.tv.

Grant African Methodist Episcopal Church. Virtual Worship Service Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

FaithDome.org. Live Worship Service - Sunday at 10:30AM and Tuesday at 11AM and 7:30PM at faithdome.org.

The Congregational Church of Christian Fellowship. Virtual Worship Service: Sunday at 10AM on Facebook.

Second Baptist Church. PLEASE JOIN US FOR WORSHIP AND STUDY Sunday, 8:00 am.

Trinity Baptist Church. Virtual Worship Service YouTube at tv:trinitybaptist.cloud.

Join First AME Church of Los Angeles on YouTube or firstamechurchla.org for live streaming services.

Crenshaw United Methodist Church. SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 a.m.

Truth and Love Christian Church. Virtual Worship Service on Facebook www.facebook.com/walter.tucker.56