



Tarrell McCraney – see page A-2



Ashton Johnson – see page D-3

Kamala Harris Trounces Donald Trump in First Presidential Debate

By STACY M. BROWN
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

Vice President Kamala Harris decisively took control of the first presidential debate against former President Donald Trump in Philadelphia on Tuesday, Sept. 10, delivering a performance that put Trump on the defensive for much of the evening. Moderators David Muir and Linsey Davis of ABC News kept a tight handle on the debate, significantly improving from CNN’s June handling of Trump and President Joe Biden.

The debate began with a surprise as Harris approached Trump to shake his hand and introduced herself as “Kamala Harris,” an unusual move that set the tone for the night. Trump’s trademark scowl stayed in place throughout the debate, as Harris

pressed him on his legal woes and diminished his record. Displaying her prosecutorial skills, Harris consistently turned the conversation toward Trump’s convictions, his business fraud case, and his role in the January 6 insurrection.

Harris positioned herself as a problem-solver, taking on issues like housing, childcare and the economy. In her opening statement, she outlined her “opportunity economy” plan, which focuses on bolstering the middle class.

“I was raised as a middle-class kid, and I am actually the only person on this stage who has a plan that is about lifting up the middle class and working people of America,” Harris said. She detailed a \$6,000 child tax credit as part of her plan to support young families.

{See **PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE** on A-11}



Former President Donald Trump, left, and Vice President Kamala Harris during the ABC News presidential debate at the National Constitution Center on Sept. 10, 2024.



AP PHOTO/ALEX BRANDON

Councilwoman Heather Hutt Holds Campaign Kick-Off



Hutt is embraced by supporter former State Senator Isadore Hall III.

By DANIELLA MASTERSON
Contributing Writer

Wearing her vibrant orange campaign color with pride, Councilwoman Heather Hutt (D-10th District) restated her commitment to addressing homelessness, job creation and improving public services such as community-based policing, street and sidewalk maintenance at the kickoff event for her reelection campaign on Sept. 7.

“My grandparents moved to Leimert Park in 1926,” said Hutt to the crowd at her campaign office located at 3653 S. La Brea Avenue in Los Angeles.

“One hundred years later and we’re still in the same basic neighborhood. I love this community!



DANIELLA MASTERSON/L.A. SENTINEL

Councilwoman Heather Hutt addresses her supporters.

...And so, when we go back into that space and the homeless are getting services, it means something. It means that city resources are working,” she said.

The Los Angeles City

Council appointed Hutt to serve the remainder of Mark Ridley Thomas’ term in 2023. She is currently in a race against Grace Yoo to

{See **HEATHER HUTT CAMPAIGN** on A-11}

Richard Alatorre, Pioneering Chicano Activist, Passes at 81

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Richard Alatorre, a pioneering Chicano activist, political powerhouse and former elected official, passed away on Aug. 13, peacefully at his home in Eagle Rock, listening to his favorite music and surrounded by his wife, sons, daughter, family, close friends and former staff. He was 81 years old.

Born and raised in Boyle Heights, his love of community and politics began during his high school years while serving as Class President at Garfield High School and volunteering on John F. Kennedy’s presidential campaign. His commitment grew stronger during his college years at Cal State Los Angeles where he earned a BA degree in

sociology and later an MA in Public Administration from the University of Southern California. Richard rose to become a



Richard Alatorre

champion for social justice while serving as Western Regional Director of the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund and teaching government at California State University Long Beach and Universi-

ty of California Irvine.

At 29 years old, he won an impressive victory to the California State Assembly and as a freshman was chosen to serve on the Assembly’s powerful Committee on Ways and Means. During his seven terms in the Assembly, he wrote legislation that ensured the fairness of agricultural relations in California; the expansion of bilingual education, childcare services and learning opportunities for children with special needs; innovative prison reforms; and the suspension of mandatory retirement laws. Through his leadership and stewardship of the 1981 and 1983 Assembly reapportionment, Richard also became an expert on the

{See **RICHARD ALATORRE FUNERAL** on A-11}

Foodbank of Southern California Antes Up Under New CEO

By KIMBERLY SHELBY
Contributing Writer

Tucked away in a quiet, industrial pocket of Long Beach, in a quaint red-brick building that was fittingly

once a creamery circa 1912, stands a cornucopia of hope and provision. Through partnership with hundreds of churches and other community organizations, the Foodbank of Southern Cali-

fornia (FBSC) has been providing free food for distribution to those who need it most across L.A. County for over four decades. Since the

{See **SOCAL FOODBANK** on A-11}



KIMBERLY SHELBY

CEO/President Brian Weaver in the FBSC warehouse, where a trusty team of managers, coordinators and crew members keeps things running like a well-oiled machine, yet with heart.

Daughrity, Bramble and Riley Unite to Launch So Cal Premier Property Management

By JOANIE HARMON
Contributing Writer

With a collective 60 years of experience among its three partners, So Cal Premier Property Management specializes in managing a wide range of commercial properties including retail properties, office buildings, mixed-use buildings, industrial properties, and multi-family residences.

James Daughrity heads Daughrity Real Estate & Management Solutions, with expertise in commercial real estate that includes leasing, acquisitions, dispositions, consulting, and development services. His market area consists of properties in the Opportuni-

decade of experience in affordable housing asset management, having managed over 4,000 units of multifamily portfolios across several states. Her implementation of social service programs to fulfill investor, regulatory, and community requirements has resulted in occupancy stability and reduced turnover.

Odest Riley, Jr. serves as CEO of WLM Financial, with a diverse portfolio that includes the sale of single-family homes, condominiums, and apartment buildings, as well as real estate financing and commercial leasing. His extensive understanding of the Los Angeles real estate market enables him to provide per-

realized that after their respective tenure in South L.A., they all ended up working on the same deal with a client that had sent them separate proposals.

“Being a minority in commercial real estate, you come across the same people all the time,” says Daughrity. “We decided instead of competing with each other, how about we join forces and resources?”

As the first 100 percent Black-owned commercial real estate firm in California, SoCal PPM optimizes properties into high-performing assets and strives to preserve the generational wealth of South L.A. communities that are undergoing significant changes.

“At the end of the day,



COURTESY PHOTO

From left are James Daughrity, Alicia Bramble, and Odest Riley, Jr., who decided to join forces after their extensive experience in the South L.A. area.



COURTESY PHOTO

So Cal Premier Property Management is the first 100 percent Black-owned commercial property management firm in California.

ty Zone and the new Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project in the city of Inglewood.

Alicia Bramble has a

sonalized service to clients. SoCal PPM was created this summer, when Bramble, Daughrity, and Riley

real estate is all about the relationships,” says Daughrity. “We know the challenges tenants and land-

lords and some of the people new to the community will be facing. With trying to preserve the unique fabric of South L.A., we also understand that it’s changing. We want to ... serve as a liaison between the developer and the community so we can make sure it’s a nice mix of retail that supports [both] the affordable and the market rate housing that’s coming down the Crenshaw line right now.”

