



**Black People
'Sharing the Love'
at Taste of Soul!**

BAKEWELL MEDIA PRESENTS
19th Annual
Taste of Soul
2024
Family Festival



19th Annual Taste of Soul Family Festival – An Unforgettable Experience!

PHOTOS BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS





Taste of Soul Fills Crenshaw Blvd. with Hundreds of Thousands of People

500,000+ guests enjoy array of food, outstanding music, job information, health screenings and more



E. MESIAH MCGINNIS/L.A. SENTINEL

BY CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Managing Editor

Crenshaw Boulevard overflowed with bodies as more than 500,000 people came out on Oct. 19 for the 19th Annual Taste of Soul Family Festival.

The free multigenerational event created by Danny J. Bakewell Sr. not only featured actress and comedienne Tiffany Had-dish as the celebrity host, but also included 300 vendors, three music stages, job

interviews, health screenings, financial information, Children's World, and more.

Pleased about the community's embrace of the "biggest and baddest block party in all of Los Angeles," Bakewell also expressed appreciation for the support from civic leaders, corporate executives, elected officials, small business owners, and local residents in uniting to present the massive festival.

"Every year, Taste of

Soul gets bigger and better and it's largely due to the contributions of our partners, sponsors and the greater L.A. community that collectively help us present a variety of entertaining events that also generate dollars for the local economy," Bakewell said.

"I also want to thank the entire Sentinel team and City of L.A. staff who worked hard before and after Taste of Soul to convert Crenshaw Boulevard into the largest Black festi-

val on the West Coast and then return it back to normal in a 24-hour timespan. It is an incredible achievement!"

Taste of Soul also attracted a large contingent of elected officials who attended to interact with the public as well as encourage people to vote in the Nov. 5 election. Among those joining Bakewell in spreading this message to the crowd were U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff, California Lt. Gov. Eleni Kounalakis, California Secretary of State

Shirley Weber, County Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell, and L.A. Mayor Karen Bass.

Others stressing the importance of voting included State Senators Lola Smallwood-Cuevas and Steven Bradford, Assemblymembers Isaac Bryant and Chris Holden, L.A. Council President Marqueece Harris-Dawson, L.A. Councilmembers Heather Hutt and Curren Price, and former L.A. Mayor Antonio Vil-

laraigosa.

Taste of Soul Premiere Sponsors are Chevrolet, Southern California Gas Company, Chase Bank, South Coast Air Quality Management District, City National Bank, Ivie McNeill Wyatt Purcell & Diggs, BMO, Los Angeles World Airports, Port of Los Angeles, and Premier Sponsor and Official Transportation Partner and Premiere

[See TASTE OF SOUL DRAWS HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS on A-9]

USC, Dorsey High, and Price School Band kick-off Taste of Soul



IAN FOXF/L.A. SENTINEL



IAN FOXF/L.A. SENTINEL

BY CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Managing Editor

The colorful and talented bands from the University of Southern California, Susan Dorsey High School,

Crenshaw High School, Frederick K.C. Price III Christian Schools, and the L.A. Limited Drill Team garnered everyone's attention during the opening ceremony of the 19th Annual

Taste of Soul Family Festival.

Vibrant costumes, jazzy tunes and creative moves combined to present a morning of entertainment for the festival's early

arrivals. The bands, along with majorettes, dance team and drum line, marched the entire route of Taste of Soul – from Obama Boulevard to Stocker Avenue.

Although the festival

had just opened, thousands of people arrived at 10 a.m. and witnessed in awe as the young people displayed their musical and acrobatic talents. Naturally, applause and shouts greeted the

bands as they performed down the 'Shaw.

The USC Marching Band is comprised of more

[See TASTE OF SOUL OPENING CEREMONY MARCHING BANDS on A-9]

State of Black Los Angeles Highlights Future of Communities of Color

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The Los Angeles Urban League State of Black LA 2024, held at the USC Town and Gown on Oct. 10, brought together thought leaders, community advocates, policymakers, and local citizens for a day of impactful discussions, networking and actionable strategies aimed at addressing key issues facing Black communities in Los Angeles.

With over 700 attendees, the event successfully highlighted the current challenges, celebrated progress, and fostered meaningful dialogue on shaping a

[See STATE OF BLACK LOS ANGELES on A-8]



COURTESY PHOTO

Acting HUD Secretary Adrienne Todman speaks at the forum.



COURTESY PHOTO

Rep. Sydney Kamlager-Dove, left, presents a check to Cynthia Mitchell Heard.

Taste Of Soul Kicks Off With Regal VIP Reception

By ZON D'AMOUR
Contributing Writer

The 19th Annual Taste of Soul kicked off with a stellar VIP Reception at The Beehive by Sola Impact.

Sponsors, elected officials, and esteemed guests convened over soul food and drinks provided by 1010 Wines.

Brandi Bakewell, Bakewell Media executive vice president, was lauded for planning the festivities. When asked how the Beehive was selected for the event, Bakewell shared, "I wanted to do something different, and when I had a tour, I said, 'This is amazing, as you're driving up, you're like, there can't possibly be all these things in this warehouse district area, and then you walk in the door, you're in this oasis in the heart of South LA. [The Beehive] is a really amazing, Black-owned space.'"

During the reception, Pamela Bakewell thanked many of the festival's sponsors, one of which is Metro. Deputy Chief at Metro Rob Gummer shared, "Taste of Soul is an important event for Metro because it supports our community and



IAN FOXX/L.A. SENTINEL

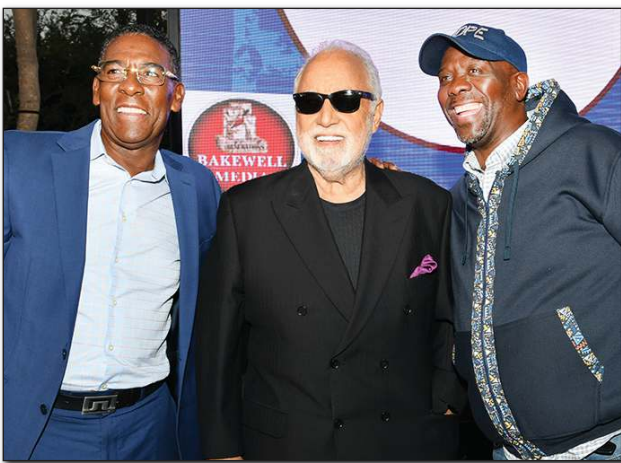


IAN FOXX/L.A. SENTINEL

our riders, so this is something that we feel very strongly about and I'm happy to be here." Gummer added,

"Bakewell Media has shown to be great partners in the past and nothing brings the community together better than food and culture."

During the reception, Councilwoman Heather Hutt expressed her excitement for Taste of Soul, saying, "I've been coming up for 19 years. This is something that I absolutely adore, and I'm so glad that most of it is going through the 10th district because it's



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a destination that's great for economic development."

The councilwoman added, "I want the community to know that I support small businesses. And we're doing things in the district to make sure that people know that the 10th district is a destination that they can feel safe in, one that we could celebrate life in."

Mario Holton, vice president of Philanthropy and Community Impact at Wells Fargo Bank, said, "Taste of Soul is one of the most impactful cultural events that we have in South L.A., and it always brings out the best of the best when it comes to vendors and community engagement."

He added, "I'm looking forward to Jon B performing and what excites me are the different vendors we experience walking up and down Crenshaw Blvd. at this peaceful event where we all come together

and celebrate together."

Holton concluded by outlining the additional incentives small business owners receive from being a part of the annual festival.

"We do a post vendor Taste of Soul reception

where we try to bring resources to small business owners by finding ways to bridge the gap between them and CDFIs as well as small business development centers that can help them to take their businesses to the next level."



Empowering your business to scale up and grow.

Taste of Soul Media Day Celebrates Community and Unity

By TROY TIEUJEL
Contributing Writer

Taste of Soul Media Day, held on Oct. 18, offers local news an opportunity to interview the founder, vendors and other key individuals associated with the 19th Annual Taste of Soul Family Festival.

Created and founded by Danny J. Bakewell, Sr. in 2005, celebration has grown to become a symbol of culture and pride in Los Angeles, attracting hundreds of thousands of people.

"The continuation of Taste of Soul is about love, peace, humility, and all the things that make up a very wholesome community," said Bakewell.

Taste of Soul was created to showcase the vibrancy and potential within the African American community, focusing on its cuisine as a binding force for the family and the community.

"Economic impact is big and it's important, but the other things that the Taste of Soul has done is it's reinforced that we can do things in our own community," added Bakewell.

The Taste of Soul Family Festival is for everyone, including the young, such as Lemonade Stands R Us, a charming venture by two young local "Kid Entrepreneurs," who are already making a splash with their refreshing homemade lemonade.

This year's festival will also feature a myriad of vendors such as K Michelle's Kitchen Catering, known for their comforting soul food and Better than the Rest Gumbo. Also, California Love Pie Company and Hugh's Hot Bowls are among the types of companies Bakewell urges the community to support.

The Taste of Soul is also a vital platform for civic engagement. "This Taste of Soul, make sure you register to vote," Bakewell urged, emphasizing



TROY TIEUJEL/L.A. SENTINEL

Hugh's Hot Bowls offered delicious dishes at Taste of Soul.



TROY TIEUJEL/L.A. SENTINEL

Young entrepreneurs of Lemonade Stands R Us.

ing the importance of active participation in shaping the political landscape.

As the Taste of Soul Festival draws near, its impact on the community continues to grow, nurtured by endeavors like this annual celebration.

"I may have founded

Taste of Soul, but the community has truly made it their own," Bakewell stated with pride.

To learn more, visit <https://www.tasteofsoulla.com/>.



TROY TIEUJEL/L.A. SENTINEL

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Hilltop Coffee + Kitchen Hosts 'Jammin' on the Hill' Every 3rd Thursday

BY MYKO LYRIC
Contributing Writer

Nestled at the peak of View Park, Issa Rae's Hilltop Coffee + Kitchen brings together a welcoming atmosphere, community networking, delicious food and drinks with live music.

"Jammin on the Hill" is a 21+ jam session hosted every third Thursday of the month. The doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the concert runs from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. including a brief intermission. Seating is intimate, and most guests who arrive after 7:30 have to occupy the standing room area, so early arrival is highly recommended.

The evening features a full house band—drummer, bassist, and pianist—that brings genres like funk, R&B, and soul to life.

Headlining the October session was the electrifying Chamira Patrice, "But you can call me 'Chimmy!'" she said as she smiled at the audience. A belting, dynamic,



Chimmy performing at Hilltop Coffee + Kitchen.

MYKO LYRIC/LA. SENTINEL

songstress, Chimmy wowed the crowd with a setlist of R&B Pop and Soul classics, including "I Wanna Be Down" by Brandy, "Rock With You" by Michael Jackson, "On & On" by Erykah Badu, "Tell Me Something Good" by Rufus and "Killing Me Softly" by Lauryn Hill.

Chimmy took a moment to serenade the crowd with a special birthday rendition for Tara King's father. King, the head of brand marketing and partnerships at Hilltop, later shared a few words with the crowd, noting, "If y'all don't know, we've been doing this since 2018. Support your local Black-owned business," as Chimmy closed her set with the classic hit, "Before I Let You Go."

Chimmy also invited her friend and fellow singer, Dzhari, to the stage. Dzhari performed a stunning cover of "Angel" by Anita Baker and delivered her own original song, "Save Me," the sin-

gular original song of the night.

The event was a true community affair, where guests enjoyed a range of delicious bites for purchase like fried chicken sliders, chicken quesadillas, cornbread and loaded tots. Specialty drinks included lattes, teas and a selection of wines, making it the perfect night out for food, drink and music lovers alike.

A free event, Jammin' on the Hill embodies the spirit of Hilltop Coffee + Kitchen, where the motto reads: "For centuries, the mountaintop has been a symbol for dreamers & doers." Fittingly, the event serves as a platform for incredible Black talent to shine under these inspiring words, continuing to celebrate the community and its rich musical heritage. Don't miss out on next month's session!

Align yourself with Hilltop (@findyourhilltop), Chimmy (@chimmy_p), and Dzhari (@dzhari_) on Instagram.

Is it Safe for Children to 'Trick or Treat' This Halloween?

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

As children of all ages prepare for and look forward to "trick or treating" this Halloween, many parents are rightfully asking themselves how they can ensure that their little ghosts and goblins will be safe and sound during this upcoming festive holiday.

Dr. Lisa P. Luu, a pediatrician with Kaiser Permanente Downey, encourages parents to make last-

ing memories with their children. However, she notes it's also important to remember there are important avoidable safety hazards lurking that can result in injury and illness.

A good start is to make sure your children are up to date with their COVID-19 and flu vaccines, she said. Additionally, Dr. Luu addressed several scary health issues parents should be

aware of to ensure their little munchkins have a safe and happy Halloween.

Examine Treats

Before your child eats any treat, Dr. Luu advised parents to look at the label if their children suffer from allergies. "I would advise against eating any treats without labels," she said. "The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention tells us food allergies account



SHUTTERSTOCK

When celebrating Halloween, it's important for parents to know there are important avoidable safety hazards lurking that can result in injury and illness to their children.

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for 35% to 50% of all cases of severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reactions such as against peanuts. It's also a good idea that in case your child suffers a severe allergic reaction, it's a good idea to have easy access to an epinephrine auto-injector if prescribed." If labels are not available or allergen information is not readily available online, consider substituting with known safe treats or non-food items.

Avoid Hand Injuries

For many parents, carving a pumpkin for Halloween is a treasured family tradition shared with their children. However, many children suffer from carving knife injuries each year that can lead to severe, but preventable, injuries. To avoid an unwanted and scary visit to the emergency room, Dr. Luu advises parents to have young children draw the pattern on the pumpkin, clean out the inside pulp and seeds with a spoon, but leave the knife work to the adults. Another tip for parents is to consider using a cookie cutter instead.

Beware of Fire hazards

Many parents and children love decorating their home for Halloween with spooky decorations that also may include lit ornaments. Unfortunately, this can result in some truly scary fire safety hazards. As such, to be safe, Dr. Luu advises that it's better to light up your jack-o-lantern with glow

sticks or electric candles instead of candles. "This is advisable because many decorations are very flammable and can result in injury and property damage," she notes. According to FEMA, the top five causes of most Halloween fires include careless actions and electrical malfunctions.

Selecting Safe Costumes

On Halloween, every child wants to wear a costume that's second to none. But some costumes can pose a hazard, so it's important to follow some guidelines. For instance, if a mask is worn, it should have large enough eye holes for a child see clearly, Dr. Luu says. She also advised that children wear bright and reflective costumes so that they are more visible. Parents should also be on the lookout for small parts on costumes that could cause young children to choke. Lastly, costumes should not be too big or too long as that may result in a child tripping and injuring themselves.

Face paint/Costume contact lenses

Before you apply makeup near your child's eyes, it's important to know it could contain harmful chemicals, according to the American Academy of Ophthalmology. If makeup is applied, it should be applied in small amounts to the arm or back of the person who will be wearing it to test safety. The appearance of a rash, redness, swelling or other

signs of irritation could indicate an allergic reaction and should be avoided. Additionally, the American Academy of Ophthalmology warns that though wearing costume contact lenses on Halloween can be a real scream, the scare from non-prescription contact lenses can be all too real when chemical exposure or potentially blinding infections take place. As such, they should be avoided.

Pedestrian safety

Since trick-or-treating can take place when it's dark, Dr. Luu encourages parents to provide children with flashlights or glowsticks for lighting and greater visibility, which can be incorporated into the costumes. Another option is sticking reflective arm bands or reflective tape to bags or costumes to ensure your child can be seen. It's recommended that parents review street safety ahead of time with their children.

COVID-19 safety

Last, but not least, although COVID-19 may not be as much on the minds of parents this Halloween, Dr. Luu encourages children to wear a mask as part of their costume, when possible, to maximize protection.

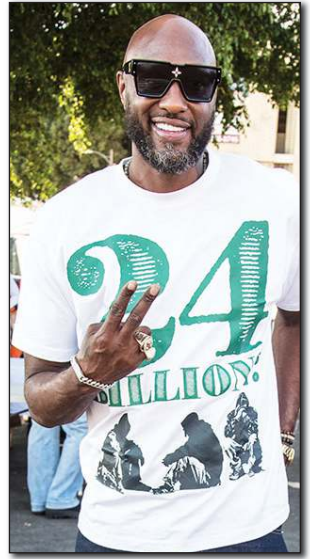
Also, children should always wash their hands with soap upon returning from trick-or-treating. It's also critically important to only eat factory-wrapped treats and candy, as that is a safer practice.

Leaders In Power Host 'Stronger Together' Giveback Day to Aid Homeless Community

BY SIMONE GRANT
Contributing Writer

The community gathered on Oct. 20 in support of nonprofit organization Leaders In Power Inc.'s community giveback day, "Stronger Together." Attendees were encouraged to bring gently worn shoes, clothes, and other essentials in support of L.A. County's homeless population.

The homeless crisis in Los Angeles has grown significantly over the years, with Skid Row being home to thousands of unhoused individuals. Substance abuse, mental health issues,



JAMES "JR" RHABURN
Lamar Odom brought great energy to the "Stronger Together" community giveback day.



JAMES "JR" RHABURN
From left, Sharis Rhodes, Lamar Odom, and Larrance Dopson were all smiles as they posed at the community giveback day.

and job scarcity, are just some of the many factors that contribute to the ongoing issue of housing insecurity.

Local groups and organizations are consistently working hard to combat this crisis by providing essential services and resources; Leaders In Power Inc. being one of them.

Stronger Together took place outside of seafood restaurant Catch 21 at 441 S. Central Ave. in Los Angeles and provided health services to those in need by street medical team "Wound Walk." Pizza and haircuts were also given to the unhoused.

Also in attendance were Nonprofit organizations Humanity heroes, who provided essentials to the unhoused community, Chosen Hearts, Hope to Help USA, and others.

With music provided by DJ QwessCoast, the event included a plethora of celebrity and local leaders in attendance including former Los Angeles Lakers Lamar Odom and Trevor Ariza, 5X UFC Welterweight Champion Tyron Woodley, CEO of 1500 or Nothin' Larrance Dopson, founder and CEO of The Source LA Rocsii Woodley, and more.

Sharis Rhodes, chief of staff to Inglewood Mayor

James T. Butts, 2023 Ms. USA Universe, and 2024 Miss. Inglewood, is the founder and CEO of Leaders In Power and mastermind behind Sunday's event. Her nonprofit organization is dedicated to ending homelessness, uplifting and empowering at-risk and homeless youth through collaborative efforts, partnerships, and essential resources.

"The inspiration behind this event is Lamar Odom



JAMES "JR" RHABURN
DJ QwessCoast kept the vibes at an all-time high.

and I decided to come together. His story of substance abuse; knowing that is the common denominator here when it comes to being houseless and people

living actually on the street," Rhodes explained.

"I, myself, have experienced housing insecurity

never left her face, and it was evident that she was grateful for everyone who made time to come support.



JAMES "JR" RHABURN
Street medical team Wound Walk provided assistance to those in need of services.

with my three-year-old son. Now I am in a position of power to leverage and be able to inspire and get people to collaborate and push the needle forward," she said.

"I believe that it's important to have people who have powerful, compelling stories to be able to shine light to push that needle forward, because sometimes it does take that too," Rhodes told the Sentinel.

Throughout the event, Rhodes made sure she greeted and spoke to those in attendance. A smile

Odom also ensured that he posed for photos with attendees and told the Sentinel that being at the giveback day meant "a lot" to him.

"It's easy for me to give back to people who don't have anything," Odom said.

When asked how he and Rhodes made this day possible, he responded, "Just had the heart and the idea. I want to do it every Sunday if I could."

For more information on Leaders In Power, visit <https://leadersinpower.org>.

GLAAACC Helps Businesses Reach New Heights

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Where do you turn for trusted advice about growing your company when you have no connection to Fortune 500 CFOs, CEOs, or investment bankers or have no relatives that have worked in corporate America?

This question was posed in a recent National Center for the Middle Market article on the lack of multi-million dollar Black-owned businesses.

For over 30 years, the Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber of Commerce has connected small and medium-sized Black-owned businesses to Fortune 500 CFOs, CEOs, investment bankers, and provided access to billions of dollars in contracts through its many programs, networking events, workshops and educational seminars.

In October, GLAAACC kicked off its 25th Business Evolution Program. Each year, a cohort of business owners is mentored through a nine-month business boot camp that provides sessions on setting up a back office system, certification, contracting, developing a capability statement, how to access capital, financial management, marketing, branding, and harnessing the power of technology and artificial intelligence.

GLAAACC Chairman Gene Hale is the founder and president of a multi-million dollar corporation, G&C Corporation, an equipment sales and leasing business. Hale started G&C Corporation over 40 years ago and is a nationally recognized leader in the procurement and sale of construction materials and supplies. At the kick-off session of GLAAACC's 2024 - 25 Business Evolution Program, Hale spoke about what it takes to operate a successful business.

"As business owners, we not only need to be focused on getting the business, but after we get the business, we need to understand how to retain the business," Hale said. "As you grow, it's also important to know how to network properly to connect with leaders in business and politics - people that can



COURTESY PHOTO
Maria Dowd

open doors. That's where BEP comes in."

BEP applicants go through a rigorous selection process. Business owners accepted into the program apply for a variety of reasons. Many are looking to take their business to the next level of success, in search of new ways to market their business, access to financial services or solidifying their business structure.

Maria Dowd was seeking a way to have flexibility to spend more time with her family. The former executive left her job in renewable energy and started Dowd Solar Group. The company specializes in solar solutions, including solar panels, onsite battery storage and commercial EV charging stations. She joined GLAAACC BEP to help her scale and grow her business. She also wanted to ensure she had a solid business model.

"Because I have an S corporation, having the back office set up is a big deal for me and having all of my paperwork in order is important," said Dowd. "Bylaws, articles of incorporation - those things are needed to apply for grants and for government contracts and for loans and that sort of thing, so I need to have it all organized."

Dowd has already had her first one-on-one meeting with one of the business development coaches provided to the cohort as a part of BEP and has developed tasks to meet her goals. "I've got my little hit list and I'm knocking things out."

Keidrick Cole applied for BEP to become a part of a community of like-minded Black business owners. His company, Elite Auto Source, specializes in luxury black car service where clients can



COURTESY PHOTO
Keidrick Cole

specify the type of vehicle they prefer for special occasions from trips to Vegas or bachelor/bachelorette parties to date night.

A serial entrepreneur, Cole founded Elite Auto Source in response to numerous clients requests from his concierge and real estate businesses. Starting in a new industry after being in busi-

ness for 20 years, Cole felt he needed to widen his network to get the word out.

Cole said he is looking forward to new collaborations through BEP. "Nobody can succeed alone. If I learn something new, I don't want to keep it within my own brain," Cole said. "I want to spread it to as many people as possible so that we all can win. And then, of course, I'm sure knowledge and wisdom will come back to me as well."

At the inaugural meeting, BEP chairperson Lily Otieno reminded the group of the variety of upcoming events and capital investments that can benefit small businesses. Otieno is the director of the supply chain and diverse business enterprises for SoCal Gas Com-



SCREENSHOT
GLAAACC's 2024-2025 BEP Cohort

pany. She previously headed her own consulting firm, Infinity Business Solutions, where she assisted businesses reach their goals.

"We have the Olympics, the infrastructure bill, the remodeling of the airport," Otieno said. "Persevere, learn to be active, take advantage of everything that you are given so that you can be successful."

Valued at \$15,000, BEP is provided at no costs to

businesses that are accepted into the program. BEP is underwritten by the generous sponsorship of T-Mobile, Wells Fargo Bank, Southern California Edison, US Bank, SoCal Gas and Citizens Business Bank.

GLAAACC's Business Evolution program will continue monthly through April 2025. Registration for BEP 2025-2026 will open in June 2025. For more information visit glaaacc.org.

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

L.A. Care Commits \$1.2 Million+ to Reduce Barriers to Dental Care for Angelenos

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Oral health diseases such as cavities and gum disease are largely preventable. However, factors such as chronic medical conditions, access to care, cultural norms and attitudes, and socioeconomic status can influence these outcomes and create additional barriers to care. Addressing these barriers is essential to ensuring that community members have the necessary access to maintain and improve their oral health. Today, L.A. Care Health Plan is announcing a new \$1.22 million commitment to its Oral Health Initiative to support 10 organizations that are addressing the barriers to oral health care in low-income communities.

“Oral health is critical to

overall health. Poor oral health in children can have a devastating impact on quality of life and their performance in school, which ultimately can impact their success as an adult,” said John Baackes, L.A. Care CEO. “In adults, poor oral health can lead to complications for those with cardiovascular disease, diabetes, or even those who are pregnant, so it is extremely important that we take steps to improve oral health.”

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports tooth decay in children aged 2 to 5 from low-income households is about three times higher than that of children from higher income households. And 33% of Latino children and 28% Black children aged 2 to 5 have had cavities

in their primary teeth, compared with just 18% of non-Hispanic White children.

The L.A. Care funding will help the 10 awardees implement strategies that address the barriers contributing to oral health disparities. To improve oral health outcomes, projects will include providing outreach and oral health screenings at local schools and community events, increasing engagement and services for hypertensive persons experiencing homelessness, and implementing Social Determinants of Health screenings to connect patients to necessary community and social resources.

Herald Christian Health Center, a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) with facilities across the San Gabriel Valley, is one of the

awardees in this 15th round of Oral Health Initiative grants.



SHUTTERSTOCK
L.A. Care’s Oral Health Initiative provides for grants to organizations supporting oral health in low-income communities.

“L.A. Care’s grant will greatly enhance our efforts to support the community, helping us guide patients through the health system and promote both medical and dental preventative care,” said Carolin Eng, CEO of Herald Christian Health Center. “Our com-

prehensive approach is designed to reduce health disparities and ensure that underserved communities receive the essential care they need, ultimately fostering better health outcomes for all.”

Via Care Community Health Center, an FQHC with a network of clinics throughout Los Angeles County, is another of the awardees.

“Via Care is thrilled to be an L.A. Care Oral Health Initiative (OHI XV) grantee. This important grant will increase access to pediatric dental services, which are extremely hard to find in the East L.A. area,” said Deborah Villar, CEO of Via Care Community Health Center. “This grant project will strengthen our dental program by enabling us to offer

comprehensive dental care for all members of the family at low or no-cost.”

The 10 awardees in this 15th round of the Oral Health Initiative grants are Garfield Health Center, Gracelight Community Health, Herald Christian Health Center, JWCH Institute Inc., Northeast Valley Health Corporation, Eisner Health, T.H.E. Health and Wellness Centers, Via Care Community Health Center, Watts Healthcare Corporation, and White Memorial Community Health Center.

Since 2003, L.A. Care, through its Oral Health Initiative, has awarded more than \$19 million for 195 projects that provide oral health infrastructure, education, prevention, and treatment services to low-income communities.

STATE OF BLACK LOS ANGELES *(Continued from A-3)*



Health panelists included, from left, Dr. Mona-Gekanju Toeque, David Ford, Dr. Jehni Robinson, Dr. Naman Shah, Dr. Elaine Batchlor, and Dr. William King.

brighter future for the Black community in L.A.

Hosted by the Los Angeles Urban League in partnership with NBC4/Telemundo 52, this year’s event explored issues related to Housing & Homelessness, Health Access & Equity and Economic Empowerment.

Speakers included U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Acting Secretary Adrienne Todman, L.A. Mayor Karen Bass, USC President Dr. Carol Folt, NBC Universal President and General Manager Todd Mokhtari, County Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell, Congresswoman Maxine Waters, Congresswoman Sydney Kamlager-Dove, L.A. Councilwoman Heather Hutt, State Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas, ARDI Executive Director

Dr. D’Artagnan Scorza, and Dr. Tolu Wuraola, also of ARDI.

Also, Congresswoman Sydney Kamlager-Dove presented a \$963,000 check to Cynthia Mitchell Heard, LAUL president/CEO, to assist the organization with its efforts to positively affect change in Los Angeles.

“I am grateful to our sponsors and partners for

giving us the support that fosters the Los Angeles Urban League’s groundbreaking and innovative ability to put a spotlight on issues that affect those marginalized in our society. The energy and enthusiasm

that were present in the room at the 2024 State of Black Los Angeles are a testament to the strength and determination of our community,” said Mitchell Heard.

“The State of Black

L.A. is not just a reflection of where we are today but a bold declaration of where we are headed. We have the power to uplift, but it requires continuous dedication, strategic action, and collective effort.”



More than 700 people attended State of Black L.A. forum.

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TASTE OF SOUL OPENING CEREMONY MARCHING BANDS

{Continued from A-3}

than 300 students and was twice named "Best Band in College Football" by USA Today. The band also includes the USC Song

Leaders, who perform high-energy choreography, and USC Spirit Leaders, who serve as the cheer and spirit squad.

Dorsey High School, located in the Baldwin Hills/Crenshaw area, is one of the few majority Black schools in the L.A. Unified

School District. The marching band includes a dance team and drum line.

Price Schools features a band, drum line and drill team. The college preparatory institution also offers a range of extracurricular activities for students who attend classes on the 32-acre campus in South L.A.

Crenshaw High School, a South L.A. landmark, offers a marching band and majorette team. The band



IAN FOXX/LA. SENTINEL

performs at parades, sporting events and at outdoor venues.

The L.A. Limited Drill Team, led by Doris Smith and Krystal Smith, concluded the parade with

dancer Storm entertaining the crowd along with the energetic drill team. Storm executed an array of well-choreographed dance steps to the sounds of the talented drummer.



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TASTE OF SOUL DRAWS HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS

{Continued from A-3}

Sponsor Metro.

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Rights, LA Sanitation, West Basin Municipal Water District, UTLA, 97.1 KNX, K-Earth 101, KTWV, L.A. Care, Neighborhood Housing Services.

Taste of Soul partners include Bakewell Media, Los Angeles Sentinel, Mothers In Action, Radio

FREE 102.3 KJLH, CBS2/KCAL9, 94.7 The WAVE, Brotherhood Crusade, LAUSD, LA Department of Transportation, Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza, City of L.A., County of L.A., Los Angeles Bureau of Street Services, and Western States Carpenters.

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scan the QR code or visit
ceda.rs/community-conversations



Special Guests and Sponsors at Taste of Soul Receive Royal Treatment

By ANNDRETTA LYLE, PHD
Contributing Writer

Taste of Soul special guests and sponsors could walk just a few feet from reserved spaces near the very center of the festivities to enter a cozy spot in the shade with cool lemonade and irresistible culinary delights.

This was the path for legendary stakeholders and

The VIP cuisine was catered by California Fish Market founded by Shaune and Michael Ortiz in 2010 and the couple was first involved with Taste of Soul as a vendor in 2012. The VIP menu included catfish, filet of sole, chicken wings, chicken breasts, collard greens, yams, mac and cheese, black eyed peas and rice with cornbread. For dessert, they offered peach



Soul providing fish, shrimp and chicken.

Shaune Ortiz of California Fish Market shared, "I have a special place in my heart for Taste of Soul and we feel like we are part of the family. We have worked with Ms. Pamela Bakewell,

Mrs. Ortiz also added that the business is a family enterprise with her six sons and daughters who are all involved. Those working this weekend were Hal Lacey who handled desserts, displays and signage; Nena Ortiz, who was

brother, Giovonte Ortiz, managed both preparation and setup.

To reach California Fish Market and arrange soul food perfection or an array of seafood dishes such as alligator or frog legs at your next event please visit their

national so look for them at your favorite festivals around the country.

The handcrafted lemonade flavors including laven-



der, peach, and watermelon were provided by Pucker Up™ Lemonade Company owned by Karneisha Christian. The store is located at 723 East Compton Blvd., in Compton and business hours are Tuesday through

cultural icons such as retired Congresswoman Diane Watson and the timeless actor Marla Gibbs, who respectively laughed and lounged in the VIP Tent. Watson and Gibbs were among the crowd enjoying the food, beverages, and the dance floor while the DJ provided danceable sounds.

cobbler cake, banana pudding, and a lemon rosemary mini cupcake.

California Fish Market owners pride themselves in homemade dishes including a special cornbread batter with special low-sodium ingredients. California Fish Market also had two additional booths at the Taste of



Brandi, Amira, and Tamela, and they are so welcoming and kind. It's personal for us. We are extremely passionate about our food and we love what we do."

assistant chef, Leilah Ortiz, who handled cash and finance at the booths; and Michael Ortiz II, who cooked in one of two booths; and also with his



website at <https://www.californiafish.us> to connect their staff. California Fish Market is bicoastal and

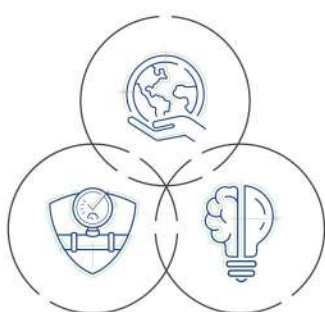
Sunday from 1p.m. to 5 p.m. Learn more on Instagram @PuckerUpLemonadeCo.

PHOTOS BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS, IAN FOX AND JEVONE MOORE



The Power of Community

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LAWA, L.A. County Brings Jobs to Taste of Soul

By AMANDA SCURLOCK
Staff Writer

The Taste of Soul not only provided food and fun to the community but opportunities for attendees to find employment. The Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) Pavilion and Los Angeles County provided information for job applications.

“We decided to come with a big pavilion and not just bring jobs that work for LAWA, but to bring some of our partners that work at the airport,” said LAWA chief people and culture officer Robert Lowe. “While there’s over 3000-plus people that work for LAX, there’s over 50,000 that work at LAX.”

TSA plans to have openings for a transportation security officer (TSO) as early as January on usajobs.gov, according to TSA human resource specialists Yolanda Johnson.



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL
L.A. County director of personnel Lisa Garrett.

“This is a great opportunity for TSA to come out to the community,” Johnson said. “It’s so good that I can represent my community at my job and also bring my job to the community.”

C&W Services has been with LAX for almost two years and offers janitorial, skilled trade, and office jobs on cwservices.com.

“We work with SEIU, so we are a unionized company,” said C&W Services director of operations at LAX Jonathan Muralles. “We’re a diverse company. Upper management is all



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL
The L.A. County Pavilion had 32 different departments at the Taste of Soul.

diverse and by women.”

The LAWA Pavilion also provided information on how businesses can partner with LAX. DFS (Duty Free Shoppers), a luxury travel retailer that provides duty-free goods has jobs on careers.dfs.com.

“We have store managers, sales, associates, our support staff, warehouse and source supervisors as well,” said DFS HR manager Haleigh Castro.



JEVONE MOORE/L.A. SENTINEL

with the county.”

Stacie Ottley represented the department of children and family services (DCFS) at their hiring event. A career development internship is being offered to current and former foster youth. The internship can lead to a permanent position, according to Ottley.

“What it means to provide jobs is stability, they have a sense of normalcy,” Ottley said. “They also have a way to be gainfully employed so that they can afford themselves into adulthood.”

Along with jobs, L.A. County offered opportunities specifically for veterans and youth sailing classes. Listings for L.A. County jobs are on <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/LACOUNTY>.

“I know that the need is for people to work,” said department of social services administrative manager



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL
LAWA chief people and culture officer Robert Lowe.



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL
The LAWA Pavilion provided jobs and business partnership opportunities at the Taste of Soul.



JEVONE MOORE/L.A. SENTINEL



JEVONE MOORE/L.A. SENTINEL

L.A. County Pavilion held job interviews for attendees.

“We have 32 different departments that are represented on the premises,” said LA County director of personnel Lisa Garrett. “They all have folks who are coming out, giving information about their organization, how to get employed



JEVONE MOORE/L.A. SENTINEL

Kimberly M. Green. “What a joy to be at the Taste of Soul where there’s over 400,000 individuals.”

The L.A. County Development Authority offers first-time homebuyer assistance along with job opportunities.

“We have three positions that are ongoing, reoccur-

ring,” said L.A. County development authority human resources analyst Vanessa Icaemen. “Our development specialist III, which is a housing project manager. A maintenance worker II position and we also have a maintenance for electrician position that we’re hiring for.”

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The Heroes of the 2024 Taste of Soul

By MYKO LYRIC
Contributing Writer

The Taste of Soul is known for its incredible line-up of performers and food vendors, but the opportunities extend far beyond the realms of live music and cuisine; medical screenings, including blood pressure checks and body mass index (BMI) measurements, nutritional information, health insurance registration, mental health resources, career opportunities and more.

Between 39th and Coliseum, Medical Tent Station #2 was occupied by Inno-vAge, a neighborhood center for senior healthcare at 3760 Degnan Blvd. Inno-vAge provides a myriad of benefits to ensure the health of its members: specialty care (dental, vision, physical therapy, and behavioral

health), social engagement through activities, meals, exercise, and group outings, transportation to medical appointments and centers, connected healthcare for primary, emergency, hospital coverage and in-home assistance.

Further south toward Stocker Avenue, W. King HealthCare Group's tent was an incredible resource for Taste of Soul attendees to learn more their options in choosing a Black-owned medical practice. In an exclusive interview with the Sentinel, owner Dr. William King shared that his practice has been participating as vendors at the Taste of Soul for nine years.

"We've been excited to do this, I mean I grew up in Baldwin Hills. My clinic is right across the street. We do blood pressure checks, HIV



Dr. William D. King (fifth from left) and associates.



PHOTO BY MYKO LYRIC
Chief Dave Fulcher (right) and fellow CAL FIRE firefighter.

screens, hepatitis B screens, we're giving out Narcan [an opioid overdose combatter] because of the high numbers of [deaths from] Fentanyl.

"We have several local physicians with us now, several nurses. So the community gets to see Black doctors who are willing to help. It's reaffirming for our patients to know they have [a team] that is invested in their health. We're really doing what we're supposed to be doing. This is why I went to medical school," Dr. King said.

Various health resources and departments, including UCLA Health, were also in attendance teaching CPR, continuing the mission to get "95% of Los Angeles County CPR-certified," a UCLA representative stated.

Additional heroic entities were CAL FIRE and the Los Angeles Fire Department, which had informational tents as well as Fire Marshals to safeguard the entire festival.

Chief Dave Fulcher, the current Southern Region Chief for the California Department of Forestry and Fire (CAL FIRE) gave the Sentinel a deeper understanding of the scope of fire-

fighters' heroism.

"We're actually what you call an 'all-risk' fire department. We just got back from the east coast, we had people from our [Urban Search & Rescue] teams helping out with hurricane relief. Last year, we were in Hawaii [helping with the wildfires], earlier in 2023, we were in Mammoth Lakes helping with the snowfall. Those are just a few of the emergency responses."

"We're trying to affect people's lives in a positive way no matter what, and that's most rewarding. We have over 115 different classifications that work with CAL FIRE to help us with our overall mission which is really to serve, safeguard,

and protect the people and property of California."

Whether you have or have not thought of a career within CAL Fire as a firefighter, food service

provider, or an office worker, Chief Fulcher urged that "you too can fit in."

Go to fire.ca.gov to learn more about the department and career opportunities.



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Art Pavilion Celebrates Black Creativity

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Staff Writer

The Taste of Soul Art Pavilion added an extra creative flavor to the 19-year-old street festival. Artists showed their take on Black life, from relationships to historical moments.

Mike Norris displayed photos of the murals that he created for his Artfully

United foundation. He also had fashion designs and paintings that featured his iconic character Powerful Paul, who can be seen in several of his projects.

"I wanted a character that people resonate with and they recognize as me," Norris said. "Taste of Soul means culture, Black culture to me, food, good energy, good vibes, dance and music."

Robert Wilson showcased photos that he took from the times that he visited Haiti. Friends of his turned the photos into paintings.

"I was looking at some of the paintings, there was some that reminded me a lot like home," said Amashika Lorne, a native of Jamaica. This is the first year she attended Taste of Soul. "These look so vivid, so vibrant."

Keith Anderson uses recycled paper to make his artwork. He noted how he wants to capture the spirit of what he wants to embody. He explained one of his pieces of art that resembled deep listening.

"The ear being like a womb. What we hear takes seed in our spirit," Anderson said. "I'm trying to capture that in some of these images."

Aviante Turner wanted to show people his process by live painting during the Taste Of Soul. The painting was a young boy playing in the free-flowing water of an open fire hydrant.

"I do predominantly oil painting but mixed medium art as well, contemporary, showcasing Black art and Black beauty," Turner said. "Trying to show the struggles that I've seen growing up in the Black community but also trying to showcase us in a brighter light."

Diana Shannon-Young displayed her series "The American Journey" that focuses on civil rights and her "Big Nudes" collection of nude, voluptuous women.

"There's a lot of art lovers here and people that are interested in knowing more," Shannon-Young said. "That's really the key to collecting art and to get



Mike Norris

AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL



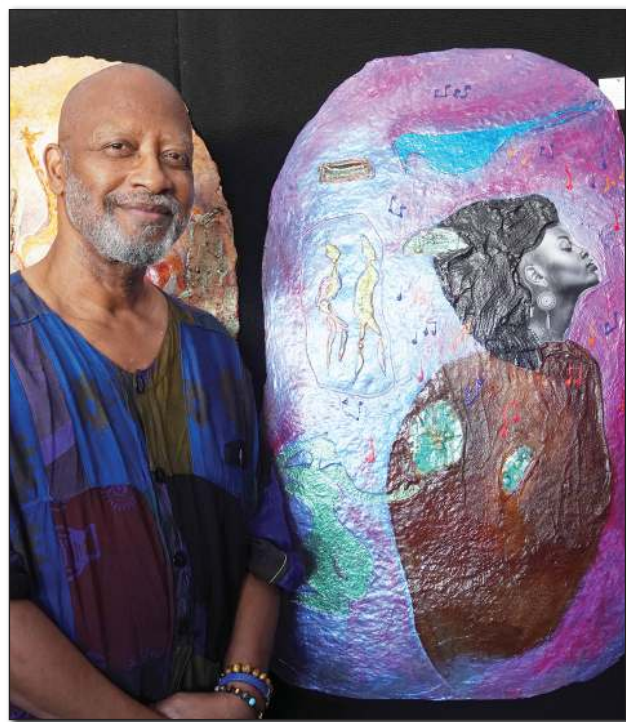
David Brown

AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL



Robert Wilson

AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL



Keith Anderson

AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL



Diana Shannon-Young

AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL

LA THE PORT OF LOS ANGELES

The Port of Los Angeles is a proud sponsor of the Taste of Soul Family Festival

portoflosangeles.org

more people into art, especially people of color."

Aziz Diagne only showed art work that is about Black love. He also owns the Azizgalerie in Leimert Park and teaches art to youth.

"I teach in 42nd Street; every Tuesday we have between 60-120 kids to teach art," Diagne said.

Los Angeles Sentinel political cartoonist David Brown reunited with a former student of his through the Tales from the Kids program.

"I do workshops with young people. They get to create their own stories and write them and illustrate them," Brown said. "I'm

glad that it was a positive influence on him and his career."

At the front of the Pavilion stood a larger-than-life painting of the late Frankie Beverly. Near it is a large painting of U.S.

vice president Kamala Harris. Both were painted by Mohammed Mubarak.

"Danny Bakewell is a really good friend of mine," Mubarak said. "It's through him that he has allowed me to do this."