“What we find is that some of the larger commercial property management companies are ... very routine, and you can’t approach an asset that way anymore,” notes Bramble. “You have to be able to position yourself in that market, and you have to be able to optimize results and returns for the owners.”

With the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles, and the city of Inglewood planning to host no less than eight events, SoCal PPM is working to help property owners and their tenants to leverage the global focus on the area. Daughrity is working on bringing a film studio to the Crenshaw and Stocker district, and SoCal PPM, which is based in Inglewood, is looking to acquire a building there to be part of the owner landscape.

“We’re trying to get our current and future clients prepared so they can reap the rewards of something like a global initiative like the Olympics in 2028, and we don’t want them to start planning for it in 2028,” says Daughrity.

“We’re uniquely posi-

tioned to do things that even larger [companies] can’t do, with our three backgrounds,” says Riley. “With James being one of the top two commercial brokers in California, Alicia having a background in asset management, property management, and affordable [housing] ... you don’t see a lot of Black women in any of those three positions. Or me, coming in as a person in finance, able to put together proposals and plans for owners for their properties that are individually created per property – it’s not cut and paste.”

“I want to make sure that readers of the Sentinel – which touches a lot of business owners – know that we’re in the community, we’re scalable, and we’re ready to go.”

McCraney Creates a Welcoming Space for Black Theater Patrons in West Los Angeles

By ANNDRETTA LYLE
Contributing Writer

Tarell Alvin McCraney, Academy Award winner and artistic director of Geffen Playhouse, has launched “Black Out Nights” and “Black Partner Appreciation Nights” to attract Black patrons and Black community organizations to the Westwood theater.

“We had a Black Out Night specifically for ‘Brothers Size’ that was intentional around making

space for Black folks to gather around this play and we’ve had unintentional Black Out Nights,” explained McCraney.

“They weren’t nights necessarily curated for folks of the Black experience, but the audience was 90% Black on any given preview. Because that space is so intimate we could have moments where we didn’t have to sort of advertise that it was the Black Out Night for it to occur.”

McCraney also said

about Black Partners Appreciation Night that “it is a night where we literally give 100% of the proceeds to partners who bring in constituents to see the play.”

The next Black Partners Appreciation Night will take place around “Furlough’s Paradise.” Black organizations interested in participating in the next Black Partners Appreciation Night can contact the Geffen Theater for more details.

Before “Furlough’s Paradise” opens, Black patrons



ERIK CARTER

Tarell Alvin McCraney

are always invited to come individually or in groups to see any production. McCraney affirms, “People getting together, their friends to have a day or an afternoon with us. We don’t take that lightly.”

Just as McCraney speaks frequently of “love and kinship” and refers to some collaborators as “cousins” he beckons to our community members, aunts and uncles, who have yet to visit Geffen Playhouse or have not been in a long time: “Come and spend time with us... come and engage with us.”

When asked about his approach to the role of artistic director, McCraney’s said his goal is “to place myself in an act of service and a role of service so that I can be not only in service to this intimate community, but also to be a connection to my peers who are also trying to do the same thing.

“I’m the new cousin to the neighborhood and I get to learn so much about L.A. through the people who have been here, are here, the folks who support Black

Theater. You have to know that there are people who’ve been doing it before,” he noted.

“We’re doing work with folks who are formerly incarcerated and doing work with people who are currently incarcerated and system-impacted. And so my main objective is always to (number) one, honor that work. Make sure I’m not treading on anybody else’s, you know, space without at least saying, hey, this is what I’m trying to do. I’m always sort of going, hey, this is what I’m up to... and people go, ‘Oh, here’s a person you should connect to’ so that’s how I know I’m in kinship.”

McCraney shared the highest possible vibrations when asked to mention his creative peers who he also considers “mentors” such as legendary playwright August Wilson. McCraney added that it was likely due to the theater “apparatus” of Wilson’s era, rather than an absence of Black writers like Amiri Baraka. Contrasting that forced antiquated mode of singular success, McCraney remarked, “I feel

blessed to be in a sort of cadre of Black artists and writers all the time.”

In terms of leadership in the artistic director space, McCraney is also collaborating across geographies. He cited working with New York Theater Workshop, Steppenwolf, CTG and the Globe Theater to collaboratively ensure that art leaders and audiences alike are in conversation about and producing “necessary work.”

The next production at Geffen Playhouse, “Dragon Lady,” is a musical comedy about “a matriarch not to be trifled with” who tells her life story to her granddaughter through song. He said that the play provides a wonderful opportunity for a day out or evening out with grandparents and multiple generations at the theater.

With so much success around Black Out Nights and Black Partner Appreciation Nights, McCraney is extending the model to other communities. Of his efforts building community McCraney observes, “So far, it’s been met with a kind of love and kinship.”

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² **Additional information about the Down Payment program:** Down Payment program is available with one mortgage product. Program funds can be applied toward down payment only. Borrowers cannot receive program funds as cash back in excess of earnest money deposits. Down Payment Grant program may be considered taxable income and a 1099-MISC will be issued. Consult with your tax advisor. May be combined with other offers. The Bank of America Down Payment Grant program may only be applied once to an eligible mortgage/property, regardless of the number of applicants. Homebuyer education is required.

³ **Additional information about the America's Home Grant program:** The America's Home Grant program is a lender credit. Program funds can only be used for nonrecurring closing costs including title insurance, recording fees, and in certain situations, discount points that can be used to lower the interest rate.

⁴ The grant cannot be applied toward down payment, prepaid items or recurring costs, such as property taxes and insurance. Borrowers cannot receive program funds as cash back.

⁵ Maximum income and loan amount limits apply. Fixed-rate mortgages (purchases or no cash out refinances), primary residences only. Certain property types are ineligible. Maximum loan-to-value ("LTV") is 97%, and maximum combined LTV is 105%. For LTV >95%, any secondary financing must be from an approved Community Second Program. Homebuyer education may be required. Other restrictions apply.

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2nd Annual Jazz & Blues Festival Celebrates Barbara Morrison

BY BILLY MONTGOMERY
Contributing Writer

Leimert Park buzzed with excitement on Saturday, September 7, 2024, as the community gathered to celebrate the legacy of the legendary jazz and blues singer Barbara Morrison. The 2nd Annual Barbara Morrison Jazz & Blues Festival filled the air with soulful music, the streets dancing, and the crowd with memories as a mix of renowned and local artists honored Morrison's remarkable contribution to the music world.

The California Jazz & Blues Museum organized the event as a tribute to Morrison and a broader celebration of the deep roots of jazz and blues in Los Angeles. The festival, held at the intersection of 43rd Street and Degnan Boulevard aka Barbara



Yana Ross, Dara Caldwell-Ross, and Ollie Lewis pose with rabbits from the children's activities during the 2nd Annual Barbara Morrison Jazz and Blues Festival on Saturday, Sept. 7 in Leimert Park.