Aviante Turner

AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL



Aziz Diagne

AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL



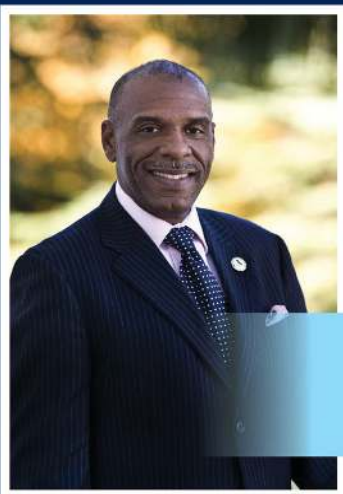
Mohammed Mubarak

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CBM Special Interview: Rep. Barbara Lee Discusses Kamala Harris' Plan for Black Men

By EDWARD HENDERSON
California Black Media

Last week, the Kamala Harris campaign released its Opportunity Agenda for Black Men.

On Oct. 16, California Black Media (CBM) spoke with Harris-Walz campaign surrogate, Congresswoman Barbara Lee (D-CA-12), who shared more insights on Harris' agenda and the importance of securing the Black Male vote.

"She has said very clearly that she wants to earn the vote of everyone. And that means earning the vote of Black men," said Lee of Harris.

"She understands the systemic and historic challenges that Black men have. You haven't heard of a presidential candidate coming up with a concrete actual plan and policy agenda."

The plan's release came after a string of podcast and interview appearances during which Harris shared her plans to tackle several issues that Black men specifically face if elected President.

The agenda includes five focus areas based on insights she gleaned from

hosting discussions with Black men during her Economic Opportunity Tour:

1. Provide one million loans that are fully forgivable to Black entrepreneurs and others disadvantaged groups to start businesses.

2. Champion education, training and mentorship programs that help Black men get good-paying jobs in high-demand industries. It will also develop more accessible pathways for Black men to become teachers.

3. Support a regulatory framework for cryptocurrency and other digital assets so Black men who invest in and own these assets are protected.

4. Launch a National Health Equity Initiative focused on Black men that addresses sickle cell disease, diabetes, mental health, prostate cancer and other health challenges that disproportionately impact them.

5. Legalize recreational marijuana and creating opportunities for Black Americans to succeed in this new industry.

"[Vice President Harris] knows that Black men

have long felt that too often their voice in our political process has gone unheard and that there is so much untapped ambition and



ANTONIO RAY HARVEY/CBM
U.S. Congresswoman Barbara Lee scolds SCOTUS for striking down Affirmative Action on June 29. She is shown here speaking in front of the California Reparations Task Force in Oakland, Calif. on May 6, 2023.

leadership within the Black male community," the language in the agenda states. "Black men and boys deserve a president who will provide the opportunity to unleash this talent and potential by removing historic barriers to wealth creation, education, employment, earnings, health and improving the criminal justice system."

Diving into Harris' agenda, Lee says, reminded her of her own record of supporting Black men over the years as an elected offi-



ANTONIO RAY HARVEY/CBM
U.S. Congresswoman Barbara Lee scolds SCOTUS for striking down Affirmative Action on June 29. She is shown here speaking in front of the California Reparations Task Force in Oakland, Calif. on May 6, 2023.

cial. In the 90's, she established the first California Commission on African American males through which she pressured the state to address urgent economic, health and social challenges specific to Black men.

Harris' agenda was released after some Black men criticized a recent campaign speech by former

President Barack Obama. They accused him of 'scolding' Black men because of their hesitancy to support Harris, suggesting that sexism played a role in their disinterest. The fallout from the former President's comment has left some wondering if the Harris campaign is rolling out the agenda as a response.

"No group of people are a monolithic group of people," said Lee when asked about Obama's speech.

"There were different points of views and different feedback. She stated very clearly that she does not expect anyone to vote for her. She's not taking any vote for granted. I've known her over three decades and I believe she is being herself. She's authentic and she cares about making sure that people, I say not only survive, but thrive," Lee added.

Each of the five key points addressed in the Harris Campaign's agenda, Lee says, has additional clauses that can potentially help Black men and their families thrive. This includes lowering rent; up

to \$25,000 in downpayment help for first time homebuyers; and cutting taxes for Black men in lower-wage jobs by increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit maximum to \$1,500.

Lee says the goal of the Harris-Walz campaign is for more Black men to become "trusted messengers" for the Vice President, explaining her intentions to the community and leverage their own experiences to hold Harris to task for what they are looking for politically.

"I think the messages is one of empowerment for Black men -- regardless of whether they're a blue-collar worker, if they're not working, if they're in business, if they're an entrepreneur, whatever background or whatever they're doing or experiencing life. I think the authenticity of their experience can only be articulated through them," said Lee.

"I think it's important that they be out there talking about what it means to be a Black man in America and how this can be connected to political empowerment," Lee added.

Political Playback: News You Might Have Missed – Oct. 24

By BO TEFU
California Black Media

Gov. Newsom Signs Bill to Ensure Refineries Have Enough Fuel to Avoid Gas Shortages

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a law on Oct. 14 written to help prevent gas prices from spiking to protect consumers. Democrats in the Legislature introduced ABX2-1 to push back on the increasing cost of energy prices and the impacts of climate change by the oil industry.

"With this new law, big oil companies are now responsible for stabilizing prices at the pump," said

price increases when refineries go offline for maintenance.

Newsom said the State Legislature is "not waiting around for the industry to do the right thing."

"We're taking action to prevent these price spikes and save consumers money at the pump. Now, the state has the tools to make sure they backfill supplies and plan ahead for maintenance so there aren't shortages that drive up prices," Newsom said.

Democrats criticized the oil industry for trying to keep the legislation from passing. Lawmakers said that price spikes have cost

United Health Foundation Is Offering \$3,200 Scholarships for Health Care Professionals

The United Health Foundation (UHF) announced the Diversity in Health Care Scholarship program, an initiative offering \$3,200 scholarships to underrepresented healthcare professionals.

The program is part of the foundation's commitment to making the healthcare system work better for students, professionals, and people from diverse backgrounds.

According to UHF, the initiative is designed to help underrepresented health professionals advance their clinical degrees and credentials. The scholarship provides funding for professionals from various clinical fields such as nursing, mental health, physical therapy, dentistry, pharmacy, and medicine. Previous scholarship recipients stated that they are motivated by the desire to serve patients within their respective communities by providing culturally responsive care.

"Experience shows that when patients receive care from health providers who speak their language or understand their cultural needs, they are more responsive and engaged," said Anne Yau, UHF President, in a statement.

"This can lead to better health outcomes, as patients feel safe and trust their health care providers," Yau added.

Since the program launched in 2022, the foundation has provided scholarships to approximately 2,000 students and professionals who want to make a difference in health care. The initiative aims to sponsor 10,000 clinicians by 2033.

Interested health care workers can apply for the scholarship at this website.

California Increase Wages for Health Care Workers

California has increased wages for some of the lowest-paid healthcare workers in the state.

According to the University of California, Berkeley Labor Center, the new minimum-wage increase to \$25 an hour over the next

decade will affect approximately 460,000 workers in the health care industry. Under the new law, which took effect Oct. 16, professionals working at rural independent healthcare facilities will earn a minimum of \$18 an hour immediately. Hospitals with at least 10,000 employees will now have a minimum wage floor of at least \$23 an hour.

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed the law last year, and the wage increase was supposed to take effect on June 1. However, the state budget deficit of nearly \$46 billion at the time caused a delay in implementing the pay increase for some months.

John Logan, professor of Labor and Employment at San Francisco State University, said that the wage increase will help the health care industry retain and recruit workers in an interview with ABC News.

"It's a way of providing something approaching a living wage for hundreds of thousands of workers that didn't have it before," said Logan.

The minimum wage for most workers in California is \$16 and voters will decide in November to increase the rate to \$18 an hour by 2026. Increasing the wage would make the rate the highest statewide minimum wage in the country.

Apply Now: You Can Help to Shape Calif. Transportation Policy by Joining This Board

Last week, California State agencies announced a call for applicants to serve on the Interagency Equity Advisory Committee.

Applications are due by, Dec. 1.

The committee consists of the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA), the California Transportation Commission (Commission), and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

The committee has 15 members who advise, review, and provide recommendations related to transportation plans, programs, and policies. Committee membership is intended to promote diverse and historically marginalized voices in California with the aim of

improving transportation equity.

Toks Omishakin, Secretary of CalSTA said that the Equity Advisory Committee is making a difference through valuable recommendations to the state's transportation system.

The committee has experts from various backgrounds including tribal and indigenous communities. The group also has advocates from community organizations such as climate and air quality, housing justice, as well as environmental justice and equity. The committee will address accessibility disability advocacy and rural area concerns.

Members serve up to two years on the committee and are eligible for a \$100 per diem for their service. Applicants must be residents of California and have experience in developing and implementing community-derived policies in partnership with the government or similar institutions.

For more information on the Equity Advisory Committee, please visit: <https://catc.ca.gov/programs/interagency-equity-advisory-committee>

Secretary of State Weber Urges Californians to Take Advantage of Early Voting

Last week, California Secretary of State (SOS) Shirley N. Weber encouraged voters to submit their ballots early for the upcoming general elections in November.

The SOS's office listed a step-by-step process that voters can follow to complete and return their vote-by-mail ballot.

"California voters are no longer limited to a single day of voting. Why wait in line on Election Day when you have early voting options?" said Secretary Weber. "Once you receive your ballot, complete it, sign the back of the envelope, and then you can return it by mail, drop box, or at any early voting location."

Voters can visit the Secretary of State's official website to view the full list of drop box locations, where they can drop off their vote-by-mail ballot

Eligible citizens can register to vote or update their voter registration online. The last day to register for the Nov. 5 General Election is Oct. 21.

Other important dates for the upcoming elections are listed below:

- Ballot drop-off locations opened on Oct. 8.

- Vote centers open for early in-person voting in all Voter's Choice Act counties beginning on Oct. 26, 2024.

- Mailed vote-by-mail ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by Nov. 12.

Information about county elections offices can be found at sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices.

Upcoming California key deadlines and dates for the Nov. 5, General Election can be found at sos.ca.gov/elections/upcoming-elections/general-election-nov-5-2024/key-dates-deadlines.

The Nov. 5, General Election Calendar can be found at elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/state-wide-elections/2024-primary/section-08-generalelection-calendar.pdf.

California Expands Access to Culturally Based Treatment For Substance Abuse

Gov. Gavin Newsom announced that the state is expanding access to culturally based treatment services for people struggling with substance use disorder.

Recently, the state expanded Medi-Cal coverage to include traditional healthcare practices that help improve the health outcomes of individuals with substance disorders. State data showed that Native Americans are disproportionately impacted by the opioid epidemic with higher death rates caused by overdoses compared to other racial and ethnic groups in the country.

Newsom said that the State wants to help heal the historical wounds inflicted on tribes, including the alarming health disparities between Native communities and other groups.

"By supporting greater access to traditional

{See POLITICAL PLAYBACK on B-7}



ANTONIO RAY HARVEY/CBM
Governor Newsom speaks to the media alongside legislators at the signing of the Gas Spike Prevention Act at the State Capitol on Oct. 14, 2024.

Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas (D-Hollister) after Gov. Newsom signed the law.

According to the American Automobile Association (AAA), California residents pay the highest prices for gas in the U.S. as a result of taxes and added costs resulting from environmental regulations. The average price for unleaded gas in California was approximately \$4.68 per gallon this month, compared to the national average of \$3.20 per gallon.

The bills authors, Assemblymembers Gregg Hart (D-Santa Barbara) and Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (D-Winters) and Sen. Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley) introduced the legislation after the state's Division of Petroleum Market Oversight revealed that gas price spikes are primarily caused by increases in global crude oil prices and unplanned refinery outages. State law allows energy regulators to require that refineries keep certain amounts of fuel on hand to prevent sudden

residents billions of dollars over the years.

Opponents of ABX2-1 argued that the law could unintentionally raise overall gas prices and threaten the safety of workers by giving the state more oversight over refinery maintenance schedules, and a delay in maintenance could lead to accidents.

Catherine Reheis-Boyd, president of the Western States Petroleum Association said policymakers do not understand the oil industry and what drives gas prices.

"Regulators remain fixated on controlling businesses with more taxes, fees, and costly demands," said Reheis-Boyd in a statement.

Following Gov. Newsom's decision to enact the bill, Phillips 66 announced that it will shut down its refinery in Wilmington next year. The state is projected to lose more than 8% of its crude oil processing capacity as a result of the company's cost-saving move to close its refinery.

Prop 3 Aims to Remove Same-Sex Marriage Ban From Calif. Constitution

BY EDWARD HENDERSON
California Black Media

Prop 3 would remove the ban on same-sex marriage from the California Constitution. The ban (Prop 8) was added by voters in 2008; however, the United States Supreme Court has blocked the enforcement of the ban since 2013.

The amendment would remove current language in the state constitution stating that marriage "is only between a man and a woman" and change it to "the right to marry is a fundamental right."

State Sen. Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco) and Assemblymember Evan Low (D-Campbell), both members of the Legislative LGBTQ Caucus, introduced the constitutional amendment as a preemptive protection after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned federal abortion protections in 2022. Justice Clarence Thomas, a conservative, said that the court should also reconsider the constitutionality of same-sex

marriage, but other conservatives on the bench disagreed.

California is currently the home of the nation's largest LGBTQ+ population.

Supporters of the proposition believe the removal of the language in the state constitution would be guaranteed protection against any future attacks on a freedom that is already recognized by the Supreme Court.

Gov. Gavin Newsom is an outspoken supporter of the proposition. Newsom grabbed national attention in 2004 during his tenure as Mayor of San Francisco when he issued marriage licenses to same sex couples, defying a federal ban on gay marriage.

"Same sex marriage is the law of the land and Prop. 8 has no place in our constitution. It's time that our laws affirm marriage equality regardless of who you are or who you love. California stands with the LGBTQ+ community and their right to live freely."



Assemblymember Evan Low, who is part of the team who presented the amendment is on record stating: "California is ready for love, and these protections will protect against any future attempts to restrict marriage rights for same-sex and interracial couples."

Opponents of the proposition argue that Prop 3 is the beginning of a "slippery slope" that could serve as a precedent for other types of non-traditional unions, endangering youth, families and society in general. They also lean on Christian religious text that states marriage is a

union between a man and a woman.

Jonathan Keller, president of California Family Council is on record stating: "In a society like ours, you never can count on what people are willing to do for legal and financial and political reasons. And ACA 3, again, eliminates

any of those safeguards, and it opens up Pandora's Box. You could have siblings getting married. You could have nephews and nieces marrying uncles and aunts. You could have, potentially even mothers and fathers marrying each other, or mothers and children, or fathers and children marrying each other."

A "yes" vote supports this constitutional amendment to:

- repeal Proposition 8 (2008), which defined marriage as a union between one man and one woman, and

- declare that a "right to marry is a fundamental right" in the California Constitution.

A "no" vote opposes this constitutional amendment, thus keeping Proposition 8 (2008), which defined marriage as a union between one man and one woman, in the California Constitution. However, there would be no change to who can currently get married under current California law.

Seven Tips to Prepare You and Your Family for an Earthquake

BY EDWARD HENDERSON
California Black Media

This year's International ShakeOut Day was Oct. 17, when millions of people worldwide participated in earthquake drills at work, school or home. October also marks the 35th anniversary of the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, which devastated the Bay Area. That 6.9 magnitude shock was responsible for 63 deaths and nearly 4,000 injuries.

In the aftermath of disastrous storms on the East Coast and with wildfires still raging here in the West, Listos California, the state's disaster preparedness program, partnered with Ethnic Media Services and California Black Media in partnership to provide vital information to help Californians be prepared in the event of an earthquake.

"Preparing can be about securing your space, having an emergency plan, minimizing your hardship after the fact by having important documents organized and in place," said Amy Palmer, Deputy Director of Crisis

Communications and Public Affairs at the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES).

While earthquakes remain unpredictable, within the next 30 years, scientists predict there is a 60% chance of a 6.7 magnitude quake hitting the Los Angeles region and a 72% chance for the San Francisco Bay region.

The experts say there are seven key safety steps to take to make sure you and your family are prepared for an earthquake:

- Secure your space by identifying hazards and securing movable items.
- Plan to be safe by creating an emergency plan.
- Organize emergency supplies in convenient locations.
- Minimize financial hardship by considering insurance and organizing important documents.
- Drop, Cover and Hold On when shaking begins.
- Improve Safety after earthquakes by evacuating if necessary or helping others.
- Reconnect and restore

daily life by rebuilding community, and reconnecting with others.

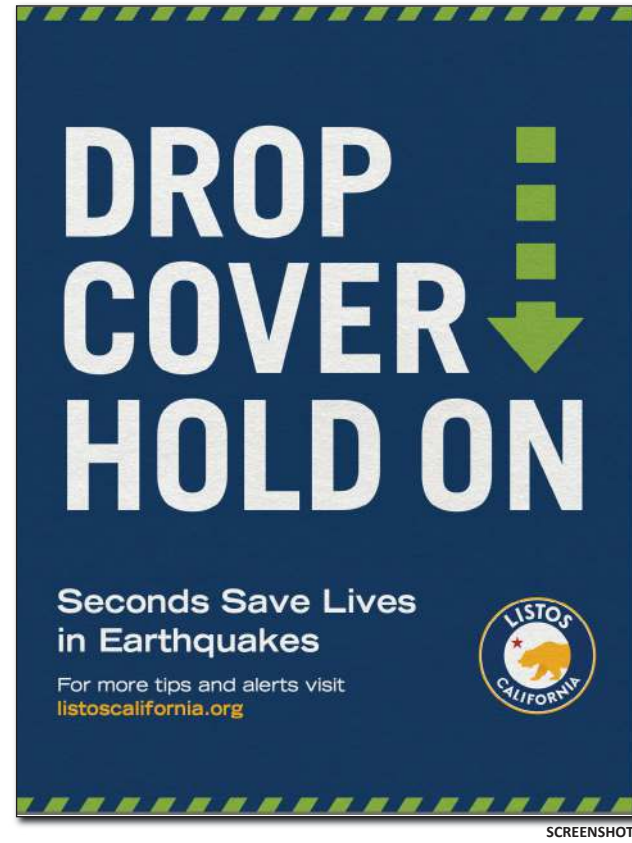
"We've had a number of quakes this year where our system of statewide sensors is giving people a significant number of seconds before the shaking starts," said Palmer. "The key for everyone in California is to make sure that you know the phrase: 'drop, cover, and hold on' so that you can take action when you get an alert on your phone, or you feel the very first indications of shaking."

To further educate and prepare Californians for earthquakes, Cal OES hosted a tour focused on providing life-saving earthquake preparedness tips including a simulator that can demonstrate the power of up to a 7.0 magnitude quake.

"You need to take action upon feeling shaking or receiving an earthquake early warning alert and that means truly drop, cover, hold on," said Jose Lara, Chief of the Seismic Hazards Branch at Cal OES. "We really encourage you to practice that on your own

with your all types of settings. Because without this muscle memory when shaking

survival the campaign aims to dismiss. One is that standing in a doorway is a



ing arrives at your location, you may not take that protective action that you need to stay safe."

There are also several 'myths' about earthquake

safe measure during an earthquake. This is NOT a safe measure due to modern building codes that have strengthened other areas in homes and commercial

buildings. Another myth is that running outside is safer during an earthquake. Due to the danger of falling objects that could strike you on the way out, running outside is not encouraged.

"I think that is the human instinct to get out from a building that you may think is collapsing. But the scientists would say, don't run outside, stay where you are, drop, cover and hold on," said Palmer.

If you find yourself driving during an earthquake, best practice is to pull over safely if you can and wait out the shaking inside of your vehicle while looking out for debris falling onto roadways in mountainous areas.

The MyShake App is another pivotal tool in the state's effort to prepare individuals for an earthquake. The app connects users with the Earthquake Early Warning System designed to give residents warnings seconds before shaking starts.

Some individuals receive alerts up to 20 seconds before shaking begins.

POLITICAL PLAYBACK {Continued from B-6}

medicine and healing, we are taking another step toward a healthier, brighter future," said Newsom.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved medical coverage for two new categories of interventions under state law in partnership with tribal partners. The first intervention will be provided by traditional healers using methods such as spiritual ceremonies, music therapy and herbal remedies. The second intervention works with natural helpers offering navigational support, psychological skill building, self-management and trauma support.

Tyler Sadwith, California State Medicaid Director, said Indigenous people, "now have access to culturally based traditional healing practices through Medi-Cal, marking a historic step toward health equity and honoring the rich traditions of our diverse Native communities."

A study by the National Council of Urban Indian

Health showed that culturally centered approaches help enhance engagement and recovery outcomes.

Black and Latino Men Lag in Developmental Education, Study Reveals

Black and Latino men have the lowest educational attainment in the state, according to a report on developmental education reform by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC). Recent state data shows that only 13% of Latino and 16% of Black men between the ages of 22 and 27 have at least a bachelor's degree, according to the report.

The level of educational attainment of Black and Latino women is nearly double that of their male counterparts.

When it comes to college enrollment and completion, "persistence may be the biggest challenge for Latino and Black men," with more than half of them leaving college without a degree or transferring.

The State Legislature

implemented Assembly Bill 705, a law that mandated reforms in developmental education. The reforms allowed historically underrepresented students such as Black and Latino Men to use community colleges as a primary gateway to higher education. The data also revealed that Black and Latino men lag in educational attainment compared to White and Asian students.

"The implications of the growing racial gap in bachelor's degree attainment are significant, considering that a growing share of California's future labor force will come from these groups," the report stated regarding the future contributions of Black and Latino men.

In California, community colleges are the primary access point to higher education for Black and Latino students. Most underrepresented students transfer to a four-year institution to attain a bachelor's degree. However, state data shows that transfer rates remain low among Black and Latino

male students, and few students succeed in their goal to transfer and pursue a bachelor's degree.