Mayor Karen Bass. Morrison, an influential figure in the LA jazz and

excellence and cultural advocacy by founding the Barbara Morrison Performing Arts Center and the California Jazz & Blues Museum in Leimert Park.

The festival, now in its second year, has rapidly become an annual tradition that commemorates Morrison's memory. Morrison's goal of nurturing young musicians and promoting a sense of community through the arts was apparent in every aspect of the festival.

The day's festivities began at noon, with families and music enthusiasts gathering in the park. They enjoyed not only the music but also the food from street vendors and children's activities, creating a family-friendly atmosphere.

Many attendees were excited to witness performances from a star-studded lineup of musicians, including some of Morrison's closest friends and collaborators.

"Barbara Morrison was

a pivotal part of our community. She's done so much for the jazz and blues community," said Dara Caldwell-Ross, of the KAOS Network, a long-

event, although still new, is part of ongoing efforts to uplift the community. "I have lived in Leimert Park since I was six years old. We have a lot of good



Jacqueline Hamilton, L.A. deputy mayor of Neighborhood Services, salutes Tim Morganfield, CEO of the Barbara Morrison Jazz and Blues Museum, for the company's lasting legacy in music.

time media production company in Leimert Park.

Attendees, such as long-time resident Andine Lewis, stated that the

things happening here. All these events are important to sustain our culture," said Lewis, a 25-year resident of the area.



The BU Crew band performs popular songs at the 2nd Annual Barbara Morrison Jazz and Blues Festival.

Morrison Square, also marked a significant moment for the neighborhood. Many local jazz legends were honored by the office of Los Angeles

blues communities, passed away in March 2022. Aside from her performing career, Morrison taught voice lessons at UCLA for nearly three decades and

Music. Furthermore, a scholarship has been established in her name at the prestigious university.

On a more local scale, she left a legacy of musical



Klymaxx singer Christie Malone and guitarist Cheryl Cooley shared a fun moment with keyboardist Maggie Daniec.

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Jasmond's Chocolate Delights Has Your Sweet Tooth Met at Taste of Soul!

By BRIAN W. CARTER
Contributing Writer

You can find a variety of food vendors at Taste of Soul and if you are anything like me, you'll be looking for the sweets. You might want to head on over to Jasmond's Chocolate Delights this year.

"Jasmond's Chocolate Delights is set to showcase a delectable array of treats at Taste of Soul this year," said owner and founder Jasmond Goss. "This family-owned business is sure to delight attendees with sweet offerings."

Founded in 2011, Goss shared that Jasmond's Chocolate Delights was created out of a desire to make custom, high-quality chocolate treats more accessible.

"When I looked to buy custom graduation chocolate suckers for my graduating class, the cost was unexpectedly high," said Goss. "Encouraged by my cousin and with the support of my father, who provided the necessary supplies, I



Jasmond's mixed chocolate covered strawberries.

took matters into my own hands.

"I created the treats myself, and they were a hit with my graduating class."

Holding a degree in graphic design and a single mother of a two-year-old daughter, Goss is set to debut at her first Taste of Soul.

"I attended as a guest and had a great time," said Goss. "I am excited about

connecting with new customers and friends and expanding the reach of my business."

Jasmond's Chocolate Delights is bringing caramel apples, chocolate-covered strawberries, cakesicles, chocolate-covered pretzels, candy grapes, party favors, and more to Taste of Soul.

She took a party treat for her graduation and

turned it into a passion for crafting chocolates. Goss shared that Jasmond's Chocolate Delights is a thriving business that takes pride in producing tasteful and beautifully presented treats, made with love and attention to detail.

"Each product reflects my commitment to quality and excellence, ensuring that every bite is not only delicious but also visually appealing," said Goss.

Taste of Soul will have guides and a map to help Taste of Soul Nation and visitors find vendors. Goss shared their will be another way to find her booth.

"The rich aroma of cocoa and caramel will guide visitors, where the friendly staff eagerly await to share their passion for confectionery," said Goss. "Each treat is meticulously crafted, boasting flavors that promise to tantalize taste buds and create unforgettable memories."

If you didn't know, Taste of Soul is on Saturday, October 19 on Crenshaw Blvd. Please bring

your family, friends and most importantly, your appetite.

"Jasmond's Chocolate Delights is more than just a

Jasmond's promises a delightful experience that will leave you craving more."

For information on ven-



Jasmond's Chocolate Delights caramel and chocolate apple.

business, it's a testament to the family's dedication and love for the art of sweet-making," said Goss. So, whether you're a long-time fan or a first-time taster,

dors, stages and more, visit the family's dedication and love for the art of sweet-making," said Goss. So, whether you're a long-time fan or a first-time taster, visit www.tasteofsoulla.com. Learn more about Jasmond's Chocolate Delights on Instagram, Facebook and Tik Tok.

Big B's Bobbie Q Celebrates Third Year at 'A Taste of Soul'

By DENISE J. GIBBS
Contributing Writer

Big B's Bobbie Q (BBB) is thrilled to mark its third year at the 19th Annual Taste of Soul Family Festival set for Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Crenshaw Blvd., from Obama Blvd. to Stocker Ave.

This year, BBB will no doubt continue to delight attendees with their signature down-home, backyard barbecue. Expect mouth-watering smoked meats, delectable sides, and decadent desserts that promise to tantalize your taste buds.

When asked about new menu items, owner and chef Byron Hansbrough shared, "We have a few new menu items. This year,



Big B's Bobbie Q's founder and chief chef, Byron Hansbrough

we will also be featuring our beef brisket sandwich."

When asked about the impact of the previous two years as a vendor, he said,

"We have definitely seen more traffic and have gained new customers."

Big B's Bobbie Q is located at 5968 South

Figueroa Street in Los Angeles. Business hours are on Saturdays and Sundays, from 12:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Advised one admirer, "Come and savor the flavors that have made BBB a beloved staple at Taste of Soul!"

To learn more about Big B's Bobbie Q, Follow on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/bigbsbobbieq/> and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/BigBBobbieQ>.



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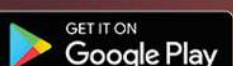
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Newsom: Black Caucus Members 'Owed an Apology' Amid Backlash, Brewing Tensions

By ANTONIO RAY HARVEY
California Black Media

A week after advocates rallied at the State Capitol to protest lawmakers for not allowing two reparations bills to be brought up for a vote on the Assembly floor, Gov. Gavin Newsom said the California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC) members are "owed an apology."

For several days now, CLBC chair Lori Wilson (D-Suisun City) and other caucus members have been under fire from some activists and advocates who say the lawmakers did not do enough to push the reparations bills authored by their

said. "I have great respect and admiration for the leadership of the Black Caucus and members of the Black Caucus," Newsom told reporters.