Despite the low college graduation rates among Black and Latino students, AB705 has helped reform developmental education. The study recommended that institutions of higher learning create and implement initiatives that help connect students to academic and student services, including resources that cultivate a broader sense of belonging for men of color.

Conservative Group Targets LAUSD Program for Black Students

A conservative group in Virginia filed a federal civil rights complaint against the Los Angeles Unified School District, demanding that it end racial preferences in a program aimed at helping low-performing Black students.

Supporters of the Black Student Achievement Plan have condemned this political move and insist that the program to be preserved in

its original form.

However, under pressure, the LAUSD has decided to overhaul the \$120 million academic program for Black students by removing race as a factor that determines which children will get help in public schools.

The Virginia-based group, Parents Defending Education, wants to overhaul the program, alleging that it violates the Constitution and the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by providing additional education services based on a student's race. The group filed the complaint in July 2023, arguing that its mission is to oppose "destructive practices" in schools regarding policies related to race, sexual orientation and gender identity.

"The Los Angeles Unified School District is offering race-based programming for some students that is not open to all," stated the group in an online post.

However, the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights dismissed the complaint on

July 11. The department stated that that the LAUSD revised the criteria for the program from being centered on race to basing it on achievement, school environment survey, and absenteeism.

Supporters of the academic program, such as Ebony Batiste, a teacher at 74th Street Elementary School in South L.A., argued that the program is a form of restorative justice.

"There's a lot of historical and systemic inequities that, if we're not going to address them, Black children are going to continue to fail," said Batiste to the LA Times. "Sometimes I feel like every time we try, our hands are tied behind our back, and we're not being allowed to help the children that need help."

Following the dismissal of the complaint, the LAUSD intends to continue working with Black students and support other students with similar academic needs under the revamped program.



ENTERTAINMENT

Bakewell Media Sounds for the Soul Stage Totally Rocked Crenshaw Blvd.!

By TROY TIEUEL
Contributing Writer

The Taste of Soul Family Festival, now in its 19th year, transformed Crenshaw Boulevard into a vibrant showcase of culture, music, and community spirit. Founded by Danny J. Bakewell Sr., this festival has become an indispensable symbol of pride and cultural identity in Los Angeles, drawing an audience of hundreds of thousands each year.

This year, the Bakewell Media Sounds for the Soul Stage presented by Chevrolet hosted an array of musical performances under the



Taste of Soul 2024 Dignitaries group shot BM Stage #1.

E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

diverse lineup, including Resort. California Secretary of State Dr. Shirley Weber

Governor Eleni Kounalakis highlighted the importance of active political participation saying, "After enjoying today's festival, I'll be getting ready to vote. It's imperative that we all engage and help elect leaders who represent our values, like Kamala Harris for President."

Sharing her personal connection to the festival, Celebrity Chair Tiffany Haddish declared, "It's a joy to be here. It's more than a festival; it's a community celebration!" Haddish also cited her efforts to uplift the community through her She Ready Foundation.

Los Angeles Mayor



TROY TIEUEL

Karen Bass praised the festival's community impact. "Taste of Soul not only cele-

brates our cultural diversity but also unites us in our common values and aspirations. It's a reflection of the best of Los Angeles," she said. Expressing his pride in the peaceful and festive atmosphere, Bakewell noted, "I founded Taste of Soul, but truly, it's the community that has taken ownership and propelled this event into a cultural landmark."

As the event wound down, Bakewell urged attendees to stay engaged in the democratic process, rein-



IAN FOX

clear California sky. The day started with the energetic USC Marching Band, setting a lively tone with their robust renditions of fight songs.

The festival offered a

contemporary hits by DW3. Highlight of the day, L. Young captivated the audience with "Trouble Man: A Tribute to Marvin Gaye," also announcing upcoming shows at Pala Casino Spa &

emphasized the importance of each vote, stating, "Every vote casts a line towards the future we all share. It's crucial for everyone to engage and shape the path forward." California Lieutenant

Bakewell Media Stage— The 'Season' in the 'Soul'

By ZON D'AMOUR
Contributing Writer

If there were one word to sum up the performances at the Bakewell Media "Sounds of the Soul" Stage, it would be, "legendary." To be able to perform in front of thousands of people nearly fifty years after the release of your first single is nothing short of iconic. The Bakewell Media Stage presented by Chevrolet and hosted by 94.7 The WAVE was the place where timeless talent resides as seen through exhilarating performances by Klymaxx, Troop, and Tony! Toni! Toné!

Originally founded in 1979, Klymaxx's set seamlessly intertwined their hits including, "Meeting in the Ladies Room," "Girls Will Be Girls," and "Love Me," with other empowering anthems including Chaka Khan's "I'm Every Woman" and Teena Marie's "Square Biz."

Lead vocalist Christie "Mirraje" Malone captivated the crowd when she left the stage and performed while walking through the crowd. When asked about the importance of having such interactive experiences with their fans, Mirraje said, "It's about being authentic and genuine with everything that we do. Every lyric that we sing, every piece of music that we play, is all genuine. It comes from the heart, and we want everyone else to love it as much as we do."

Echoing similar sentiments about their unwavering love for music was the group Troop. Renowned for their songs, "Spread My Wings," and "All I Do Is Think of You," the Pasadena natives shared their advice for aspiring artists. Member Rodney Benford said, "Not only is it a lot of work, there are a lot of things to understand. You can't just say, 'I want to be a

star' without learning your craft, learning the business, and being humble."

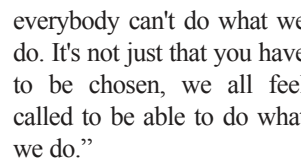
Member Jon Harrell added that in order to find continuous success in this industry, "It has to be the will of God for your life, any and



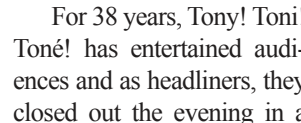
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everybody can't do what we do. It's not just that you have to be chosen, we all feel called to be able to do what we do."

For 38 years, Tony! Toni! Toné! has entertained audiences and as headliners, they closed out the evening in a powerful way. This was the second time the group performed at Taste of Soul.

Founding member Dwayne Wiggins remarked how the festival has grown since their last appearance and he also mentioned that being in L.A. reminds him of his hometown.

"As I was walking down Crenshaw Boulevard with the band I was like, 'Man I feel like I'm in Oakland right now,'" Wiggins said.

"We heard how much the festival had expanded and we're honored to be here. With all of this movement that our folks are making together, we're always glad to be able to come out and be



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a part of something historic." Wiggins alongside Dyson "The Singer" Tate and Frank Stickemz wore white to honor the legacy of the late Frankie Beverly, who Wiggins cited as his inspiration to continue to perform for the rest of his life.

The group blessed the stage with many of their timeless hits including "Me & You," "Anniversary," "It Never Rains," "Pillow," "Let's Get Down," "Whatever You Want," and concluded with "Feels Good" mixed with the Sly & The Family Stone "Dance to the Music" along with Dr. Dre and 2Pac's "California Love."



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KJLH Stage Dominates at the 19th Annual Taste of Soul

By ZON D'AMOUR
Contributing Writer

For the 19th year, the Taste of Soul reiterated why it's the preeminent destination for food, family, fun and culture.

Thousands flocked to the KJLH stage for an all-star lineup of performances that included Nicole Kelly, the KJLH Choir, James Wright, Lena Byrd Miles, Brent Jones, J.Brown, Andra Day, Club Nouveau, Jon B with Devin Morrison, Dirty Rice and a special guest appearance by Eric Benet.

Producer and co-host of KJLH's Tammi Mac show, Emmitt McGee III kicked off the morning sharing his excitement for the day's festivities.

"The Taste of Soul is a staple in Los Angeles and L.A. culture. Every year the whole city pours out and it's



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always good to see a collective of Black folks of all different shades and sizes, coming out to have a peaceful good time with good food

and good music," he said. Echoing similar sentiments was fellow KJLH radio personality, Guy Black, who invited Grammy Award Winning actress Andra Day, star of the new film,



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"Exhibiting Forgiveness," to grace the KJLH stage.

"I'm excited to see our listeners, as well as the people that read the Sentinel and follow Bakewell Media. It's amazing that so many people come out and see us every year. I think Taste of Soul is the largest free event in the country," said Black.

Performer James Wright is known for singing background vocals for Grammy-nominated singer, Tamar Braxton. The Taste of Soul allowed him to showcase his electrifying talent center stage.

"This was special because I'm from here and it's always a great experience to perform in front of your people," said the South Central native.

Morning show host Adai Lamar had the honor of announcing Taste of Soul founder Danny J. Bakewell

Sr. and a plethora of city leaders and festival sponsors. "I get to tell Mr. Bakewell that we have a very special message for him and we're going to surprise him with a message from Vice

President Kamala Harris to thank him for what he does for our community. His efforts haven't gone unnoticed in higher places, they see what he's doing and what we all do together to make this happen," said Lamar.



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Bakewell was joined on stage with Mayor Karen Bass, Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis, Secretary of State Shirley Weber, Supervisor Holly Mitchell, former L.A. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, and many more elected officials who all encouraged attendees to vote

for Presidential nominee Kamala Harris on November 5.

"Register everyone you know to vote and let your voice be your guide and let your vote be your voice,"



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said Bakewell.

Explaining how KJLH decides what artists will grace their stage, renowned radio personality Tammi Mac shared, "It's not hard to find talent to be a part of Taste of Soul because they want to let the community know that they haven't left us so it's really a joy for them to be able to perform. So, whenever we ask and their schedule aligns, it's always a yes."

Speaking of yeses, legendary singer, Eric Benet shared what coming to Taste of Soul means to him.



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"It's Black people celebrating life," he said.

"KJLH has done so much for me personally as well as the community so

whatever they ask of me, I'm there because, it's for the culture, it's for the community, it's for my people and it's for L.A."

Radio Free KJLH 102.3 Stage Makes History with Frankie Beverly Tribute By Durti Ryce

By DANIELLA MASTERTSON
Contributing writer

The Taste of Soul Family Festival, in partnership with Radio Free KJLH, is the music industry's premier street festival, marking 19 years of unparalleled performances of gospel, funk, and R&B.

But this year may be one of the most memorable as the station honored Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass with the Cultural Icon Award and paid homage to a musical icon Frankie Beverly and Maze only days after his passing.



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to the elected officials standing behind her. "...because the only way we get things done is when we're all standing together. We stand together and we work together on behalf of our community."

Brent Jones and a full choir to raise the praise with tracks from his "Live Your Best Life" album, transforming the festival into an open-air church.

J. Brown brought the sizzle with his sensual hits such as "If You Could See You" and engaged the ladies with some hand-holding serenading. Andra Day had the



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audience spellbound with her beauty and social justice hit "Rise Up" and more.

Audiences danced in the aisle with pleasure dance tunes from Club Nouveau's hits like "Rumor."

Devin Morison provided a refreshing ethereal blend of R&B. A KJLH favorite,



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The first African American woman to hold the revered position, Bass reminded attendees that the election was only 17 days away and encouraged them to vote.

"What you see up here is unity," said Bass, referring



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After the mayor exited the stage, the audience was back on its feet enjoying more great music by artists we know and love.

Known for its "Spread The Word" program, KJLH presented gospel sensation

John B turned up the temperature with his chart-topping smooth hits "Don't Talk."

Saving the best for last, the audience was treated to a tribute to Frankie Beverly by Durti Ryce. Beverly's music influenced a generation and left an enduring legacy. Lead singer Deron channeled the singer's baritone voice in mesmeric perfection. It was clear that Durti Ryce recognized the immense importance this tribute meant to Beverly's fans given the recent passing of the charismatic singer "I'm going to keep him



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'The Piano Lesson' Strikes A Powerful Note in Key of Life

BY DANIELLA MASTERSON
Contributing Writer

Legacy, identity, cultural heritage, and all of the tragedies, pain, and family strife within it are some of the themes woven together to create a tapestry of the Black experience in August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama, "The Piano Lesson."

Director Gregg T. Daniel is staging "The Piano Lesson" at A Noise Within (ANW) located at 3352 E. Foothill Blvd. in Pasadena. Performances began on October 19 and will continue through November 10.

Daniel has found a willing partner with ANW which is committed to staging all 10 of Wilson's American Century Cycle plays. A formidable alliance, Daniel has created an avenue for Black actors and himself to fulfill a dream of working on Wilson's literary treasures.

"I have directed six of the 10 in the cycle; however, with ANW, which is committed to doing all ten plays in the Century Cycle, this is our fifth," said Daniel who has directed "Gem of the Ocean," "Fences" (which won the



Evan Lewis Smith, Kai A. Ealy, and Gerald C. Rivers in "The Piano Lesson."

NAACP Theater Award for "Best Director"), "Radio Golf," "King Hedley II," and now this new installment.

"We are doing one play per season. And I must say that the audience is growing more and more as we're creating this hotbed of interest in Wilson because we're bringing one play every season," added Daniel.

Daniel said that interest

in Wilson remains strong because he is a "master playwright" who deals with universal themes of the human condition such as love, family, and reconciling a painful past.

The theatre had requested the play years ago, but Wilson's estate, rans by Wilson's widow, Constanza Romero, said it wasn't available since other productions were running, namely Denzel Washing-

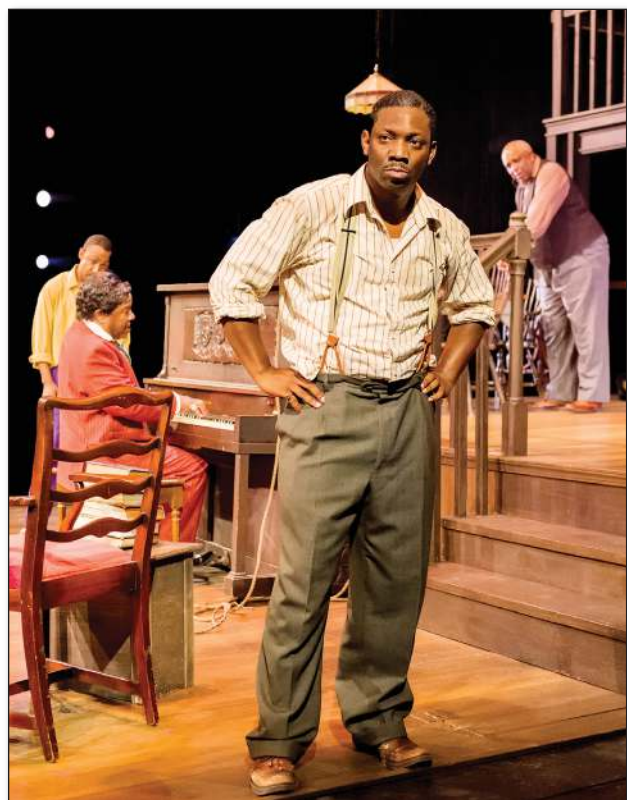
ton's Netflix production

Mrs. Wilson came to "King Hedley II" (ANW last play by Wilson) and loved it and was quite enthusiastic about it," said Daniel. "So hopefully that anoints us in some way and have the blessing to continue the cycle," he added.

"The Piano Lesson" is the fourth of Wilson's extraordinary 10 play "American Century Cycle" and the second to win a

Pulitzer Prize. Set in 1936, Boy Willie wants to sell the family's antique piano which is covered with carvings detailing the family's

The theatre is holding a Black Out Night performance on Thursday, October 24, for people who self-identify as Black. Tickets



Boy Willie wants to sell the family's antique piano, but his sister wants to hold on to it.

rise from slavery.

But his sister wants to hold on to it. Boy Willie tries to persuade his stubborn sister that the past is past, but she is more formidable and wants to hold on to the family heirloom.

include a post-show reception; non-Black-identifying patrons are welcome to attend.

For more information and to purchase tickets, call (626) 356-3100 or visit www.anoisewithin.org.

Panel Discussion Highlights Power of Black Women in Politics at "Respect My Crown" Screening

BY LILA BROWN
Contributing Writer

At the recent screening of "Respect My Crown: The Rise of African American Women in California

Politics," an engaging panel discussion unfolded, spotlighting the untold stories of Black women who have shaped the state's political landscape.

The event, held at the

historic Wilshire Ebelle Theatre, was co-hosted by the California Black Women's Collective Empowerment Institute and The Ebelle of Los Angeles, drawing a crowd eager to hear from

the filmmakers and political leaders featured in the documentary.

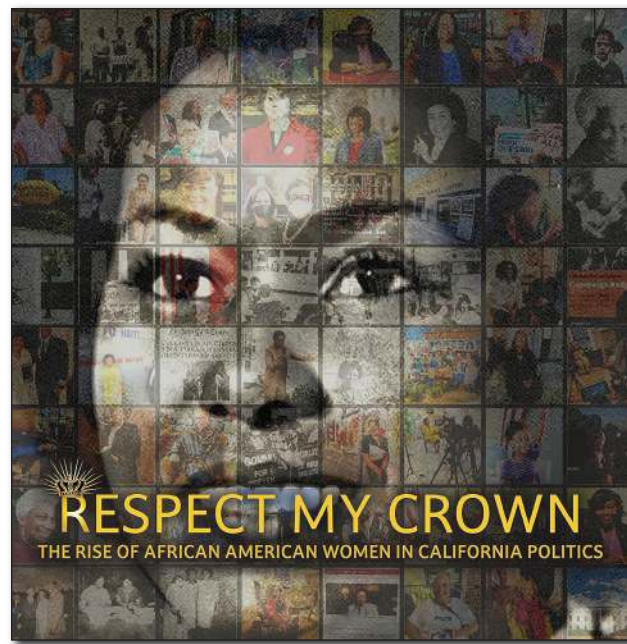
The panel, moderated by Kellie Todd Griffin, President and CEO of the California Black Women's Collective Empowerment Institute, featured Producer Alisa Covington and Producer/Director Pamela Bright-Moon. They were joined by Los Angeles County Supervisor Holly Mitchell, who appears in the film. The discussion centered on the critical role Black women have played in California politics, their challenges, and the importance of mentorship and community support.

Pamela Bright-Moon explained the inspiration behind the documentary, stating, "These stories have not been told, particularly about Black women and what it took to get them into office. We wanted to highlight the sacrifices and determination of these women who not only broke barriers but continue to uplift others as they navigate the political landscape."

Mitchell, whose journey in public service is featured in the film, emphasized the significance of Black women's presence in political spaces.

"If you are not in the room, your voice is not heard," Mitchell said, recalling her own experiences as a trailblazer in the California State Legislature. She highlighted the critical need for Black women to occupy leadership roles, ensuring that policies reflect the needs of the communities they represent.

"We could never allow



COURTESY PHOTO

ourselves to be absent from these spaces again," she added, noting how the absence of Black women in the legislature had a direct impact on policymaking.

Mitchell also touched on the importance of mentorship in her career, saying, "I am a beneficiary of Black female mentorship. These women were the firsts, and they pulled me into rooms where I could learn and grow." Her reflections underscored the documentary's theme of sisterhood and the importance of lifting each other up.

The panelists also discussed the historical context of the documentary, which chronicles 170 years of struggle by African American women in California for political representation. Covington pointed out that California was not always seen as a progressive state.

"It was a very conservative state with strict laws and redlining," she said, adding that the women featured in the documentary fought against these barriers

to create pathways for themselves and others.

Bright-Moon highlighted the ongoing efforts to preserve these stories for future generations. "We are in conversations to ensure that these interviews and stories are archived in the California archives and state libraries," she said.

"It's important that these women's voices live on, inspiring young people to step into leadership roles."

As the event concluded, the conversation turned toward the future of the documentary. "Respect My Crown" is set to make its mark at the 6th Annual Micheaux Film Festival, held at the Culver Theater in Culver City from October 21-27. The film's selection for the prestigious festival marks an important milestone in amplifying the voices of Black women leaders in California.

The Micheaux Film Festival will feature a diverse lineup of over 300 projects, showcasing both in-person and online. As the festival celebrates its sixth year, "Respect My Crown" promises to continue inspiring audiences and shining a light on the powerful contributions of African American women in politics.

For more information on the Micheaux Film Festival and to view the film, visit the film's feature at the festival: <https://www.micheauxfilm-fest.com/feature-respect-my-crown/>

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2024

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D-1

19th Annual Taste of Soul's Huge Success: Kids don't want to leave Taste of Soul Children's World

BY BETTI HALSELL Staff Writer/Digital News Editor

Los Angeles' Taste of Soul Family Festival has a reputation for uniting the city's vibrant soul cuisine, music and culture, but one part of the event stands out—the Taste of Soul's Children's World. Each year, this dedicated space offers entertainment, education and creativity that captivates children and families.



Owen Garcia, California First 5 Tour manager, shared why it was essential to invest in the South L.A. community.

On Saturday, Oct. 19, kids pulled their parents toward Children's World. Thanks to California First 5, people of all ages enjoyed fun activities like face painting, giant Tic-Tac-Toe, iPad games, and other fair games like basketball hoop toss and ring toss.

Owen Garcia, California First 5 tour manager, shared why it was important to



JEVONE MOORE/L.A. SENTINEL

invest in the South L.A. community by providing the best opportunity for fun for the families attending the Taste of Soul Family Festival.

"We felt it was important to come into the com-



L-R Mia Moreno, Yessenia Villacorta, Mayra Dwyer and Lewis Dwyer.

munity and tell everybody about toxic stress in the home because it's so important that it's acknowledged at an early age-if it goes untreated, kids can grow up



Each year, Children's World offers entertainment, education, and creativity that captivates children and families.

with cognitive issues in school and other problems that arise from a toxic, stressful environment at home," Garcia said.



BETTI HALSELL/L.A. SENTINEL

Garcia explained First 5 provides a helpline with live agents that parents can call for advice.

"The end game is to put the word out there that you are not by yourself, and we (California First 5) are here to support you with any needs you have in terms of helping the household from toxic stress," Garcia said.

A little girl named Mia Moreno was upset with her mom, Yessenia Villacorta, when she told her they had to leave Children's World.

"She (Mia) loved it; she loved all the games and the toys. We love that it's family-friendly, and honestly, it's good for whoever comes, so

World. "We liked the inflatable games; we've never seen that before," Juliana Sobral, mother of Bishop, Murs,



BETTI HALSELL/L.A. SENTINEL

Surf, and Jungle Sobral-Carter.

Nick Carter, father of the Sobral-Carter children, said, "It (Children's World) made our experience good. It's a fair trade; we get to come



BETTI HALSELL/L.A. SENTINEL

People of all ages enjoyed fun activities like face painting, giant Tic-Tac-Toe, iPad games, and other fair games like basketball hoop toss and ring toss.

here and get something to eat, and they (the children) have fun. It's not just about the food, which is kind of boring to the kids."

"The Bakewell family has always supported Bowers and Son's cleaners in South Central for many years; they supported us for many years and really appreciate the support of the community and throwing events like this and supporting Black businesses-walking the walk and talking the talk," Carter said.

Also, Children's World, sponsored by California First 5, hosted many fun activities for people of all ages, such as face painting, inflatable games, and a slime making station. And Music was provided by 94.7 The WAVE.

Taste of Soul Children's World is a family-friendly section of the more considerable Taste of Soul event. It is designed to provide a safe and interactive space for children to engage with their

culture, learn new things, and have fun. The area had something for everyone, from interactive art stations to a dancing area. Whether a parent seeking to inspire their child's creativity or simply looking for a way to keep little ones entertained, Children's World delivered both excitement and learning.

Other sponsors of the Taste of Soul Family Festival include Bank of America, Waymo, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, LADWP, UDW-AFSCME Local 3930 Wells Fargo, Southern California Edison, Cedars-Sinai, SEIU Local 2015, UCLA Health, Pasadena City College, MLK Community Healthcare, Brotherhood Crusade, U.S. Bank, Kaiser Permanente, Vallarta Supermarkets, InnovAge California PACE Crenshaw Center, USC, California Teachers Association, Watts Health Care, Los Angeles Community College District,

Charles R. Drew University, AT&T, Los Angeles Dodgers, Black Girl Sunscreen, Los Angeles Public Library, Habitat for Humanity LA, OneLegacy, Pantages/Centerstage Group, Black Girl Sunscreen, Cal Fire, California Conservation Corps, California Black Media, Pet Food Express, Umpqua Bank, SEIU 721, Lee Andrews Group, W. King Healthcare Group, CA Yimby, Target, Comerica Bank, California Highway Patrol, DoorDash, Los Angeles Football Club, First 5 L.A., Center for Healthcare Rights, LA San-

itation, West Basin Municipal Water District, UTLA, 97.1 KNX, K-Earth 101, KTWV, L.A. Care, Neighborhood Housing Services.

Taste of Soul partners include Bakewell Media, Los Angeles Sentinel, Mothers In Action, Radio FREE 102.3 KJLH, CBS2/KCAL9, 94.7 The WAVE, Brotherhood Crusade, LAUSD, LA Department of Transportation, Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza, City of L.A., County of L.A., Los Angeles Bureau of Street Services, and Western States Carpenters.



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Simon Burris: Africana Diaspora Black History Month II Crossword

AFRICANA 101 (2)

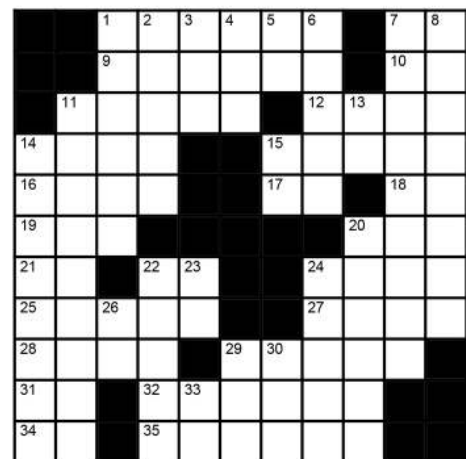
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Across

- 1. **Vice President Harris
7. Civil Service, for short
9. **Barack, Michelle, Malia and Sasha
10. Low Profile (abbr.)
11. No Dated Optics (initials)
12. His or hers (_ _ _ R)
14. Beneficiary
15. Creek
16. Air Force Anti-Tank (initials)
17. Hey!
18. **The Audacity of Ho _ _ (Obama)
19. North East Kansas (initials)
20. **Usher's home town _ _ LAS, TX
21. No Result (abbr.)
22. Long Beach, _ _
24. Bible: N _ _ _ STAMENT
25. New York city
27. Pink, as a steak
28. **Bible Institute Account, briefly
29. **African home land of President Obama's father
31. @
32. Dracula's bed
34. **51, to Afro-Roman Pope Victor I
35. ** _ _ bean (originated in Kaffa, Ethiopia)

Down

- 1. Alaskan island
2. Call off
3. Atlas page
4. Brief amount
5. _ _ Mesa, Calif.



- 6. Houston baseball player
7. **Famed African queen of films
8. **Film director and actor
11. **Egyptian queen; King Tut's mother-in-law
13. **Lester _ _ It: NBC News anchor
14. **African general who invaded Spain and Italy with war elephants (218 BC)
15. "Be _ _ my side"
20. **Actor "The Rock" Johnson
22. Letters and letters
23. **Tennis great Ashe's monogram
24. Boy's name
26. Laugh, sometimes
29. Knoxville film festival (abbr.)
30. Very bad class grade
33. Scoreless tie (sports)

(ANSWERS ON F-1)



L-R Nick Carter, Bishop Sobral-Carter, Murs Sobral-Carter, Surf Sobral-Carter, Jungle Sobral-Carter, Juliana Sobral.

Compton Cowboys Lead Voter Registration Event, Urge Local Civic Engagement

BY LILA BROWN
 Contributing Writer

The Compton Cowboys Ranch became a beacon for civic participation on Oct. 13, bringing together the community for a powerful voter registration drive led by actress and activist Malynda Hale.

The event, filled with live music, food, and a

engagement is the path to real change.

"This is my first time organizing a voter registration drive," Hale shared. "When people realize that their voices matter, especially in the Black and Brown communities, they will take action. That's why I'm here—because our voices matter."

For Savvy and the

encouraging attendees to vote early and to actively participate in shaping the future of their city.

Benjamin Toney, a Ph.D. candidate in Urban Planning and Development at USC, reflected on Compton's growth, remarking, "We have elders here today who remember when all of this area was agricultural land, and we also have



LILA BROWN/L.A. SENTINEL

Many people attended the voter registration event.

strong sense of purpose, emphasized the importance of local elections and the critical role every vote plays in shaping the future of Compton and beyond.

Hale, a prominent voice in activism, collaborated with the Compton Cowboys, a group known for using equestrian culture to positively influence inner-city youth. Special guests, including actor James Pickens Jr. ("Grey's Anatomy"), Mayor Emma Shariff, and Randy Savvy, founder of the Compton Cowboys, joined the effort, sending a unified message - civic

Compton Cowboys, civic engagement is woven into the fabric of their movement. "Our goal has always been to connect the community to something greater," Savvy said. "Voter registration is part of that. We want Compton residents to realize the power they hold, especially in local elections."

Mayor Emma Shariff echoed these sentiments. "The more reason we should vote is because our ancestors died for this right. Every ballot is a step toward ensuring our voices are heard," Shariff said,

young folks, some of whom may be voting for the first time. This event is a perfect example of Compton's history meeting Compton's promise, and by building civic engagement into our culture, we can all impact the development of our communities into the future."

As the day continued, attendees were encouraged to register to vote, enjoy performances, and support Black-owned businesses, all while being reminded that their civic duty extends far beyond presidential elections. Hale emphasized



LILA BROWN/L.A. SENTINEL

Malynda Hale, right, poses with a guest during the event.

the importance of local elections, pointing out that infrastructure, education, and healthcare access are shaped by decisions made at the local level.

"The president doesn't have as much power as people think," Hale noted. "It's the local city council, the school board—those are the people who directly impact our communities."

The event concluded with a renewed sense of hope for Compton, as residents and community leaders stood together, ready to make their voices heard at the polls. The Compton Cowboys and their partners succeeded in fostering a



LILA BROWN/L.A. SENTINEL

From left are Jim Pickens, Compton Mayor Emma Shariff and Randy Savvy, founder/owner of Compton Cowboys.

day of unity, pride, and determination, reminding everyone that the future of Compton rests in their

hands. While much attention is often given to national elections, it's the local votes that directly impact daily life in Compton. The allocation of funds for infrastructure projects, education reform, healthcare services, and housing developments all stem from local policies and decisions. By focusing on civic engagement, events like the one at the Compton Cowboys Ranch aim to shift the narrative and encourage

residents to realize the power they have within their own community.

As Randy Savvy put it, "We want Compton to evolve to its next chapter, and that starts with every resident realizing their role in shaping that future."

For those who couldn't make it to the event, the message remains the same: Register, vote, and make a difference. With ongoing efforts like these, Compton is well on its way to a brighter future.



LILA BROWN/L.A. SENTINEL

A Compton Cowboy member feeds one of the horses.

FUTURE ICONS

Shawn Jones-Murray: Dancing Through Life



COURTESY PHOTO

Shawn Jones-Murray

BY NATHAN J. LEE
 Contributing Writer

Forget counseling, Shawn Jones-Murray lets his feet do the talking. Born in Minneapolis and raised

in Chicago, he grew up in a family where dance was not just a hobby, it was a way to end arguments and keep the peace. When the music dropped, the bickering stopped, and Shawn

learned early on that movement speaks louder than words ever could.

"Dance is a conversation, it's a love language, it's therapy," Shawn explains, clearly not here for your average two-step. What started as a kid mimicking music video moves turned into a way for him to process life's wild rollercoaster, from joy to rage. Dance became more than just steps, but words in movement.

As a dance teacher, one of Shawn's first gigs was at Let's Dance Studio in North Dakota. Eventually, his passion led him to Los Angeles, where he aimed to turn that love into a full-blown career. But L.A. isn't easy, it is packed with dreamers, and Shawn found himself facing a familiar enemy: self-doubt. "Sometimes I forget who I am," he admits. Even the most talented among us have those 'what am I doing here?' moments.

Shawn's ultimate goal is to book a major music video or tour; an opportunity he believes would be truly life changing. "That would just build my confidence," he admits, echoing the sentiments of many in his position. People around him constantly tell him he is a star, but that belief is something he is still working on fully embracing. At home, he is dancing freely, telling stories with his body, feeling free. But the moment he steps into a class, something shifts.

"I get so caught up in perfecting the choreography, I forget who I am," Shawn says. Being booked for something major is validation and trust. "I feel like I would walk into rooms different, with my head held higher," he shares. It would mean a nice paycheck and a feeling of finally arriving and belonging.

Despite any lingering doubts, dance remains Shawn's greatest strength. Whether teaching jazz funk to teenagers or engaging in spontaneous sessions with friends, dance is where his passion truly lies. His journey of self-discovery, however, is still unfolding.

"For me, I feel like I am someone who is just finding out who I am as an artist," he reflects, acknowledging the evolving nature of his identity. Shawn resists being confined by labels or defined by a single role.

"I wanted to be a choreographer, a rapper, and then I wanted to sing," he says with a laugh, illustrating his belief that creative boundaries simply do not apply to him. Instead, he absorbs inspiration from the world around him and expresses it in whatever form feels most authentic. For Shawn, labels are irrelevant; artistic expression knows no limits.

In the end, Shawn's advice is both practical and powerful: 'Believe in yourself more than the next person

believes in you.' For him, it all starts with the little things—the discipline of waking up early, making your bed, and tackling those small, everyday tasks.

"It's the little things that build the confidence within yourself and the discipline within yourself," he says. Those small habits create the

foundation for bigger achievements. And when it comes to growth, Shawn insists, "Do the things you don't want to do. Do not get comfortable. Make yourself very, very uncomfortable." Whether it's showing up to the toughest classes or mastering the basics, he believes that embracing the uncomfortable is where real progress happens. As Shawn puts it, "Those hard classes are where you're going to grow."

For the latest updates, dance videos, and music follow Shawn Jones-Murray on Instagram @shawnjworld and on SoundCloud as Autumn Artist.



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D-3

Mothers' Actions, God's Love Showcased on Brenda Marsh-Mitchell Gospel Stage

By JOANIE HARMON
Contributing Writer

Bright fuchsia banners graced with an image of the late Brenda Marsh-Mitchell and a blue mid-October sky provided a natural cathedral for the Taste of Soul's Gospel Stage, named for the festival's co-founder, president, and primary organizer for the first eight years of its existence.

Marsh-Mitchell was also the creator of Mothers in Action, a nonprofit she co-founded with L.A. Sentinel Executive Publisher Danny J. Bakewell, Sr. and Lillian Mobley, that seeks to improve the lives of children and families in the South Los Angeles community. The organization,



The Divine Praise Dancers, from left, are Kvyona McNeal, Aiden Price, founder Melanie Perry, Taylor Potts, Amari Price, and Brielle McCalla.



Mothers in Action volunteers Stephanie McFaddin and Ebony McRae.



Grammy-winning vocalist and composer Joslynn James.



Violinist and composer Lady Zhe.



RICKEY BROWN



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CHRISTIAN NAJEE BROWN

Grammy Awards, for background vocals on "Ain't It Fun," by Paramore, and for vocals on SZA's "Gone Girl."

"Joslynn has been singing since she was four years old," said Watson, who flew in from Oklahoma to cheer her daughter on at Taste of Soul, accompanied by James' son. "My father before he passed, was a pastor, and we invested thousands of dollars in her at an early age for vocal lessons. Her voice is very articulate, she is very powerful."


DJ Count set the beat for the Gospel Stage, and special guest Sr. Pastor Greg Tyler led the audience in prayer, with fervent hopes for peace and pros-

perity for the community. Patrick Bolton, who sung in past years on the Gospel Stage as a member of City of Refuge, served as emcee, introducing a wide variety of gospel and praise artists, including Faithful Central Young Adult Choir, the Divine Praise Dancers, Gospel Memorial Choir of Long Beach, saxophonist Darryl Wakefield, St. Stephens Baptist Church, the Sons of Jericho, violinist and composer Lady Z, and more.

"So much has been going on in the world today, so we're just trying to bring a positive energy," said Bolton. "We can come right here, listen to some gospel music and have a positive vibe."



RICKEY BROWN



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West Angeles Inaugural Gathering in New Family Life Center

By ANNIRETTA LYLE, PhD
Contributing Writer

On Sunday, Oct. 20, Pastor Charles Blake II and Lady DeAndra Blake celebrated two years in their roles of Pastor and First Lady of West Angeles Church of God In Christ.

To commemorate this special occasion, congregants enjoyed an especially lively and festive morning worship service in the West Angeles Cathedral with guest speaker Pastor Chane Smith. That evening, with a powerful “Night of Worship” the West Angeles family celebrated with the first service in their new Family Life Center Chapel.

The long-awaited dream of Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr. is finally being fulfilled with the opening of the West Angeles Family Life Center. Bishop Blake and Lady Mae L. Blake, his wife and the former leader of the Women’s Affairs ministry, addressed the congregation at the inaugural service. Bishop Blake’s eldest son, Pastor Charles Blake II, continues his legacy of service inaugurating this vital new space dedicated to nurturing and strengthening families in the Crenshaw Corridor.



COURTESY PHOTO
Lady Emeritus Mae Blake, seated, Presiding Bishop Emeritus Charles Blake, Lady DeAndra Blake and Pastor Charles Blake II.

The Family Life Center is strategically located in the heart of South Los Angeles directly across from the Crenshaw Metro station, reflecting West Angeles Church’s ongoing commitment to the community. The center will offer a variety of programs and services aimed at strengthening family bonds, promoting education, and fostering community connections.

The new four-story building houses classes for

Christian Education, counseling sessions, support groups, fellowship for seniors, homework help for middle and high school students, college readiness classes, SAT prep, children and youth ministry, and worship services in the new state-of-the-art Chapel on the main level.

“We often think of commerce, transportation, multi-unit housing, and public art when we hear discussions about the Cren-

shaw Corridor,” said Pastor Charles.

“West Angeles Church is proud to add ‘family’ to this important list with the opening of the Family Life Center. The West Angeles Family Life Center is a safe space within the Crenshaw Corridor where families can grow and thrive. It is

renowned chef Ed Harris will create unique culinary experiences presenting traditional dishes in a thoughtful and contemporary way. Menus will feature best of season ingredients rotating monthly and WestA Cafe is set to open for breakfast and lunch November 2024. Founded in 1943 West

ice, and family support. Bishop Blake became the pastor in 1969, opened the first Crenshaw location in 1981, and moved the congregation into the West Angeles Cathedral in April 2001.

After pastoring for 53 years with the support of his wife, Lady Mae L.



SED MCCRAY
The youth choir sings at the inaugural worship service.



SED MCCRAY
Worshippers praise God in the chapel of the Family Life Center.

designed to be a haven where our church and community members can find uplifting programs as well as youth and family activities rooted in faith.”

Lady DeAndra Blake is the visionary behind the WestA Cafe located on the first floor of the West Angeles Family Life Center. WestA Cafe is a place for family and friends to enjoy time together over a delicious meal.

She stated, “The WestA Cafe is an extension of the West Angeles Church worship experience. It is our mission to build healthy families spiritually and physically.” In collaboration with Lady DeAndra,

Angela has been a cornerstone of the Los Angeles community for decades, dedicated to spiritual growth, community serv-

Blake, Bishop Charles Blake, Sr. retired, and Pastor Charles Blake II stepped into the role of senior pastor.



SED MCCRAY
Exterior of the Family Life Center

Ward AME Holds 2024 Ballot Dialogue



CORA J. FOSSETT/L.A. SENTINEL

To help congregants make informed decisions during the Nov. 5 election, the Ward AME Church Social Action Committee hosted a session outlining the pros and cons of state and local ballot measures and propositions. Facilitators were, from left, former State Sen. Rod Wright, Metro Commissioner Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker, Brent Jennings, Juanita Jennings, and L.A. City Commissioner Billie Green.

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• DR. MAULANA KARENGA •

Haji Malcolm, Palestine and the Meaning of Martyrs: Defiant of Death, Unalterably Dedicated to Life

The fast-paced, fierce and falsehood generating times in which we live and struggle leaves us precious little time to relax and reflect deeply on what's happening and to be hoped for in the world. And such reflection is vitally important as we continue to struggle to stop the Israeli genocidal campaign in Palestine; end the awesome suffering of the Palestinian people; bring the Palestinian and Israeli hostages/prisoners home; end the occupation; renew and increase the urgently needed aid; rebuild the country of Palestine; and help achieve a Palestinian state for the Palestinian people that is free, sovereign and secure.

And this need for reflection is also true regarding the Palestinian people's incredible resilience and inalienable right to resistance, distorted and denied by the media's masking and marketing Israel's savagery as self-defense, and White peoples claimed racist right to do as they please with the different and vulnerable.

And I seek to bring again this critical issue in the immediate arc of our moral vision, as our ethical tradition would have us do, as Israel and its co-imperialists do an early man dance over the assassination and martyrdom of numerous Palestinian leaders, intellectuals, journalists, doctors et al and the people as a whole and moves to repeat this in Lebanon. Yet everyone, including Israelis in their more rational moments, knows this will not break the will to be free of the Palestinian people and their resistance movement, and that eventually and inevitably Palestine and the Palestinian people will be free.

And I want to bring Haji Malcolm in this conversation who stood in solidarity with the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian people in the early 1960s and taught us lessons of solidar-

ity in struggle and self-sacrifice for freedom and justice in our lives and the world.

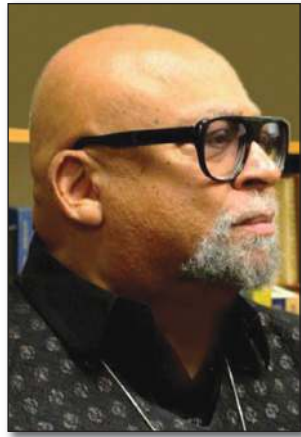
In the midst of the Black Freedom Movement of the 1960s, Haji Malcolm defiantly declared that "It is a time for martyrs, now." And by this he meant it was time for all those who want freedom and are willing to defy imprisonment and death and to unalterably dedicate themselves to life, their people and their liberation struggle, to stand up and offer their life and death in irreversible active commitment.

I thought of Haji Malcolm as the number of Palestinian people continue to grow by the tens of thousands in Israel's genocidal campaign against them and how the Palestinian people call every person killed, even babies, murdered in this cruel and inhuman total war against them, martyrs. For in Islam, martyrs are not only those who die in righteous struggle for liberation, justice and other good in the world, but also those who die undeserved and horrible deaths, like babies asphyxiated in disconnected incubators, children deliberately shot in the head, and blown to bits and burned alive in indiscriminate bombing, and all tens of thousands unarmed and innocent civilians mangled and murdered in this savage, sadistic and total war against the Palestinian people.

But as we always see and say, where there is oppression, there is also resistance. And there is righteous and relentless resistance among the Palestinian people, who daily and in countless ways reaffirm their radical refusal to be defeated. I speak here not only of the people as a whole, but especially of those who chose to be martyrs, to offer their life and their death in the liberation struggle of their people. Indeed, these martyrs know with Haji Malcolm that in the virulent, victimizing

and pathological context of oppression, freedom is not free.

And as Nana Harriet Tubman said with struggle on her mind, freedom in her



DR. MAULANA KARENGA

heart and weapon in her hand, "we must go free or die." For her, both freedom and offering our lives and death to achieve it were a right and responsibility, and we must always remember freedom comes with high costs and heavy casualties. Or as she taught, "freedom ain't bought with dust."

Thus, Haji Malcolm, a martyr, himself, and Nana Harriet, who daily risked her life and a horrible death promised by the enslavers for the liberation of our people, and the Palestinian resistance which cannot be defeated, all demonstrate a resolute defiance of death and an unalterable dedication to life.