Newsom made the statement at a news conference held at the Capitol Annex Swing Space when he announced that he issued proposed emergency regulations to protect youth from the adverse health effects of dangerous hemp products.

The Coalition for A Just and Equitable California (CJEC), a reparations advocacy group that helped to organize the protests, released a statement on Sept. 5.

"CLBC members are

held from a final floor vote by all members of the lower house of the Legislature.

SB 1403 proposes the creation of a new state agency called the California American Freedmen Affairs Agency (CAFAA). That agency, one of the California Reparations Task Force's 115 recommendations, would be responsible for determining eligibility for reparations and administering government processes related to compensation.

SB 1331 would establish an account for reparations in the State Treasury for the purpose of funding reparations policies approved by the Legislature and the Governor. Neither one of those



The California Legislative Black Caucus formally introduced the 2024 Reparations Priority Package on Feb. 21. A total of 14 Reparations bills were a part of the package.

part of the package, authored by Wilson, Assembly Constitutional Amendment (ACA 8), was approved by both houses of the Legislature and will appear on the ballot in the November election. If approved by voters, ACA 8 will erase language in the state constitution that legalizes involuntary servitude and end forced labor in prisons as a punishment for crimes. ACA 8 will appear on the ballot as Prop. 6.

Nine of the reparations bills included in the CLBC package passed and have now been advanced to the governor's desk for his consideration. Those bills include SB 1050, authored by Bradford, which would allow California to review and investigate complaints from individuals who claim their property was taken without compensation as a result of racially motivated eminent domain. It passed with a 73-0 vote on the Assembly floor.

Assemblymember Tina McKinnor (D-Inglewood), a CLBC member, inked an opinion article sharing her perspective on why the Legislature did not advance SB 1403 and SB 1331. McKinnor did not mention Bradford by name, but it is clear from context that she was referring to the author of the two bills in question.

"From the outset, a Black caucus member

worked against the CLBC's efforts. Days after the CLBC introduced its reparations legislative package, a Black caucus member introduced his own reparations bills, not part of the CLBC's work, and spent months attempting to negotiate away the \$12 million that the CLBC had secured in this year's state budget for his own project," McKinnor wrote.

Bradford appeared on various media platforms as well with accusations directed at his CLBC colleagues. Bradford told Roland Martin, the popular media host on his podcast, that all the members of CLBC had signed on as co-authors of SB 1403 in May.

"It's probably the most heartbreaking, disappointing time I've experienced in the Legislature," Bradford told Martin on his "Unfiltered" show on Sept. 4. "You're taught early 'don't fall in love with your bills.' I didn't fall in love with this bill, but I felt what this bill meant not only to Black Californians but Black Americans."

Assemblymember Issac Bryan (D-Ladera Heights), one of the CLBC members who was feeling the heat from disgruntled activists, faced the music and showed up at a town hall meeting held on Sept. 5 at the Los Angeles' Center for Black Power in Leimert Park. Bryan said the crowd yelled

at him, but he understood the community's frustrations.

The next day, Bryan appeared on Dominique di Prima's KBLA 1500 AM radio show, based in L.A., to explain why the CLBC did not push for the bills to get an Assembly floor vote.

Bryan said the CLBC had a number of concerns that included "last-minute amendments" to SB 1403 requested by the governor that were not immediately shared with the Black lawmakers, absent legislative oversight, a potential veto, and no solutions for longtime funding of the CAFAA. Bryan said he was still in favor of the CLBC bringing the bills to the Assembly floor for a vote, but the group collectively decided against it. In the end, he respected the members' action.

"On a personal level, I had no problem sending the bills to the Governor," Bryan said to di Prima. "But I think when you're moving in solidarity, not just with your colleagues in Sacramento, but within the community and there are disagreements, strategically, you've got to make the best decisions you can."

Bryan continued by saying "In this particular instance, there was a decision collectively by a majority of the caucus to not move on (SB 1403 and SB 1331) this year."



CJEC in the Rotunda of the California State Capitol on Aug. 31.

colleague, Sen. Steven Bradford (D-Inglewood).

Others have been accusing members of intentionally sabotaging the bills even though last week the CLBC issued a statement informing the public that it intends to reintroduce the reparations bills during the next legislative session.

On Sept. 7, Newsom said it was "disgraceful" for anyone to unleash their frustrations out on the CLBC.

"There were members of that Black Caucus that are owed an apology for being treated – to be doxed, to be personally maligned, and attacked. So, forgive me for expressing that," Newsom

now falsely claiming to the media and others, with no evidence, that we are the source of physical threats to their person and property," CJEC's letter stated.

CBM has not been able to verify CJEC's allegation that the Black Caucus – or any of its members -- has accused that organization of making threats.

The CLBC released a statement on Aug. 31, the last day of the Legislative session, stating that it had "concerns" about Bradford's bills Senate Bill (SB) 1403 and SB 1331, legislation that previously advanced with minimal opposition through Senate and Assembly committees before being with-

pieces of legislation, authored by Bradford, a CLBC member, were a part of CLBC's initial reparations priority package of 14 bills announced in January.

However, according to a letter obtained by California Black Media, the CLBC added SB 1403 to the package in May. In the same letter, the Black Caucus requested that the state provide \$6 million to help fund efforts related to SB 1403 and another \$6 million to the California Black Freedom Fund, a \$100-million non-profit initiative focused on eradicating systemic and institutional racism in the state.

Another bill that was a

Political Playback: News You Might Have Missed – Sept. 12

Bo TEFU AND
ANTONIO RAY HARVEY
California Black Media

Newsom Appoints Kim Johnson to Replace Mark Ghaly at CalHHS

Dr. Mark Ghaly, Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS), announced Sept. 7 that he is resigning from the post he has held since March 2019 when he was appointed by Gov. Gavin Newsom.

leadership transition. During Dr. Ghaly's tenure, which spanned California's nation-leading response to the COVID-19 pandemic, CalHHS moved forward with many initiatives that focused on providing more stability and opportunity to Californians. These initiatives covered a range of the agency's functions, including addressing affordability and access to health care and deepening the connection between housing, homeless-



Kim Johnson

Social Services since 2019 and she has worn a number of hats 2015 to 2019, including Deputy Director of the Family Engagement and Empowerment Division at the agency and Branch Chief of CalWORKs.

Black Caucus Members Join Rally to End Involuntary Servitude in California's Prisons

On Sept. 3, community leaders and civil rights advocates joined lawmakers at the State Capitol to raise awareness about Proposition (Prop) 6, a ballot initiative that aims to ban forced labor in California's prisons.

California voters will decide the ballot initiative in this year's November election. The California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC) introduced Prop 6 as part of the 14-bill reparations package. The State Legislature passed the measure in June with a bipartisan vote, placing it on the November ballot. The Black Caucus proposed Prop 6 as the "Remove Involuntary Servitude as Punishment for Crime Amendment," under the Assembly Constitutional Amendment 8 (ACA8) to promote justice and equality in California.