Indeed, the resistance movement chooses the self-sacrifice of martyrdom, not because they want to die, but in defiance of the threat of death by the enemy oppressor, and because it is

a demonstration of their love of life, their love of their people, their commitment to the liberation struggle and a radical refusal to be defeated or to be deprived of the right to freedom and a life of dignity, possibility and promise. And as Haji Malcolm taught, it is to affirm and secure "our right on this earth...to be a human being, to be respected as a human being, to be given the rights of a human being...on this earth, in this day..."

And for Haji Malcolm, after life, freedom is the most fundamental and inalienable right. In fact, he argues that "Freedom is essential to life itself. Freedom is essential to the development of the human being. If we don't have freedom, we can never expect justice and equality. Only after we have freedom do justice and equality become a reality." Moreover, he rightly and repeatedly contends that a just and real peace cannot be separated from the right and practice of freedom.

He states, "You can't separate peace from freedom, because no one can be at peace unless he has his freedom." It is this essentiality, indeed, indispensability of freedom to a good and meaningful life that morally compels freedom fighters to offer their life and death to achieve and secure it.

Haji Malcolm, then, is a martyr, a shahid, one who bears witness to the world in service to his faith, his people and their righteous and relentless liberation strug-

gle. Here, to bear witness is not only to speak the truth, but also, to serve in life and death as evidence of what is real and right, true, good and beautiful. Thus, Haji Malcolm tells us in his Autobiography that he hoped that his "life's account, read objectively...might prove to be a testimony of some social value."

And as I have stated elsewhere, "surely, it is a testimony of great social value. Indeed, it is both testimony and testament, righteous witness and a sacred will, awesome evidence and instruction on how we can live our lives, and if need be, give them up with the unwavering commitment and uncompromising courage Haji Malcolm modelled and mirrored for us."

Haji Malcolm speaks a liberating truth to the people and a courageous critical condemnatory and uncompromising truth to the oppressor, having "pledged on (his) knees to Allah to tell the white man about his crimes and the Black man (and woman) the true teachings" of Islam as he knew and continued to learn them. And he taught this truth as he said, "without hesitation or fear."

Seba Malcolm in speaking truth to power sees himself not only as a self-conscious severe critic of society, but also understands and exposes the American oppressive society as self-condemning and anti-itself, generating its own self-destruction by its oppressive, unjust and evil ways.

The essential point is that he is compelled to speak the truth of America's oppression of Black people and the Dark peoples of the world.

Haji Malcolm suggests at the end of his autobiography that in spite of the obvious threat to his life for teaching and standing up for truth and justice, he is compelled to continue. Thus, he states, "if I can die, having brought any light, having exposed any meaningful truth that will help...," to end racism and bring freedom and justice, then, "all praise is due to Allah, only the mistakes are mine."

It is this morality of self-sacrifice, the willingness to give up one's freedom and one's life in the cause of the liberation of one's people and in the cause of a better society and world is at the heart of Haji Malcolm's liberation ethics. And it is the upward and forward way of the freedom fighter and resistance movement which opposes the oppressor, affirms the people and aspires in struggle for a new world and good ways for every person and people.

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 Introduction to Black Studies, 4th Edition, www.OfficialKwanzaaWebsite.org; www.MaulanaKarenga.org.

• TONY WAFFORD •

When All Else Fails Blame The Black Man

Isn't it interesting that Black men are never on the media radar of America unless we're bringing them joy, entertainment, sex or profit, other than that, their major focus is to always dehumanize and marginalized us. Now we see America doing all she can to larceny Black men against our sister VP Kamala Harris and by extension doing all they can to optimize the number of Black male chain huggers.

Please don't get it twisted. I'm not living in a state of denial. Just like many of you reading this article, we all know some chain huggers (Black Trump supporters male and female) and they come in various shapes, sizes, religious affiliations and these negroes represent every rung of the social economic ladder. So, let's talk a little truth right now.

When you see in the media Black men that are in support of this orange excrement, ask yourself just what is it that most Black men that support this clown have in common? What is it that Black men like Byron Donald and Tim Scott and other high profile Black elected officials and so many other well-to-do Black supporters of trump have in common?

Google their families and see if you see a connection? I've also seen that same connection in several high-profile Black women, can you say, Candace Owens and Harris Faulkner. Now don't get me wrong, I'm not saying that this is the case in all of these situations. Just as we know all Republicans aren't racist, but all racists are Republicans.

Now let's address Black men and the church. When you see these so-called Christian pastors, that's right I said it - SO-

CALLED Christian pastors and so-called believers - supporting a buffoon selling Bibles that are made in China like crack on the corner, what else can I call you?

I know your totally enamored in his placebo of wealth. I guess you guys are living a Matthew 15:22-27 life where it says, "Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." □□□□□

Most Black men aren't dogs looking for Trump crumbs. I know most of you so-called faith leaders support that carnival barker, and his cacodemons based on his so-called stance on abortion. Please get yourself the Trump Bibles because we all know he removed Proverbs 6:16-19 where it says, "God hates a lying tongue," which only makes me feel better about hating him. Hey, I'm just trying to be more like God.

Let's not fall for the okey doke when they show us those few Black pastors who are in support of this clown. We must remember pastors like Reverend Jeremiah Wright, Pastor Oliver Buie, Reverend Freddie Haynes, Reverend Rudy

McKissick, Reverend Otis Moss III, Bishop Frank Reid and hundreds of other



Tony Wafford

social justice Black ministers of the gospel. Let's not be fooled by FOX's propping up a personal prosperity pimp in a pulpit pretending to be a preacher.

Now let's talk about that small minority of poor, misguided, lottery playing and hoping for riches negroes in our community that are so enamored in this lover of coprophilia. What these poor misguided brothers like about Trump is the ghetto in him, the street hustler and the pimp in him, his three-card molly morality. Think about it, he is really no different than those "I've been poor all my life now I'm rich"

negroes that take pictures and videos of themselves holding bricks of money, showing off diamond watches, smoking weed and acting ignorant on private planes draped in more diamonds than Elizabeth Taylor. All of that is Trump.

If this ain't street game, you tell me one other billionaire selling gold tennis shoes, trading cards, bibles, gold watches, pieces of the suit he wore to court when he was found guilty of sexual assault and coins with his picture on them. Hell, I don't see y'all praising and following Warren Buffett's lead and we all know this guy is really rich.

Speaking of street game, Melania, you better watch out, we just might see you on the track with your newly released book in one hand and a Trump bible in the other. Black men, let's not get caught up in social media or mainstream madness propaganda. Yes, we all know that there is a small minority of Black men and women that are attracted to the so-called emperor, however, the good thing is most of us Black men know this guy is naked.



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Coach Wendy

Life Strategist / Consultant
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Your Vehicle May Not Be the Right Vessel to Get You Where You Want to Go

When we are trying to get somewhere it is important that we not only have the right plan and directions, but it is equally important that we have the right vehicle. Every mode of transportation is not necessarily the right vessel to get you where you want to go. This is true not only geographically, but also in life.

Often the terms vehicle and vessel can be used interchangeably, but they serve two different purposes. A vehicle is usually referred to when discussing ground transportation. A vessel is usually related to water usage. If you are trying to go across the ocean an automobile will not suffice, at least not yet.

Over the years, I often wondered why I struggled with reaching a certain des-



tinuation, but what I did not realize was I was using the wrong vessel or vehicle to reach my goal. Sometimes we make things more difficult than they need to be when we refuse to take the time to properly

prepare and have the right transportation to get us where we want or need to go on our journey. What I know to be true is the first step is you need to know where you want to go if you want to select the best transportation necessary to get you there.

The Bible says that we perish for a lack of vision. Many of us travel through life without a clear vision of what we want to do with our lives or where we really want to go. We fall into various career paths and jobs, but they may not necessarily be the vision we or God has for us. We settle and we quit trying.

Have you ever taken the time to really search your soul to find out what you really want to do in life? Do you understand your purpose? Many of us get caught up in the day-to-day struggles of life that hold us back from really searching our hearts for where we want to go.

We gauge our success based on what others are doing, or what we think they are doing based on what we see on social media. We cannot compare what is meant for us based on what others think, say, or do. We have no idea the price others have paid to

get where they are.

When we learn or figure out for ourselves the path that we are meant to travel, things become much easier and clearer opening our eyes to know which way we need to go and what would be the best way to get there.

You might think to yourself that you have been on a road less traveled for such a long time and you do not know how to turn around and get on the right path. You might think that it is too late for you and that time has passed you by. I am here to tell you this is not true.

It is never too late to get on the right track and get on the right bus, train, plane, or boat to take you where you need to go. Many of us have experienced disappointments, distractions, and discouragement, that distracted us along our journey, but we have the strength and support to get back on track.

Jimmy Dean once said, "I cannot change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination." The same is true for all of us. We cannot change the past and the choices and decisions we made or were part of during that time, but we can change where we go from here.

Remember, we cannot go back and change the beginning, but we can start where we are right now and change the ending. You have the power to change your narrative at any time, but you need to know what you want to do and where you want to go to get the right vehicle or vessel for your journey.

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Rape of Tamar Punishment and Revenge – Part 4

Tamar, who had been violently raped by her brother, is now experiencing the results of this violation. She was running down the street screaming and crying along the way, putting her hand on her head, throwing dust on her head, with her beautiful torn robe. All these emotions indicated the depth of her grief.

Her royal robe was now torn, an indication that she was no longer a virgin, and all who saw her or heard about it knew of her plight. She was violently raped and abandoned by her per-

petrator, her own brother, and his friend who designed the plot, Jonadab.

Her entourage, which came with her, supported her in her time of need. Her brother, Absalom upon seeing her then asked her, "Did your brother Amnon do this to you?" She confessed to him that he had. He told her, "Do not take this too hard, for this is your brother."

Although, when David heard about this crime, he did nothing. He did not act. But he was very angry. Why? Absalom said to Tamar, "Do not say or do



anything. I will help you."

She stayed at Absalom's house. Her rape meant she would be desolate and perhaps unmarried for the rest of her life. Her brother said to her, "Right now, just wait." Wait? Maybe Tamar wondered 'where will I go? What will I do? Who would care for me?' This is a 15-year-old young girl. Where is justice for her?

Absalom waited and said neither good nor bad to his brother Amnon. After two full years, Absalom waited to avenge the cause of his sister. It was during

sheepshearing season, a time of joy and celebration. He asked his father David to go. He did not go.

Absalom asked if the other sons could go. And he asked if Amnon could go. The king questioned why Amnon should go. Absalom was insistent. David conceded. David had unknowingly participated in Amnon's murder. Maybe he should have followed his first mind.

Absalom ordered those servants who were with him to wait until Amnon's heart was joyous with wine and then "strike him." They did as he had commanded. Absalom was mighty afraid and ran away. He stayed gone for about three years.

David's heart was longing for the return of his son. An appeal went out through Joab, who told the woman of Tekoah (a wise woman) to make the emotional appeal and plea to the king for Absalom's return.

She structured her appeal in such a way as to

influence the king to bring back his son, Absalom. The king accepted the appeal and Joab, who was what I term a dear friend of the family. Absalom returned. It appears that Absalom's heart was still heavy and dissatisfied with the way that his father handled the situation of Tamar's rape by the other brother.

Absalom attempted a coup to take over the kingdom. It was unsuccessful. David led a very challenging life. One jealous revengeful person was Saul, the first king of Israel. His jealousy might be termed close to insane jealousy. He persisted in pursuing David to take his life.

These lessons learned from the scriptures offer valuable ways to view life and profit from the ancient wisdom of the prophets which can help us today through life's difficulties. These things might have happened hundreds of years ago; however, their

teachings are the wisdom over the ages that we can learn from.

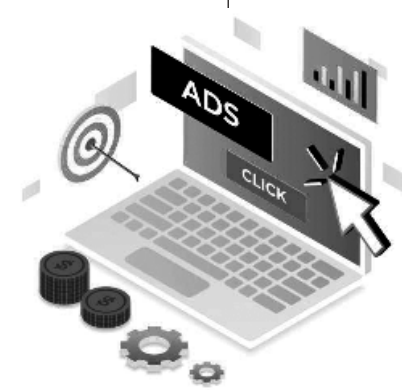
One act can happen, but the results and consequences of the act usually extend far beyond and cannot be counted.

Thanks for reading! Jeanette Grattan Parker is the founder-superintendent of Today's Fresh Start Charter School, 4514 Crenshaw Boulevard, L.A. 90043, 323-293-9826, www.todaysfreshstart.org. (Ask Dr. Jeanette TM) "Inquiring Minds Want to Know." All articles are copyright. All rights reserved © Errors? Or Questions? Please let me know. Join Sundays for music and message at 11:30 a.m. by calling (712) 775-8971, code 266751. References: The Holy Bible – II Samuel 13 & 14, Cyclopedia of Biblical Theological and Ecclesiastical Literature. Don't stop praying and hoping. "Today is another great day to do good and be successful."

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<p>Rooms for Rent in Los Angeles and Long Beach NEW HOMES, shared \$750/Mo. Private \$1,000/Mo. Master Bedroom w/bathroom \$1,400/Mo. All utilities paid, Washer/Dryer, Internet, SSI, SSA, and Pilot Program welcome. Call 310-766-0501.</p> <p>ROOM FOR RENT - Bachelor's Pad For inquiries, please contact Iganitau Opara by email (stage2design99@yahoo.com) or text (323) 503-5922. Iganitau Opara stage2design99@yahoo.com (323) 503-5922</p> <p>Single/Shared Room for Rent PICO/CRENSHAW WASHER & DRYER HOOK UP ALMOST FULL, COME SEE WHY! 323-841-2485 or 323-309-1054</p> <p>ROOM FOR RENT REMODELED HOME Nice area King size bed, flat screen, washer/dryer, WiFi Top of the line kitchen. \$1100.00/monthly \$1100.00 security deposit. (323) 385-7203</p>	<p>Upper Remodeled 2 Bedroom 1 bath Mid city, hardwood floors. GORGEOUS / 323-804-7042</p> <p>2 Bedroom/2Bath Newly remodeled Section 8 welcome Redecorated 2 bedroom 2 bathroom apartment hardwood floors and carpet. SECTION 8 WELCOMED! Located near Fairfax and Washington Blvd. 90016 Please contact Ms. Brown at 323-637-0303</p> <p>3 bedroom 1 bath unfurnished apt. Completely remodeled bathroom, new hardwood floors recessed lighting and ceiling fans. Gated complex with 2 parking spaces. Located in Vermont Knolls. \$3,000 month Call for appointment 225-449-1219 or 310-631-9574</p> <p>Apartment for rent 1 BR 1 Bath fenced, gated, 1 parking space (no exceptions) and 1 garage. Ready now, stove & fridge, owner pays water, sewer & trash only. No laundry hook up. All programs accepted. 1116 W. 102nd St. LA 90044 \$1976 month (negotiable) Call or text AC 951-313-8107</p> <p>2 Bedroom Apartment All gated security bldg. Section 8/Senior Citizens welcomed 2605 S. La Salle Ave Los Angeles, CA 90018 upstairs \$2200 Contact Gloria at 213-718-4725</p> <p>Use 1 bd Section 8 for this 2bd 1 ba Duplex. Only \$2,375. New blinds & carpet plus ac. Recently remodeled kit & ba. Tile floor in kit & ba. New windows</p>	<p>& doors are soundproof. Extra room for office & storage. Gated yard. CALL CAESAR / 310-704-6784</p> <p>Apartment for Rent Unfurnished. All appliances included; laundry room on site. Close to pub. trans & shops. Located in West Adams Contact (323) 935-5267</p> <p>Beautiful 1 Bedroom Furnished Section 8 welcome. Extremely quiet. 2nd floor. All utilities TV, plates, bed and appliances included 213-952-4281</p> <p>Lovely 3 bedroom Large 1 bath SECTION 8 WELCOME. EVERYTHING BRAND NEW, OPEN FLOOR PLAN, ALL APPLIANCES INCLUDED EXTRA LARGE TV PATIO FURNITURE MUST SEE!! 213-952-4281</p>	<p>For Rent 2 bedroom 1 bath house 3 bedroom 2 bath house Section 8 accepted 1127 and 1125 E 88th Place, LA 90002 Joyce 7145046142 jturner@myyahoo.com</p> <p>2 Bedroom for the Price of a 1 Bedroom / Recently refurbished 2 bedroom. Section 8, Non Section 8, Veterans welcome. Call for details / 310-642-1952</p> <p>230 Employment Opportunities Drivers Wanted / Gardena, CA Full-time / Apply Now Posted on October 16, 2024 SMS Transportation provides transportation for the city of Los Angeles and surrounding cities within our local communities. Our drivers transport people to healthcare, education, and non-emergency locations Monday - Friday. We are proud to offer these great benefits to our drivers: Starting Wage: \$18.00 per hour Drivers are eligible for \$500 sign on bonus (90 workdays required) Benefits package, including 401(k) with company contribution, medical, dental, and vision Paid PTO/Vacation Set Schedule Year-round work You'll be responsible for: Transporting passengers in a safe, courteous, and reliable manner throughout the service area. Assisting in the boarding of passengers using wheelchairs or other mobility aids and properly secure wheelchairs and scooters.</p>	<p>Requirements: Have good verbal communication skills Are at least 23 years old Have held a valid driver's license for at least 3 years Must have CDL with passenger endorsement. DOT physical and drug testing. Must have clean background. Submit an application on our website @www.smstransportation.net.</p> <p>Food Production/Customer Service/Shipping Must be well rounded and able to lift 50#, good with customer service and understand shipping needs cheryl@owlvenice.com</p> <p>Church Musician Needed Contact Pastor Richardson at 310-347-2378 or 323-418-8739</p>	<p>Sales Help Wanted (Commission Based) Sales Help Wanted Health/Self Defense Prods & Services Roi Bates / 213-392-2146 ichingtao@yahoo.com 4316 S. Western Ave.</p> <p>380 Psychics</p> <p>Burger Stand for Rent Burger stand with equipment ready for operations. Located at 2725 N. Wilmington Ave Compton, 90222 Call 323-899-3003</p> <p>380 Psychics Psychic Palms and Card Readings by Maya 1 quick question by phone for happiness, jobs, etc.</p>



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Public Notices

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

NOTICE OF ESCHEAT TO THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that for more than three years last past there remained unclaimed with the Los Angeles Fire Department monies held in the account known as the "HYDRANT INSTALLATION AND MAIN REPLACEMENT FUND NO. 336" which represent uncashed checks issued between August 9, 1985, and June 30, 1989.

CIVIL

AMENDED ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24NNCP00555 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: ALA BOJADZIAN for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner ALA BOJADZIAN filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: ALA BOJADZIAN to ALLA BOYAJYAN The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24STCP03024 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: DA'LAURYN DOMINIQUE DEAN for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner DA'LAURYN DOMINIQUE DEAN filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: DA'LAURYN DOMINIQUE DEAN to LEGNCY PEACE The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24STCP03079 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: UCHUQUAN NGUSUM AKOFU for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner UCHUQUAN NGUSUM AKOFU filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: UCHUQUAN NGUSUM AKOFU to MATTHEW NGUSUM UCHUQUAN AKOFU The Court orders that all persons interested in this

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matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24NNCP00602 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: MORGANNE KATHERINE JUAREZ for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner MORGANNE KATHERINE JUAREZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: MORGANNE KATHERINE JUAREZ to MORGANNE KATHERINE The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

SUMMONS (Family Law) CITACION (Derecho familiar)

CASE NUMBER (NUMERO DE CASO): 23STFL06589 NOTICE TO RESPONDENT (Name): AVISO AL DEMANDADO (Nombre): KENYA NICOLE WALKER You have been sued. Read the information below and on the next page. Lo han demandado. Lea la información a continuación y en la página siguiente. Petitioner's name is: Nombre del demandante: VENANT FOTOS NOUMSSI You have 30 calendar days after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (form FL-120) at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter, phone call, or court appearance will not protect you.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24TRCP00375 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: DESTINY O S A H E R U N M W E N OGBEBOR for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner DESTINY O S A H E R U N M W E N OGBEBOR filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: DESTINY OSAHERUNMWEN OGBEBOR to JOSHUA EFOSA OGBEBOR The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24TRCP00375 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: DESTINY O S A H E R U N M W E N OGBEBOR for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner DESTINY O S A H E R U N M W E N OGBEBOR filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: DESTINY OSAHERUNMWEN OGBEBOR to JOSHUA EFOSA OGBEBOR The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24STCP03079 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: UCHUQUAN NGUSUM AKOFU for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner UCHUQUAN NGUSUM AKOFU filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: UCHUQUAN NGUSUM AKOFU to MATTHEW NGUSUM UCHUQUAN AKOFU The Court orders that all persons interested in this

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or the court makes further orders. They are enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of them. AVISO—LAS ÓRDENES DE RESTRICCIÓN SE ENCUENTRAN EN LA PÁGINA 2: Las órdenes de restricción están en vigencia en cuanto a ambos cónyuges o miembros de la pareja de hecho hasta que se despida la petición, se emita un fallo o la corte dé otras órdenes. Cualquier agencia del orden público que haya recibido o visto una copia de estas órdenes puede hacerlas acatar en cualquier lugar de California. FEE WAIVER: If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. The court may order you to pay back all or part of the fees and costs that the court waived for you or the other party. EXENCION DE CUOTAS: Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario un formulario de exención de cuotas. La corte puede ordenar que usted pague, ya sea en parte o por completo, las cuotas y costos de la corte previamente exentos a petición de usted o de la otra parte.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24VECP00456 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: JEAN-CHRISTOPHE ROTHSCHILD AND AUBREY ROTHSCHILD for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner JEAN-CHRISTOPHE ROTHSCHILD AND AUBREY ROTHSCHILD filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: JEAN-CHRISTOPHE ROTHSCHILD to JEAN-CHRISTOPHE DE ROTHSCHILD AUBREY ROTHSCHILD to AUBREY LUMERIAN DE ROTHSCHILD The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24TRCP00375 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: DESTINY O S A H E R U N M W E N OGBEBOR for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner DESTINY O S A H E R U N M W E N OGBEBOR filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: DESTINY OSAHERUNMWEN OGBEBOR to JOSHUA EFOSA OGBEBOR The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24TRCP00375 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: DESTINY O S A H E R U N M W E N OGBEBOR for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner DESTINY O S A H E R U N M W E N OGBEBOR filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: DESTINY OSAHERUNMWEN OGBEBOR to JOSHUA EFOSA OGBEBOR The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24TRCP00375 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: DESTINY O S A H E R U N M W E N OGBEBOR for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner DESTINY O S A H E R U N M W E N OGBEBOR filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: DESTINY OSAHERUNMWEN OGBEBOR to JOSHUA EFOSA OGBEBOR The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24TRCP00375 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: DESTINY O S A H E R U N M W E N OGBEBOR for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner DESTINY O S A H E R U N M W E N OGBEBOR filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: DESTINY OSAHERUNMWEN OGBEBOR to JOSHUA EFOSA OGBEBOR The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

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least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: LOS ANGELES SENTINEL Date: 10/03/2024 GARY Y. TANAKA Judge of the Superior Court 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24, 10/31/24 CNS-3859193# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24BSCP00322 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: TAMOI ANASTACIA SAMUELS FOR MINOR JAELYN AMIYAH MELISSA SAMUELS for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner TAMOI ANASTACIA SAMUELS FOR MINOR JAELYN AMIYAH MELISSA SAMUELS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: JAELYN AMIYAH MELISSA MORRISON The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24STCP03016 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: JAMES OLIVA GASS for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner JAMES OLIVA GASS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: JAMES OLIVA GASS to OLIVER JAMES GASS The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24STCP03016 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: JAMES OLIVA GASS for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner JAMES OLIVA GASS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: JAMES OLIVA GASS to OLIVER JAMES GASS The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24STCP03031 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: AUSTIN RODERICK HALL for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner AUSTIN RODERICK HALL filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: AUSTIN RODERICK HALL to AUS RODERICK THOMPSON The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24STCP03079 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: UCHUQUAN NGUSUM AKOFU for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner UCHUQUAN NGUSUM AKOFU filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: UCHUQUAN NGUSUM AKOFU to MATTHEW NGUSUM UCHUQUAN AKOFU The Court orders that all persons interested in this

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successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: LOS ANGELES SENTINEL Date: SEP 20, 2024 ELAINE LU Judge of the Superior Court 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24/24 CNS-3857428# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24STCP03074 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: EDDIE JEAN BEAVERS for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner EDDIE JEAN BEAVERS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: EDNA JANE PERKINS to EDDIE JEAN BEAVERS The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24STCP03016 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: JAMES OLIVA GASS for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner JAMES OLIVA GASS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: JAMES OLIVA GASS to OLIVER JAMES GASS The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24STCP03016 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: JAMES OLIVA GASS for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner JAMES OLIVA GASS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: JAMES OLIVA GASS to OLIVER JAMES GASS The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24STCP03031 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: AUSTIN RODERICK HALL for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner AUSTIN RODERICK HALL filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: AUSTIN RODERICK HALL to AUS RODERICK THOMPSON The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24STCP03079 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: UCHUQUAN NGUSUM AKOFU for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner UCHUQUAN NGUSUM AKOFU filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: UCHUQUAN NGUSUM AKOFU to MATTHEW NGUSUM UCHUQUAN AKOFU The Court orders that all persons interested in this

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Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code), 10/17, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7/24 CNS-3864679# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024207137 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: PODIUM ASSOCIATES, 9454 WILSHIRE BLVD #100, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212 County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): ERIC HARTNACK, 818 CRESTMOORE PLACE, VENICE, CA 90291 This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant(s) started doing business on N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).) S/ ERIC HARTNACK, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 10/04/2024. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code), 10/17, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7/24 CNS-3862640# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024200886 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: 1. THE JOURNEY TO LOVE COUNSELING CENTER, 2. A HUMAN EXPERIENCE WITH YOUR TRAP THERAPIST, 1225 W. 190TH ST. SUITE 4551, GARDENA, CA 90248 County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): KETURAH BAKER, 1225 W. 190TH ST. SUITE 4551, GARDENA, CA 90248 This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant(s) started doing business on 09/2024. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).) S/ KETURAH BAKER, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 09/25/2024. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code), 10/17, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7/24 CNS-3862542# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024206060 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: FOREVER GREAT, 817 WEST 107TH ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90044 County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): DARCELL BENJAMIN, 817 WEST 107TH ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90044 This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant(s) started doing business on 10/2024. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).) GSS SERVICES S/ BRANDON ORANGE, CEO This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 10/15/2024. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 202421275 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: 1. LOS ANGELES OPPORTUNITY CENTER, 2. RESILIENCY STUDIO, 3. THE RUSTY FLOWER, 4. LA OPPORTUNITY CENTER, 3816 STOCKER VIEW PARK, CA 90008, County of LOS ANGELES Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: AI #ON: 2602335 Registered owner(s): S. L. FRANKLIN ENTERPRISES, INC., 3816 STOCKER VIEW PARK, CA 90008, CA This business is conducted by: A CORPORATION The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 02/2021 I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars

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in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code), 10/17, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7/24 CNS-3862544# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024210575 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: IXC, 810 CAMINO REAL UNIT 101 REDONDO BEACH, CA 90277, County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): INNOVATION X CONSTRUCTION INC., 810 CAMINO REAL UNIT 101 REDONDO BEACH, CA 90277, CA This business is conducted by: A CORPORATION The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).) S/ EHSAN SHIRIAN, PRESIDENT INNOVATION X CONSTRUCTION INC. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 10/10/2024 NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code), 10/17, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7/24 CNS-3862542# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024211320 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: NVN FITNESS, 5127 WEST BLVD LOS ANGELES, CA 90043, County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): MALICK M. DIOP, 5127 WEST BLVD LOS ANGELES, CA 90043 This business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).) S/ MALICK M. DIOP, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 10/10/2024 NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code), 10/17, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7/24 CNS-3862535# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024206060 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: FOREVER GREAT, 817 WEST 107TH ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90044 County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): DARCELL BENJAMIN, 817 WEST 107TH ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90044 This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant(s) started doing business on 10/2024. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).) GSS SERVICES S/ BRANDON ORANGE, CEO This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 10/15/2024. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 202421275 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: 1. LOS ANGELES OPPORTUNITY CENTER, 2. RESILIENCY STUDIO, 3. THE RUSTY FLOWER, 4. LA OPPORTUNITY CENTER, 3816 STOCKER VIEW PARK, CA 90008, County of LOS ANGELES Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: AI #ON: 2602335 Registered owner(s): S. L. FRANKLIN ENTERPRISES, INC., 3816 STOCKER VIEW PARK, CA 90008, CA This business is conducted by: A CORPORATION The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 02/2021 I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars

Public Notices

(\$1,000). S/ SHERRI FRANKLIN, CEO S. L. FRANKLIN ENTERPRISES, INC. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 10/10/2024...

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: POWER UP PROS, 408 HOLLOWELL AVE, HERMOSA BEACH, CA 90254 County of LOS ANGELES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: CB EVENT PLANNER, 18017 CHATSWORTH ST. #210, GRANADA HILLS, CA 91344 County of LOS ANGELES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: CAROLINA BECERRA, 18017 CHATSWORTH ST #210, GRANADA HILLS, CA 91344

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: JESSICA MUNOZ, 12318 KATHLEEN ST. WHITTER, CA 90601

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: 3IMAGES31 LLC, 1968 SOUTH COAST HIGHWAY LAGUNA BEACH, CA 92651, County of ORANGE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: NITROGEN EXPRESS, 8619 NORWALK BLVD, WHITTIER, CA 90606 County of LOS ANGELES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: W O K E C O P Y PRODUCTIONS LLC, 3400 COTTAGE WAY STE G2 #25467, CA 95825, County of SACRAMENTO

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE META MUSE, 2333 BEVERLY BLVD STE 202B #110, LOS ANGELES, CA 90057 County of LOS ANGELES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE FLOWER IN FIRE PRODUCTIONS LLC, 418 BROADWAY #5250, ALBANY, NY 12207; State of Incorporation: NY

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE PROFESSIONAL FILMMAKER, 418 BROADWAY STE R, ALBANY, NY 12207 County of LOS ANGELES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: A FLOWER IN FIRE PRODUCTIONS LLC, S/ TAMARA HALL, MEMBER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/23/2024.

Public Notices

This business is conducted by a limited liability company The registrant(s) started doing business on 01/2017. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SYNDEO LLC S/ JAMES MURPHY, CEO This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 09/30/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: ROBERT MCFADDEN, 5308 INADALE AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90043

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: S/ ANGELA WIGGINS, CEO This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 09/11/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SIPS AND SOIRES, 12318 KATHLEEN ST. WHITTIER, CA 90601, County of LA COUNTY

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: JESSICA MUNOZ, 12318 KATHLEEN ST. WHITTER, CA 90601

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: 3IMAGES31 LLC, 1968 SOUTH COAST HIGHWAY LAGUNA BEACH, CA 92651; CA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: REPENTANCE AND FAITH, LLC, 16035 TACAYNE RD., PERRIS, CA 92570; State of Incorporation: NV

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: W O K E C O P Y PRODUCTIONS LLC, 3400 COTTAGE WAY STE G2 #25467, CA 95825, County of SACRAMENTO

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: S/ ASHA DOUCET, MANAGING MEMBER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 09/17/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE META MUSE, 2333 BEVERLY BLVD STE 202B #110, LOS ANGELES, CA 90057 County of LOS ANGELES

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: A FLOWER IN FIRE PRODUCTIONS LLC, S/ TAMARA HALL, MEMBER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/23/2024.

Public Notices

Registered owner(s): DESIRAY GONZALEZ, 3902 DRYSDALE AVE. LOS ANGELES, CA 90032 This business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: PRETTY PURRFIT, 611 WILSHIRE BLVD STE 900 #1112, LOS ANGELES, CA 90017 County of LOS ANGELES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: ROBERT MCFADDEN, 5308 INADALE AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90043

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The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: S/ ANGELA WIGGINS, CEO This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 09/11/2024.

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Public Notices

14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24/24 CNS-3858204# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: R M F BUSINESS CONSULTANT, 235 E MANCHESTER BLVD, INGLEWOOD, CA 90301 County of LOS ANGELES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: ROBERT MCFADDEN, 5308 INADALE AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90043

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: S/ ROBERT MCFADDEN, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/29/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: 3IMAGES31 LLC, 1968 SOUTH COAST HIGHWAY LAGUNA BEACH, CA 92651, County of ORANGE

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Public Notices

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Public Notices

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The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: A FLOWER IN FIRE PRODUCTIONS LLC, S/ TAMARA HALL, MEMBER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/23/2024.

Public Notices

for performance & theatrical products, equipment and services for use throughout the Los Angeles Community College District. All Bids must be uploaded to the Los Angeles Community College District Online Vendor Portal ("PlanetBids")

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: R M F BUSINESS CONSULTANT, 235 E MANCHESTER BLVD, INGLEWOOD, CA 90301 County of LOS ANGELES

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GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR BIDS ("RFB") OPPORTUNITY WITH LACCD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Los Angeles Community College District ("District") is inviting interested firms to submit sealed Proposals ("Proposals") for consideration to provide: Bond Program Monitor services for LACCD Propositions A and AA and Measures J, CC and LA.

SOUTH CAROLINA TO BUILD FIRST MONUMENT TO AN AFRICAN AMERICAN. MEET ROBERT SMALLS

BY JEFFREY COLLINS
Associated Press

South Carolina is preparing to put up its first individual statue for an African American on its Statehouse lawn, honoring a man who put on Confederate clothes in order to steal a slaveholder's ship and sail his family and a dozen others to freedom during the Civil War.

But Robert Smalls isn't just being honored for his audacious escape. He spent a decade in the U.S. House, helped rewrite South Carolina's constitution to allow Black men equality after the Civil War and then put up a valiant but doomed fight when racists returned to power and eliminated nearly all of the gains Smalls fought for.

Rep. Jermaine Johnson can't wait to bring his children to the Statehouse to finally see someone who is Black like them being honored.

"The man has done so many great things, it's just a travesty he has not been honored until now. Heck, it's also a travesty there isn't some big Hollywood movie out there about his life," said Johnson, a Democrat from a district just a few miles from the Statehouse.

The idea for a statue to Smalls has been percolating for years. But there was always quiet opposition preventing a bill from getting a hearing. That changed in 2024 as the proposal made it unanimously through the state House and Senate on the back of Republican Rep. Brandon Cox of Goose Creek.

"South Carolina is a great state. We've got a lot of history, good and bad. This is our good history," Cox said.

But supporters face a challenging question: What best honors Smalls?

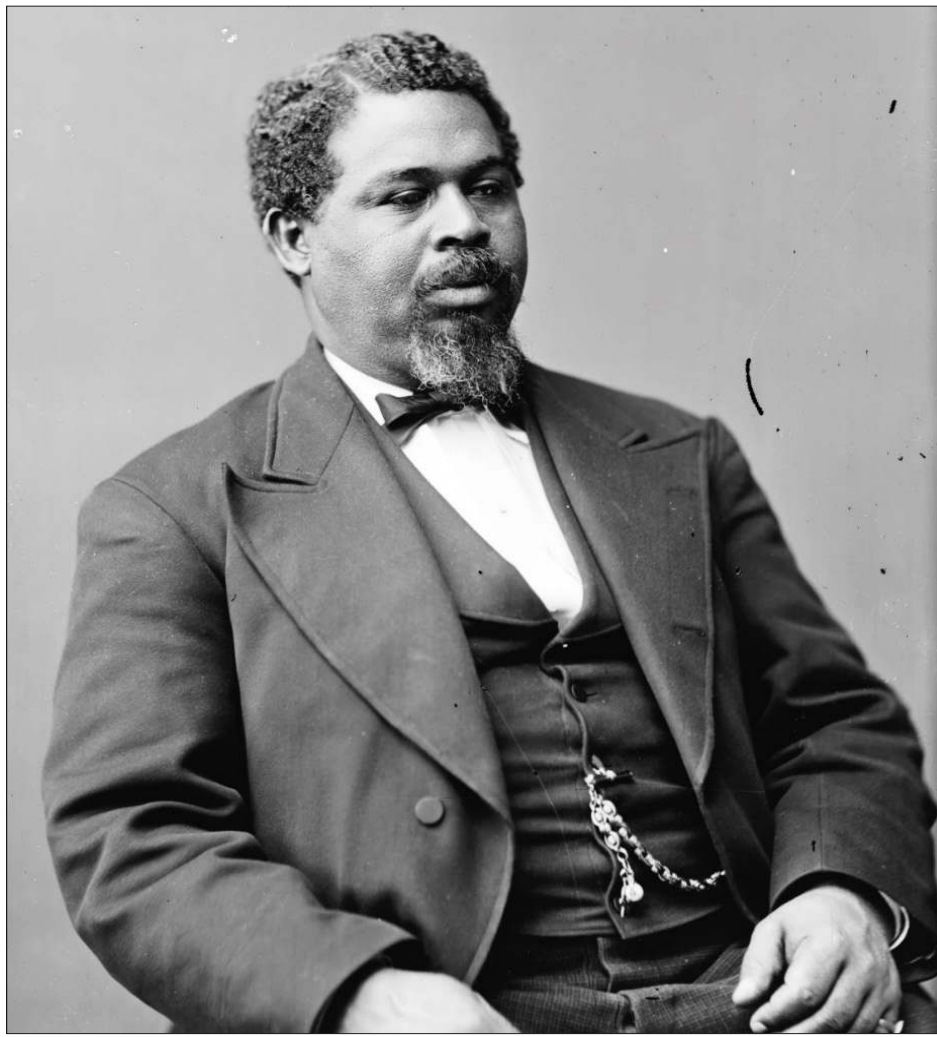
If it's just one statue, is it best to honor the steel-nerved ship pilot who waited for all the white crew to leave, then mimicked hand signals and whistle toots to get through Confederate checkpoints, while hoping Confederate soldiers didn't notice a Black man under the hat in the pale moonlight in May 1862?

Or would a more fitting tribute to Smalls be to recognize the statesman who served in the South Carolina House and Senate and the U.S. House after the Civil War? Smalls bought his master's house in Beaufort in part with money made for turning the Confederate ship over to Union forces, then allowed the man's penniless wife to live there when she was widowed.

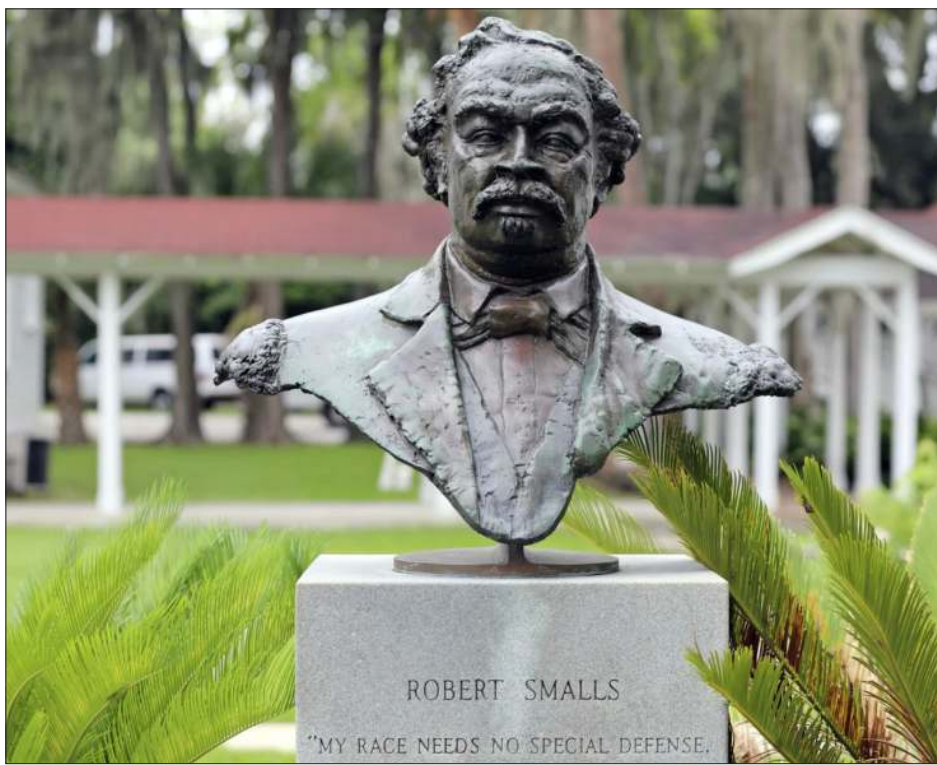
Or is the elder Smalls who fought for education for all and to keep the gains African Americans made during the Civil War the man most worth publicly memorializing? Smalls would see a new constitution in 1895 wipe out African Americans' right to vote. He was fired from his federal customs collector job in 1913 when then President Woodrow Wilson purged a large number of Black men out of government jobs.

Or would it be best to combine them all in some way? That's how Republican Rep. Chip Campsen, an occasional ship pilot himself, sees honoring one of his favorite South Carolinians.

"The best way to sum up Robert Smalls' life is it was a fight for freedom as a slave, as a pilot and as a statesman," Campsen said.



This image from the Library of Congress Brady-Handy photograph collection shows a portrait of Robert Smalls created between 1870 and 1880.



A bust of Robert Smalls is displayed in Reconstruction Era National Park in Beaufort, S.C., Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024.

about how he led groups of whites who killed Black men trying to vote during the election of 1876 which led to the end of Reconstruction, the return of all-white rule and the collapse of everything for which Smalls had worked. None of that is on the plaque for Tillman's statue.

Some supporters have suggested Smalls' statue could stand nearby and be taller and more prominent than Tillman's to give Smalls a triumph some 130 years in the making.

Once design and location are determined, organizers hope raising the money gets easier with a concept in mind.

"The best way to sum up Robert Smalls' life is it was a fight for freedom as a slave, as a pilot and as a statesman," Campsen said.

Robert Smalls' monumental life

Robert Smalls was born in 1839 in Beaufort and died in 1915 in his hometown a free, but somewhat forgotten man who lived a life unimaginable to a woman holding her son born into slavery. Supporters now have a chance to make sure he never fades into obscurity.

"Robert Smalls writes a new future for this county that in the moment no one can see is happening," said Chris Barr, the Chief of Interpretation for the Reconstruction Era National Historic Park in Beaufort as he stood beside the a bust of Smalls near his grave in his hometown.

Driving a Confederate boat to freedom is what captures the most attention in that remarkable life, Barr said.

"If you're an enslaved person working on one of these boats around the Charleston Harbor like Robert Smalls, you've got the tools, you've got the talent, you've got the boat and you know how to drive it," Barr said "And you can literally see freedom floating in the form of the United States Navy just a few miles offshore. All you need is an opportunity."

What will the Robert Smalls memorial look like?

The bill created a special committee that has until Jan. 15 to come up with a design, a location on the Statehouse lawn and the money to pay for whatever memorial they choose.

Location, location, location

Then there is the matter of location. While South Carolina has a monument with multiple panels honoring the struggle of African Americans from their journey on slave ships through today, it doesn't honor an individual Black man or

women among the two dozen monuments scattered around the Statehouse.