Community groups organized a press conference including members of

the Black Caucus, The Anti-Recidivism Coalition, The Abolish Slavery National Network, Sister Warriors Freedom Coalition, the ABC Coalition, and the American Civil Liberties Union

Assemblymember and Legislative Black Caucus Chair Lori Wilson (D-Suisun City) is the author of the ballot measure and has been supportive of community groups in their efforts to abolish slave labor.

Carmen-Nicole Cox of the ACLU led the rally and condemned forced labor stating that it prevents people from building the necessary skills after they leave prison.

"Slavery never has and never will promote rehabilitation," said Cox.

Supporters of the reparations bills challenged Republican and Democratic legislators to back the ballot measures and help voters understand the harmful impact of forced labor statewide.

Gov. Newsom and Speaker Rivas Announce Legislation That Will Prevent Gas Hikes

California lawmakers have introduced legislation to prevent gasoline price spikes, stated Gov. Gavin Newsom and Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas (D-Hollister) last week during a special legislative session on gas prices.

The State Assembly set a legislative plan of action to address the surge in gas prices, proposing a bill to increase crude oil and fuel capacity to lower high prices for residents pumping gas at refill stations. The legislation, introduced and co-authored by Assemblymem-

bers Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (D-Winters) and Gregg Hart (D-Santa Barbara), aims to make oil refiners manage the state's gasoline supply responsibly and protect consumers from unexpected financial burdens.

Newsom praised the bill and commended lawmakers for proposing legislation that could help residents save money.

Rivas stated that a special session was held to thoroughly vet the proposals.

"We must stop oil companies from raking in record profits at the expense of Californians," said Rivas.

In 2022, Gov. Newsom partnered with the Legislature to sign into law a package of reforms that hold oil companies accountable for the spike in gas prices. The reforms helped create the Division of Petroleum Market Oversight, an independent agency that monitored oil companies. The agency uncovered that high gas prices were caused by suspicious market transactions. Lawmakers outlined specific proposals to reform the state's gas spot market to prevent spikes due to a lack of stable gas supply.

This year, lawmakers worked with the independent agency to monitor gas prices and discovered that refineries went offline without planning to backfill supplies. As a result, refining margins spiked causing spot and retail prices for gas to increase.

Under this new bill, Newsom plans to authorize the California Energy Commission (CEC) to maintain a minimum inventory of refined fuel in the distribution chain to avoid supply shortages.

Bonta Defends Labor Protections for Pregnant Women at Work

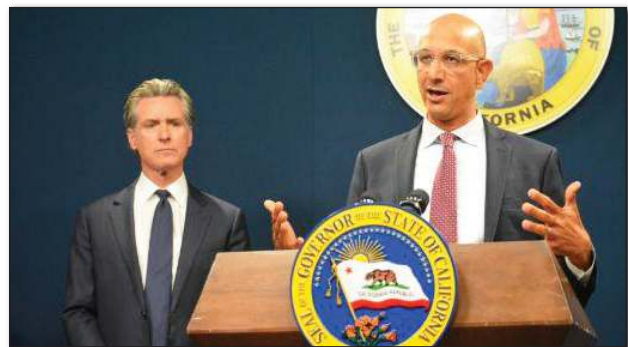
Attorney General Rob Bonta joined a coalition of 24 attorneys general as part of a nationwide effort to protect the equal rights of pregnant women in the workplace.

Bonta co-signed an amicus brief with his peers defending the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)'s rule to implement the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (PWFA) enacted in 2022. The brief was filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit to support the rule requiring employers to provide reasonable accommodations for pregnant and postpartum employees including abortion care. The rule is being challenged by a coalition of 17 other state attorneys general spearheaded by Tennessee.

"PWFA empowers individuals to continue contributing to our economy while providing much-needed protections without compromising their health or their family's well-being," said Bonta.

The PWFA law was enacted in 2022, it was the first federal law that required employers to offer accommodation workers for pregnancy-related medical conditions during pregnancy and postpartum recovery. In 2023, the agency responsible for enforcing the law proposed a rule that required employers to provide accommodations for workers terminated by abortion in the form of time off to attend a medical appointment or recovery.

The coalition argued that the pregnancy law provides critical and overdue protections for employees.



Dr. Mark Ghaly, right, Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency, announced Sept. 7 that he is resigning from the post he has held since March 2019 when he was appointed by Gov. Gavin Newsom.

"Dr. Ghaly's heroic service to the people of our state and his profound contribution to reshaping California's health and social services cannot be overstated," Newsom stated. "For more than five years at the helm of CalHHS, his visionary and compassionate leadership and unwavering focus on protecting the most vulnerable among us has seen our state through unprecedented challenges and historic victories that improve the lives of Californians."

On June 8, Newsom appointed Director Kim Johnson as the next CalHHS Secretary effective Oct 1.

Ghaly will stay on at CalHHS through the end of September to facilitate the

ness and health, including behavioral health.

"I am grateful to Secretary Ghaly for his steadfast leadership and partnership during one of the greatest public health crises of our lifetime. However, it was his unceasing dedication to caring for the needs of all Californians, especially our most vulnerable, that will be his enduring legacy. It is my great privilege to call him a colleague and friend. I wish him the very best as he embarks on his next chapter," stated Dr. Nadine Burke Harris, who served as California's first Surgeon General.

Johnson, CalHHS' incoming Secretary, has served as Director of the California Department of

\$76 Million in State Grants – Non-Profits Can Apply to Upgrade Security

By MCKENZIE JACKSON
California Black Media

Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services' (SFBFS) campus, located on Bell Avenue in the state capital, is set to get a \$131,583 security facelift.

The funding is courtesy of the California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program, which has awarded nonprofit community and faith-based groups across the Golden State with financial support to prevent hate-motivated violence since 2015.

SFBFS is home to the largest hunger relief group in Sacramento County and a food bank that distributed 31.6 million meals nutritious meals to people in need in 2023.

SFBFS Director of Communications Kevin Buffalino said the grant money will enhance the safety and security of the food bank site.

"We'll be adding secu-

rity lighting, security cameras, access control systems to ensure we continue providing food assistance to over 305,000 people every month safely and without interruption," he said.

SFBFS was one of 193 community organizations across the Golden State to receive \$39 million in awards from the grant program in April to enhance their security. In late July, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced the state's Office of Emergency Funding is accepting applications from community-based nonprofits to apply for \$76 million in expedited funding from the security grant program.

According to a 2023 hate crimes report compiled by the California Department of Justice, Black Californians remain the most affected group by hate crimes. Hate incidents and hate crimes targeting Jewish, Muslim and

LGBTQ people are also increasing.

Newsom said an attack against any community is an attack against all of California and its values.