At least six different monuments honor people like Dr. J. Marion Sims, who some consider the father of modern gynecology

but who underpinned his research operating without anesthesia on enslaved women and girls. There are several honoring Confederates who fought to protect slavery in the state that started the Civil War and

hangs a marble copy of the Articles of Secession in the lobby between its House and Senate chambers.

The dubious list includes "Pitchfork" Ben Tillman, a governor and U.S. senator who bragged

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evaluated in accordance with the criteria and conditions set forth in the RFP documents. All questions should be directed by e-mail to: Los Angeles Community College District 770 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90017 Attention: Jason P. Cascio CascioJP@laccd.edu. Subject line: "QUESTIONS FOR RFP 24-08 BOND PROGRAM MONITOR LACCD PROPOSITIONS A AND AA AND MEASURES J, CC AND LA". The deadline for submitting questions regarding this RFP is November 26, 2024. 10/24, 10/31/24 CNS-3863154# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (LACMTA) INVITATION FOR BID LACMTA will receive bids for OP1271338370 - INTERIOR PLANT MAINTENANCE at the 9th Floor Receptionist Desk, Vendor/Contract Management Department, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012. A Pre-Bid conference will be held on Wednesday, October 23, 2024, 2:00 p.m., at One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012, Virtual Meeting: Online. This project is a Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Set-Aside contract. To participate in this IFB, bidders must be SBE certified with LACMTA prior to proposal due date. For information on the Set-Aside program, visit: <https://business.metro.net/webcenter/portal/VendorPortal/pages/home/smallbusinessstools/smallbusinessprimeprogram> All Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by LACMTA, and must be filed at the reception desk, 9th floor, V/CM Department, on or before 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time on **Wednesday, November 13, 2024**, at which time bids will be opened and publicly read. Bids received later than the above date and time will be rejected and returned to the bidder unopened. Each bid must be sealed and marked **Bid No. OP1271338370**. For a copy of the Proposal/Bid specification visit our Solicitation Page on our

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Vendor Portal at <https://business.metro.net> or for further information email Ricardo Narvaez at narvaezr@metro.net. 10/24/24 CNS-3862809# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (LACMTA) REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL LACMTA will receive proposals for PS127823 - Review of Metro Rail Station Repairs at the 9th Floor Receptionist Desk, Vendor/Contract Management Department, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012. This project is a Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Set-Aside contract. To participate in this RFP, proposers must be SBE certified with LACMTA prior to proposal due date. For information on the Set-Aside Program, visit: <https://business.metro.net/webcenter/portal/VendorPortal/pages/home/smallbusinessstools/smallbusinessprimeprogram> All proposals must be received on or before 2:00 p.m. Pacific Time on Monday, **November 18, 2024** at the address listed above, sent to the attention of Britney Kirkwood. Proposals received later than the above date and time will be rejected and returned to the proposer unopened. For a copy of the Proposal/Bid specification visit our Solicitation Page on our Vendor Portal at <https://business.metro.net> or for further information email Britney Kirkwood at kirkwoodb@metro.net. 10/24/24 CNS-3862794# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Notice is given that proposals for On-Call Stormwater Capture Rubber Dam System Maintenance Services (BRC0000533) will be received per the instructions listed on the RFP until 5:30pm, Tuesday, November 12, 2024. There will be mandatory online Proposers' Conference on Monday, October 28, 2024, at

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2pm. To participate, proposers will need to sign in using the electronic sign-in sheet accessible at the following link: <https://pw.lacounty.gov/contracts/opportunities.aspx>. The estimated annual contract amount is \$300,000. Instructions for accessing the RFP document are available at the following link: <http://pw.lacounty.gov/brcd/servicecontracts> or may be mailed to you upon request by calling (626) 458-4080 or TDDat(626) 282-7829. 10/24/24 CNS-3861113# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: MILDRED L. MORGAN CASE NO. 24STPB11448

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of MILDRED L. MORGAN. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by ETHEL M. HARDWICK in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ETHEL M. HARDWICK be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be

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granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 11/13/24 at 8:30AM in Dept. 67 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. In Pro Per Petitioner ETHEL M. HARDWICK 3950 W. 226 ST. #113 TORRANCE CA 90505 10/17, 10/24, 10/31/24 CNS-3862325# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: BERNARD HART JR CASE NO. 24STPB08789

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of BERNARD HART JR. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by LA SANDRA HAMLIN in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that LA SANDRA HAMLIN be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 01/16/25 at 8:30AM in Dept. 67 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of

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the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. In Pro Per Petitioner LA SANDRA HAMLIN 1858 W 74TH ST LOS ANGELES CA 90012 10/17, 10/24, 10/31/24 CNS-3861832# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: DUCHANE LARKIN CASE NO. 24STPB08597

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of DUCHANE LARKIN. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by BARBARA OWENS in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that BARBARA OWENS be

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appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 11/14/24 at 8:30AM in Dept. 79 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. In Pro Per Petitioner BARBARA OWENS 9523 S. NORMANDIE AVE. #3 LOS ANGELES CA 90044 10/10, 10/17, 10/24/24 CNS-3860459# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Black Small Business Owners Urged to Seize Opportunities from Major Sporting Events in L.A.

BY LILA BROWN
Contributing Writer

Los Angeles is on the verge of hosting a series of world-class sporting events, including the 2026 FIFA World Cup and the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games, which present significant opportunities for local businesses, especially Black-owned small businesses.

In a major announcement at the city's first-ever Sports and Entertainment Summit, Mayor Karen Bass introduced ProcureLA, a new program designed to help small businesses prepare for and secure contracts associated with these mega-events.

Speaking alongside entertainment industry powerhouse Jessica Alba and BMO Vice Chairman Eric Smith at the Los Angeles Convention Center, Mayor Bass emphasized the importance of ensuring that these events benefit Angelenos, particularly through business opportunities that can drive long-term economic growth.

Through ProcureLA, businesses will receive comprehensive assistance, including one-on-one consultation, training in proposal development, certification assistance, and access to procurement portals to ensure they are "contract ready" for the millions of dollars in opportunities these events will generate.

"This city has become too expensive to live in, and if we want to close the economic gap, we need to strengthen our small business sector," said Bass.



From left are actress Jessica Alba and founder of The Honest Company, Mayor Karen and Eric Smith, vice chairman of BMO.

"Small businesses are where the majority of Angelenos work. My goal is to make sure that all of you are successful and prepared to compete for these opportunities."

The upcoming events—like the 2026 FIFA World Cup, the 2027 U.S. Open Golf Tournament, and the 2028 Olympics—are expected to inject billions into the local economy. However, as Mayor Bass pointed out, many contracts historically go to businesses outside the region.

This time, through ProcureLA and targeted initiatives, the focus is on keeping the money within Los Angeles by equipping local and diverse businesses with the tools they need to secure contracts.

"We know that a lot of the businesses we work with aren't necessarily from Los Angeles or even California," Bass said.

"I want to change that. We have to push forward to make sure that small and local businesses are at the

forefront of these opportunities."

Jessica Alba, actress, producer, and member of the LA28 Board of Directors, echoed the mayor's sentiments, urging local entrepreneurs to stay focused, proactive and keep their eyes on the prize. "One of the models I live by, is I am a risk taker. I consider myself a constructive disrupter because sometimes you disrupt," Bass explained.

For Black-owned businesses in Los Angeles, this influx of sporting events offers an unprecedented opportunity to grow. The ProcureLA program provides vital resources such as access to city contracts and training on how to navigate procurement processes—areas that can be challenging for businesses unfamiliar with the intricacies of government contracting.

Erikk Aldridge, Vice President of Impact for LA28, emphasized the importance of readiness, stating, "We've identified 10 key spending categories

related to the games—operations, marketing, communications, facilities, and event management, among others. Local and diverse businesses must be prepared to compete in these areas." He stressed that the majority of contract spending will occur in the two years leading up to the 2028 Olympics, making early preparation crucial.

Erikk Aldridge added further motivation, stating, "We've only got one shot to get this right. We need to make sure our communication and preparation are strong. The majority of spending related to the

small businesses secure over \$18 million in support since Mayor Bass took office. The goal is to build on this momentum, ensuring that Black-owned businesses benefit from both the short- and long-term opportunities presented by the city's upcoming major events.

The summit featured multiple panels, including a ProcureLA! session, where city leaders provided actionable insights into becoming "contract ready." Panelists such as Rosa Penaloza from the L.A. City Economic & Workforce Development Department and John Reamer,

grams like ProcureLA, they can ensure their companies are positioned for success when contract bids are released. Additionally, with support from community-based organizations like the Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment (PACE) and the LA Sports & Entertainment Commission, business owners can receive the guidance and mentorship needed to navigate this complex space.

Mayor Bass closed the summit by urging the local business community to stay engaged and proactive. "We must fight to make sure that opportunities are



Erikk Aldridge (far left), vice president of Impact for LA28, joins a panel discussing the monumental opportunities of upcoming global events.

Games will happen in the final two years, so now is the time to get ready. If you start preparing now, your business will be in a prime position to benefit from these opportunities."

City officials, including Deputy Mayor Rachel Freeman, highlighted that the city has already helped

general manager of the L.A. Public Works Bureau of Contract Administration, shared resources and walked attendees through the steps to secure contracts with the city.

Black-owned businesses are urged to take advantage of these resources now. By participating in pro-

spread as far as they can," she said. "This is our time to shine. Let's make sure we're ready."

For more information on the ProcureLA program and how to get involved, visit the City of Los Angeles Economic & Workforce Development Department website: <https://www.procurela.com/>.

South L.A. Celebrates Electric Vehicle Charger Station at PVJOBS

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Helping South Los Angeles merge into the green energy future, PVJOBS celebrated the area's first Electric Vehicle

a game changer."

Price thanked PVJOBS for hosting the station and noted that the district is also making strides to create more green spaces to improve the local air quality,

"It was truly a labor of love," Taylor said of the project.

"PVJOBS is proud to offer this affordable EV station to our community. As a Tesla owner, I know 'charge



From left are Jim Bickhart, PVJOBS board member; Steve VanZwieten of VanZwieten Electric; James "Roc" Farmer, PVJOBS OSHA trainer and gang interventionist; Mary Taylor, PVJOBS executive director; and Councilman Curren Price participate in the ribbon-cutting for the new EV charging station located at PVJOBS, 4112 S. Main Street in South L.A.

(EV) charging station on the corner of Main and East 41st Streets, along with L.A. Councilman Curren Price.

"Here in District 9, we are frequently overlooked," Price said. "And that's why these types of programs are so important, so vital and so critical."

The councilman took advantage of the new charging station, parking his Mustang EV in the PVJOBS lot and noting he was glad to have another station closer than the ones at the Newton Community Police Station or at City Hall.

"These electrical vehicle stations are going to improve our fight against harmful effects of climate change and pollution that, as you and I know, disproportionately affect communities of color," Price added.

"Having universal charging stations in our neighborhood is going to be

pointing to the greenway being created along Slauson Avenue and the Sen. Bill Greene Memorial Park on the corner of Figueroa Street and Slauson Avenue.

"You remember that corner's been vacant 40 years," he said. "Truth is, our neighborhoods deserve to be prioritized and these groundbreaking efforts, including these parks and now this latest partnership with PVJOBS and Tesla is just what we need."

The chargers at the PVJOBS station are universally adaptable and will take three hours to fully charge most vehicles. An L.A. Department of Water and Power rebate program, together with engineers at VanZwieten Electric made it all possible for PVJOBS to host the chargers, according to the organization's Executive Director Mary Taylor.

anxiety' is real. No one wants to feel like they might not make it home because their battery is low."

She noted that there are too few charging stations located east of the 110 Harbor freeway and south of the 10 Santa Monica freeway.

"These newly installed Tesla universal charging stations will become a valuable, reliable resource to the community, right here in the PVJOBS parking lot," said James "Roc" Farmer, PVJOBS OSHA trainer and gang interventionist.

"We have always been future-oriented at PVJOBS, helping to build green buildings on community college campuses 20 years ago and now I'm proud that we can host this charger station in our community," Taylor said.

For more information, visit www.pvjobs.org or phone (323) 432-3955.

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LOS ANGELES SENTINEL SPORTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2024

www.lasentinel.net

F-1

Student Athlete of the Week: Chinedu Onyeagoro

By AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Editor

King/Drew senior Chinedu Onyeagoro has helped the Golden Eagles football team have a 5-3 overall record and a 3-0 Coliseum League record. However, there was a time where he was reluctant to play the sport.

"I started off as a basketball player and coach [Joe] Torres had came one time, seen me on the basketball court," Onyeagoro said. "He tried to get me to play, but I didn't want to at first ... I went out there, tried it for a little bit and actually had

fun."

Playing basketball gave him the footwork and speed needed to get past linemen and sack quarterbacks. Working in the weight room gives him an edge when it comes to physicality on the hardwood.

Onyeagoro was able to break records on defense as a sophomore on the football team. During his junior year, he struggled in mirroring or superseding that level of success.

"I started playing football sophomore year. My first year, I had a great year, 19 sacks, beat Kayvon Thi-

bodeaux's record," Onyeagoro said. "The second year, they started really paying attention to me. Teams started doubling, sending triple teams my way. I had to figure out a way to overcome that."

Onyeagoro learned how to be a leader of a team as a freshman.

"I was thrust into a starting position freshman year, I was one of the leading scorers, one of the best players on that team," he said. "Being put in this position where my brothers trust me in the football field, they trust me to do my job and to

lead."

Being a student athlete means understanding the impact of taking academics seriously, according to Onyeagoro. His parents consistently tell him the importance of getting good grades.

"It's always important for you to have that education because your education will never leave you," Onyeagoro said. "Football is going to end one day, basketball ends one day but that education and the world of opportunity from education will never leave you."

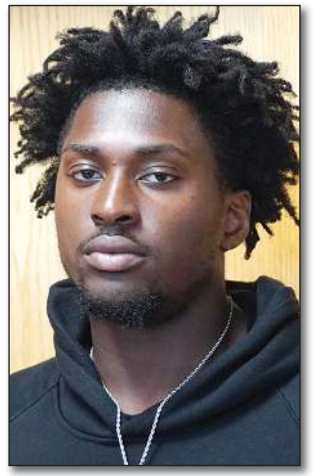
His favorite class is

physiology. Onyeagoro is a member of the careers program at King/Drew which allows him to explore the medical field.

"We go over to the hospital and volunteer and learn from different areas on how to do certain things," Onyeagoro said.

Key motivators for Onyeagoro are his coaches, teammates, and players. His family is from Nigeria, he aspires to improve the lives of Nigerians.

"My family, I want to help them get out, I want to help them to have a better situation for themselves,"



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL
Chinedu Onyeagoro played football and basketball for King/Drew.

Onyeagoro said. "Every time I get on that field, every time I'm working out, that's what's always on my mind."

Rams Flag Jamboree Empowers Student Athletes

By AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Editor

The Los Angeles Rams hosted their second annual Flag Jamboree presented by Bridgestone. The Rams hosted over 2,500 flag football student-athletes from over 100 high schools in the Southern California region.

"We want to make sure that girls out there know that there are resources out there for them," said Bridgestone

it's the same thing."

The Flag jamboree took place at UCLA where the high school teams battled in scrimmages. The student athletes also listened to a "Women in Business" panel discussion where they gained knowledge from female professionals.

"It's super cool how diverse all the different backgrounds are and all the different experiences," said Cypress senior team captain

bringing us together."

A highlight of the jamboree is the tug-of-war tournament which brought a high level of spirited competition, just like in the inaugural Jamboree. The winning team of each tournament bracket received a pair of Oakley glasses.

The Knight Hawks were one of the tournament winners. Senior team captain Jaylene Aguilar noted how the panel discussion gave her encouragement when thinking about her own career path. She enjoys how the Jamboree builds the skills and chemistry on her team.

"I feel like it allows us



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL
Over 100 high school flag football teams competed at the Rams Flag Jamboree.



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL
The Washington Prep flag football team competes in tug-of-war.

division technical educational partner Patricia Ibarra. "When it comes to sports, there's a lot of barriers and things and obstacles that they go through; in business,

Emma Hannifin. "Even the pathways that everyone is going, yet they're all brought together by this and inspired by this experience and so passionate about



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL
Flag football teams got a chance to compete with schools from different parts of Southern California.

to have more experience, we're playing schools that are out of our league," Aguilar said. "It allows us to see different plays and how different girls work and different paces because everybody works at their own pace."

Rams associate manager of social justice and football development Noel

Grigsby called the event a "big day of celebration for all stakeholders of girls flag football."

"It just shows how much support there is, from the CIF, the districts, the coaches, even the parents," Grigsby said. "As they compete on the field, we also want to equip them to compete in business."



AP PHOTO/ASHLEY LANDIS
Los Angeles Dodgers manager Dave Roberts celebrates after their win against the New York Mets in Game 6 of a baseball NL Championship Series, Sunday, Oct. 20, 2024, in Los Angeles. The Dodgers will face the New York Yankees in the World Series.

By AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Editors

For the first time since 2020, the Los Angeles Dodgers will compete in the World Series. The Boys in

Blue secured a 10-5 victory over the New York Mets in Game Six of the NLCS. The Dodgers earned their 25th national league pennant in franchise history.

"I think they proved to



AP PHOTO/JEFF ROBERSON
New York Yankees' Giancarlo Stanton, right, holds MVP trophy as he celebrates with teammates after Game 5 of the baseball AL Championship Series against the Cleveland Guardians Sunday, Oct. 20, 2024, in Cleveland. The Yankees won 5-2 to advance to the World Series.

themselves how tough they are. When you get in a position that we were in, against the division rivals," said Dodgers head coach Dave Roberts. "That's what got us over, talking [NLDS] and also ... allowed us to finish [the Mets] off in six games."

Although the Mets secured a 1-0 lead at the top of the first inning, NLCS MVP Tommy Edman hit a 2RBI double when the Dodgers were at bat. The Boys in Blue took a commanding lead in the third inning. Both Edman and Will Smith slugged two-run home runs, putting the Dodgers up 6-1.

A two-run homer by Mark Vientos in the fourth put the Mets within three runs. An RBI single by Shohei Ohtani in the sixth

World Series Feature Historic Foes

nudged the Dodgers to a 7-3 lead.

The runs kept coming for the Dodgers in the eighth with Mookie Betts, Teoscar Hernández, and Kiké Hernández scoring on hits.

"We had really good at bats throughout the series our whole line up was really good," Edman said. "Any number of guys who could have won MVP."

The Dodgers will host the ALCS champion New York Yankees for Game One on October 25 at 5:08 p.m. This will be the 12th time the two franchises have met in the Fall Classic, the most in MLB history.

The World Series rivalry between the two legendary clubs dates back to when the Dodgers were in Brooklyn. Their first meeting was in 1941, six years before Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier.

While the Dodgers have a 3-8 record against the Yankees in World Series titles, the Dodgers were victorious in their last meeting, defeating the Yankees in six games back in 1981.

The Dodgers flaunt designated hitter Ohtani who made 12 runs and 10 RBI during the postseason. They also have Betts, who had a .289 batting average and 75 RBI during the 2024 season. Teoscar is second on the team during this season in several categories, including runs (84), hits (160), and RBI (99).



AP PHOTO/ADAM HUNGER
Los Angeles Dodgers' Mookie Betts hits a two-run home run against the New York Mets during the sixth inning in Game 4 of a baseball NL Championship Series, Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024, in New York.

The face of the Bronx Bombers is their 32 overall pick in the 2013 MLB Draft: Aaron Judge. He made 58 home runs and 144 RBI during this season. ALCS MVP Giancarlo Stanton had a batting average of .294 and had 11 RBI during this postseason. In his first season with the Yankees, Juan Soto has a .333

batting average and 11 hits.

The new chapter of this historic showdown is bound to be a showcase of power hitters and exciting plays bound to thrill baseball fans.

"The world kinda wants this, it'll be fun, I'm sure it's gonna be filled with emotions," Betts said. "This is the goal, it's the reason why we play, to win a World Series."



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SENTINEL SLATE 2024

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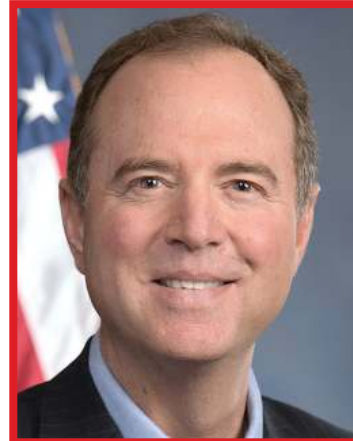


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– Board Seat 1



Nichelle Henderson
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California State Senate



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Assembly District



Tina McKinnor
CA - 61st
Assembly District



Mike Gipson
CA - 65th
Assembly District

Superior Court Judge



George Turner
– Seat 39



Ericka Wiley
– Seat 48



Sharon Ransom
– Seat 97



Georgia Huerta
– Seat 135



Tracy Blount
– Seat 137

Measures & Propositions

STATEWIDE

PROPOSITION 2.....YES	PROPOSITION 5.....YES	PROPOSITION 33NO
PROPOSITION 3.....YES	PROPOSITION 6.....YES	PROPOSITION 34NO
PROPOSITION 4.....YES	PROPOSITION 32.....YES	PROPOSITION 35.....YES
		PROPOSITION 36NO

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

MEASURE AYES	MEASURE G.....NO	MEASURE E.....YES
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LOCAL INITIATIVES

CITY OF LOS ANGELES	MEASURE DD	YES
CITY OF LOS ANGELES	MEASURE LL	YES
LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT.....	MEASURE US	YES
LONG BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE	MEASURE AC	YES
CITY OF LONG BEACH.....	MEASURE LB.....	YES
CITY OF LONG BEACH.....	MEASURE JB.....	YES
CITY OF LONG BEACH.....	MEASURE HC	YES
CITY OF PASADENA	MEASURE PC	YES
CITY OF PASADENA	MEASURE PL.....	YES
PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT	MEASURE EE.....	YES
PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT	MEASURE R	YES