"Every Californian deserves the ability to worship, love, gather safety, without fear or hate," he said in a news release. "This new round of funding is aimed at helping high-risk organizations protect themselves against violent attacks and hate crimes."

Funds are awarded through a competitive grant process in which groups, particularly those targeted on the basis of race, religious affiliation, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, immigration status or similar criteria may apply.

The monies allow organizations such as Black and LGBTQ+ groups, churches, synagogues, mosques, and other houses of worship to

implement security equipment upgrades such as access control systems, doors, gates, high-intensity lighting, and inspection and screening systems.

hate crimes continue to be the most prevalent in the Golden State and last year there was an increase in bias activity against Jewish, Muslim, and LGBTQ+

ing Newsom funneling an additional \$20 million into the program in October 2023. The state received 1,254 applications from groups.

The program has awarded \$152,750,000 in state funding to 924 community groups since the grant program's beginning.

Assembly member Jesse Gabriel (D- Los Angeles) and Sen. Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco) said in a statement that the California Legislature will stand firm in its commitment to support vulnerable communities targeted by hate despite budget difficulties. They also thanked Newsom for expediting the deployment of the security funds.

"We have no doubt that this funding will continue to make a major difference in protecting the Jewish community and all communities targeted by hate," Gabriel and Wiener said.



SHUTTERSTOCK

With the grants, houses of worship can implement security upgrades such as access control systems, doors, gates, high-intensity lighting, and inspection and screening systems.

Requests for proposals are on the Office of Emergency Services website. Groups eligible include ones exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code. The deadline to apply is 11:59 p.m. on Sept. 23.

Because anti-Black

communities, Newsom increased funding for the grant program, which added an additional \$20 million for nonprofits to use.

The initiative awarded \$39 million to nonprofits and faith-based organizations in the spring, follow-

On Your November Ballot: The Pros and Cons of Increasing California's Minimum Wage



SHUTTERSTOCK

Uber Protestant in front of Uber Headquarters on Market Street in San Francisco, CA on May 8, 2019.

By EDWARD HENDERSON
California Black Media

In less than two months, Californians will vote on Proposition (Prop) 32. This voter guide is one in a series of articles that will help you understand what supporters and opponents of California's 10 ballot initiatives are saying about each one.

Prop 32 would increase California's minimum wage to \$18 per hour. It is currently \$16 per hour for most people and \$20 per hour for fast food workers. Health care workers will eventually see their minimum wage reach \$25 per hour, according to a law Gov. Gavin Newsom signed last year.

Supporters of the proposition argue that with the cost of living rising, wages need to increase as well for families to survive. California Black Media (CBM) spoke with Saru Jayaraman, director of the Food Labor Research Center at UC Berkeley, on why she supports a Yes vote for Prop 32.

"I've been organizing restaurant workers for 20 years. I've never seen a period in which I've seen so many restaurant workers working full-time and living in their cars. The cost of liv-

ing has become an extreme crisis for people at all income levels in California," says Jayaraman. "When you raise the floor, it lifts all boats. You raise the floor to \$18 an hour, people just above \$18 get a raise. It's critical for people to be able to survive here in California."

Jayaraman also mentioned that while Modoc County has the lowest cost of living in California, the MIT Living Wage Calculator estimates a wage of \$20 an hour is needed to cover basic expenses. Closer to \$25 an hour would be needed for a family with a child. In large cities like Los Angeles and San Francisco, \$40 an hour is the estimated minimum living wage.

Opponents of the Proposition argue that small business owners would struggle to adjust to the wage increases resulting in cutting jobs and raising prices for their services. CBM spoke with John Kabateck, state director of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), who is opposed to Prop 32.

The NFIB represents 13,000 small business owners in California and 300,000 nationwide.

Kabateck says that a survey of their network reported only 8% of small business owners believe they expect their profits to improve over the next six months.

"I think every employer ought to do the right thing by showing their employees a pathway to economic success," says Kabateck, adding that a standard minimum wage increase might hurt the bottom lines of those small business owners.

"We don't believe that a one-size-fits-all kind of a cookie cutter mandated wage on especially on small business owners is going to be the pathway to their success," said Kabateck. "Frankly, we are witnessing -- just in the past several months with some particular industries -- the opposite happening. We are seeing the very individuals that minimum wage proponents want to help being harmed. They are not getting the entry-level jobs and not finding that growth opportunities that they should."

Jayaraman has heard this argument before and does not believe it is a factor when considering how raising the minimum wage can help small businesses.

"The minimum wage has gone up multiple times. It went up to \$15. Small business continued to grow in California. It went up to \$16.50. Small business continued to grow in California. And that's because, guess what? When you pay people more, guess what they do? They go spend it. And the small businesses actually benefit from people in their communities having enough to eat out and to buy things."

Kabateck highlighted that Californian fast-food

restaurants have laid off an aggregate of 9,500 workers since April. Pizza Hut and Round Table have laid off approximately 1,300 delivery drivers, citing rising wages as the reason for the issue.

"At the end of the day, they're sealing the fate of the people that they're trying to help. And it's not chicken little, this is not doom and gloom. And this is also not an angry guy saying we shouldn't help people in the workplace. We got to help them, and we want to help

retain them, but this is the wrong avenue."

A YES vote supports increasing the state minimum wage to \$18 per hour by 2026 for all employers and thereafter adjusting the rate annually by increases to the cost of living.

A NO vote opposes this ballot initiative, maintaining the existing law which was designed to increase the minimum wage to \$15 per hour for all employers by January 2023 and increasing it annually according to inflation.



California's Aging Services

Offer Valuable Resources for Older Adults

As we grow older, our needs and priorities change. In California, a wide range of services is available to help you maintain your independence, stay connected, and lead a fulfilling life. Whether you're looking for support with daily tasks, health care guidance, or planning for the future, California's aging services are here to help.

Aging in Place

Many of you may prefer to stay in your own home as you get older. California offers programs that can assist with home repairs, transportation, and in-home care. Additionally, health and social care programs, including day centers with activities like arts and exercise, help you stay independent.

Nutrition Services

You can enjoy home-delivered meals or gather for group meals at local centers. For those with limited income, there are options to get fresh produce and other food benefits through the CalFresh Expansion program.

Health Insurance Guidance

Confused about health insurance options? The Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) provides guidance on Medicare and long-term care insurance.

Support for Caregivers

If you are caring for an older adult, there are programs like Caregiver Resource Centers (CRCs) and the Family Caregiver Support Program offering respite, counseling, and assistance with paperwork. CRCs also provide action plans for families dealing with dementia.

Legal Assistance

Facing issues like consumer fraud, elder abuse, or age discrimination? Legal Services are available to help with Social Security, health insurance, pensions, and more.

Employment Opportunities

Looking for a job? Free training and job placement services are available for older Californians.

Emergency Preparedness

Planning for emergencies is especially important as we age. California offers resources to help you prepare for natural disasters, power outages, and other emergencies. Creating a personal emergency plan, keeping an emergency kit ready, and staying informed about local resources can make all the difference.



All these services and more are coordinated through local Area Agencies on Aging. Find yours by calling the California Aging and Adult Information Line at 800-510-2020 or visiting aging.ca.gov.

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COMMUNITY HEALTH MATTERS

OCTOBER 19, 2024

10AM - 7PM



TASTE OF SOUL FIRST AID COOLING STATIONS

FOR MEDICAL AND SAFETY ISSUES LOOK FOR THE RED BALLONS



FIRST AID/ COOLING STATION #1
W.KING HEALTHCARE GROUP
 CRENSHAW BLVD. BETWEEN STOCKER & KING

FOR MEDICAL AND SAFETY ISSUES



FIRST AID/ COOLING STATION #2
INNOVAGE
 CRENSHAW BLVD. BETWEEN COLISEUM AND OBAMA BLVD.



MAIN FIRST AID / COOLING STATION #3
 CRENSHAW BLVD. BETWEEN 39TH AND COLISEUM



FIRST AID/ COOLING STATION #4
WATTS HEALTH
 CRENSHAW BLVD. BETWEEN 39TH AND COLISEUM



FIRST AID/ COOLING STATION #5
ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL
CHARLES R. DREW UNIVERSITY
LA COUNTY DEPT. OF HEALTH & LOS ANGELES WELLNESS STATION
 CRENSHAW BLVD. BETWEEN 39TH & KING

FREE HEALTH SERVICES:

Flu Shots, Massages, Glucose test, Blood pressure checks	KAISER PERMANENTE
Blood Pressure testing, glucose finger checks, HIV and Hepatitis C testing	W. KING HEALTHCARE GROUP
Blood pressure, Mammograms, Hep C Testing, A1C, Dental, Cholesterol and HIV testing	WATTS HEALTH
Blood pressure checks, Glucose (blood sugar) screening (for diabetes) Flu vaccines, Health education consultation (with nurses and residents), Medicare and other health insurance education and assistance (plus education on our outpatient service offerings)	MLK COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE
Eyes Exams, Dental Exams and general health testing	UCLA HEALTH
FREE Blood Pressure Screenings Hands-Only CPR Demonstrations Resources to live Healthy and Well	AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION AHA
Flu Shots Community Resource Navigation for food, housing, public benefits, medical, transportation, caregiving mental health and more.	CEDARS-SINAI
Blood Pressure Screening, HgA1c Screening Cholesterol Screening, Education on Fentanyl and Narcan, Substance abuse education, Free HIV 20 minutes Ora Quick home test kits available and HIV testing on-site using the Ora Quick home test kits given away. Face Mask give away	CHARLES R. DREW UNIVERSITY KEDREN STREET MEDICINE PROJECT TEAM

Kappa Pasadena Alumni Chapter Hosts White Linen Casino Night

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The Sudduth Holiday Foundation in conjunction with the Pasadena Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi celebrated its 3rd annual White Linen Casino Night Out at Brookside Golf Course in Pasadena, California on Saturday, Aug. 31.

Over 150 VIPs and invited guests gathered for a fun and enjoyable evening of dancing, networking, casino games, cigars and a special tasting on one of the best Tennessee based whiskies produced – Uncle Nearest.

The Sudduth Holiday Foundation founded in 2001 is dedicated to providing boys and young men of color based in the



Leo Cablayan, Sudduth Holiday Foundation co-chair, presents the Community Service Award to Patrice Marshall McKenzie.

San Gabriel Valley with scholarship and youth educational, mentorships, development opportuni-

ties. The foundation honored Pasadena Unified School District Board Member Patrice Marshall McKenzie with the John J. Kennedy Community Award. The award was to recognize Marshall Kenzie's outstanding contributions to improving the local community and the Pasadena Unified School District.

"I'm humbled to receive the John J. Kennedy Community Service Award. It is a tremendous honor to be recognized by my peers. Public service is a core value that was instilled in me at an early age, so it is the honor of my life to give back to the community that has made me who I am," stated Patrice Marshall



Courtesy Photo: Cablayan with Danny J. Bakewell, Jr., Brother of the Year Awardee; and Curtis Silvers, past regional president.

McKenzie. The Pasadena Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi gave a special recognition - Brother of the Year

Award - to Danny J. Bakewell, Jr. The award is given to a member who exemplifies the values and mission of the fraternity and continues to make meaningful contributions unselfishly on behalf of the membership and the communities it serves.

"Over the years, we have had some of the most iconic brothers in the San Gabriel Valley and Pasadena communities receive this award and we are excited to add honorable man of achievement to the list of honorees - Brother Danny J. Bakewell, Jr.," said Jayson A. Johnson, polemarch (president) of the Pasadena Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.



Members of the Pasadena Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi.

Dr. Ashley Johnson Supports Culver City Mayor McMorrin for Re-Election

BY ANNDRETTA LYLE, PhD
Contributing Writer

Dr. Ashley Wiley Johnson, vice president of the Los Angeles Speech and Language Therapy Center Inc., convened a gathering in support of Culver City Mayor Yasmine McMorrin who is up for re-election.

Wiley Johnson conveyed, "It is our duty to support leaders who demonstrate unwavering commitment and dedication through their consistent, hands-on work. Mayor Yasmine McMorrin exemplifies this ethos. Her visibility, youth-

pal broker of Daugherty Real Estate, welcomed guests and shared the many reasons that he was compelled to support Culver City Mayor Yasmine-Imani McMorrin including her integrity. Triston Ezidore, vice president of Culver City School Board, also spoke about the ways that McMorrin has brought positive change to Culver City.

He mentioned that she led Culver City in its efforts to successfully shut down a gun store only blocks away from a major public school by purchasing the property. Ezidore introduced Mayor McMorrin, who spoke about

City Council meetings not only for her own daughter, but also for the general public interested in attending to make public comments during council meetings.

Southern California. As part of that initiative, college age members of Grace and Wisdom Institute (GAWI) volunteered at the event.

Led by Kesha Knighten

teens with an emphasis on teen girls of color.

Hughes shared, "We not only are creating awareness, but we are providing experiences for our teens to apply

tance of communication skills. They receive opportunities to observe and engage with professionals and community leaders gaining insights and further develop-



Courtesy Photo: Culver City Mayor Yasmine McMorrin and event host Dr. Ashley Wiley Johnson.



Courtesy Photo: The host drew support from members of the Jack and Jill Los Angeles chapter and the newly chartered Jack and Jill West Los Angeles chapter.

Finally, she addressed the housing crisis saying that she wants Culver City to be a place that is affordable for her daughter to live as a young adult.

"When I think about housing, I think about welcoming new neighbors whether that be fellow parents or our staff members who travel long distances to come to work and law enforcement as well," McMorrin said.

"We just want to make sure that we are creating a community that is open and welcoming to as many neighbors as we can. That means we're streamlining and supporting and incentivizing building here. That's a priority for me to really tackle this housing crisis by really locking arms (across agencies) and to support more housing in Culver City and in the region."

Urging guest to help reelect McMorrin, Wiley Johnson demonstrated her commitment to supporting young political leaders. In fact, she and her godmother, Mattie McFadden Lawson, started the Young Women's Pipeline Leadership of

Hughes, GAWI is a non-profit whose mission is to cultivate deeper personal, social, and community awareness through life skills development and training for

life skills development. GAWI students have the opportunity to learn about building their student résumé, interview preparation, along with the impor-

ing their confidence which expands their ideas about possibilities."

To learn more about the campaign, visit www.mcmorrinforculvercity.com.

ful energy, and relentless passion for transforming our communities into better places to live, work, and play are truly inspiring.

"I was honored to host a fundraiser for her. We proudly stand behind her by providing the necessary funds to amplify her message. We look forward to her anticipated reelection."

James Daugherty, princi-

some of her successes such as the Culver City mobile mental health clinic which provides services to those without other access.

In terms of preserving quality air and environmental resources she closed down the Culver City section of the urban oil field adjacent to a major soccer field in the area. She also fought to add childcare to



Courtesy Photo: Students Mikaela Hopson and Ryann Frye with Kesha Knighten Hughes of Grace and Wisdom Institute.

Recent changes in our industry are updating how homes are bought and sold, clarifying compensation for both buyers and sellers. While some processes may shift, my core mission remains the same: securing the highest and best price for your home.

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Condolences for Civil Rights Activist & Philanthropist Sybil Morial Pour in from Across the Nation

BY DANNY J. BAKEWELL, JR.
Executive Editor

Friends, Family Members and leaders from across the nation all send condolences to the Morial Family following the death of the beloved community leader Sybil Haydel Morial.

Sybil Haydel Morial, the wife of former New Orleans Mayor Ernest Nathan "Dutch" Morial and mother to former Mayor and current National Urban League President Marc Morial, died Tuesday, Sept. 3, at the age of 91.

Sybil Morial was a force to be reckoned with in her own right. She was the founder of the Louisiana League of Good Government, which helped Black residents of the Ninth Ward register to vote during the Jim Crow era.

Mrs. Morial was also the lone plaintiff in a successful challenge to a

Louisiana law that barred public school teachers from being members of groups that fought segregation. She was also an educator and administrator at Xavier University for 28 years.

"She confronted the hard realities of Jim Crow with unwavering courage and faith, which she instilled not only in her own children but in every life she touched," the National Urban League said in a statement announcing her death.

Current Mayor LaToya Cantrell said the city's flag will fly at half-staff in her honor.

"Mrs. Morial was a New Orleans treasure and trailblazer as the first African American First Lady of the City of New Orleans," Cantrell said in a statement.

"The historic service of Mrs. Morial and her late husband Ernest "Dutch" Morial, the first African



Sybil Haydel Morial

American Mayor of New Orleans, will always be remembered as a shining legacy of love and inspiring leadership for the City of New Orleans."

New Orleans near and far all weighed in on the passing of Mrs. Morial.

"I am deeply saddened by the passing of Sybil

Haydel Morial, she was a lady of class, style and elegance with an unwavering commitment to her family, her city and her people whose legacy will live on through her family. My condolences go out to my friend Marc his wife Michelle their entire family and all those who knew

Mrs. Morial," stated Danny J. Bakewell, Sr., chairman and executive publisher of the Los Angeles Sentinel.

"Few women have played such an outsized role in the recent history of New Orleans," former Mayor Mitch Landrieu said in a post on X.

"The many, many lives that she touched, across all strata, all economic bases; a real iconic leader that will be sorely missed," Rep. Troy Carter said in an interview with WRKF's Brooke Thorington. "She leaves a legacy of accomplishments, she leaves a legacy of love, and she leaves a tremendous amount of respect that this community has for her and will forever."

"Mrs. Morial's work over the years was always a reflection of what was just and fair for the community that she deeply loved, and that deeply loved her. She was an elegant, eloquent force of nature and the city

of New Orleans, the state of Louisiana and the nation are better because she lived," said Urban League of Louisiana President and CEO Judy Reese Morse.

"Mrs. Morial was more than the wife of our first Black mayor, Dutch Morial, and mother of Mayor Marc Morial; she was a trailblazer, educator, and fierce advocate for civil rights. Her impact on our city is immeasurable—from her work at Xavier University to her lifelong dedication to justice and equality," New Orleans Councilman Oliver Thomas wrote in a statement shared on X.

Morial is survived by her sons, Marc and Jacques Morial and daughters Dr. Julie Morial, Judge Monique Morial and Cheri Morial Ausberry. She has seven grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

Funeral services have not been announced yet.

James Earl Jones, Acclaimed Actor and Voice of Darth Vader, Dies at 93

BY MARK KENNEDY
Associated Press

James Earl Jones, who overcame racial prejudice and a severe stutter to become a celebrated icon of stage and screen — eventually lending his deep, commanding voice to CNN, "The Lion King" and Darth Vader — died on Sept. 9 in his New York home. He was 93.

The pioneering Jones, who in 1965 became one of the first African American actors in a continuing role on a daytime drama ("As the World Turns") and worked deep into his 80s, won two Emmys, a Golden Globe, two Tony Awards, a Grammy, the National Medal of Arts and the Kennedy Center Honors. He was also given an honorary Oscar and a special Tony for lifetime achievement. In 2022, a Broadway theater was renamed in his honor.

Jones created such memorable film roles as the reclusive writer coaxed back into the spotlight in "Field of Dreams," the boxer Jack Johnson in the stage and screen hit "The Great White Hope," the writer Alex Haley in "Roots: The Next Genera-

tion" and a South African minister in "Cry, the Beloved Country."

He was also a sought-after voice actor, expressing the villainy of Darth Vader ("No, I am your father," commonly misre-



James Earl Jones at the Tony Awards in 2016.

membered as "Luke, I am your father"), as well as the benign dignity of King Mufasa in both the 1994 and 2019 versions of Disney's "The Lion King" and announcing "This is CNN" during station breaks. He won a 1977 Grammy for his performance on the "Great American Documents" audiobook.

Some of his other films include "Dr. Strangelove," "The Greatest" (with Muhammad Ali), "Conan

the Barbarian," "Three Fugitives" and playing an admiral in three blockbuster Tom Clancy adaptations — "The Hunt for Red October," "Patriot Games" and "Clear and Present Danger." In a rare

Shakespeare and Athol Fugard alike. More recent Broadway appearances include "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," "Driving Miss Daisy," "The Iceman Cometh," and "You Can't Take It With You."

As a rising stage and television actor, he performed with the New York Shakespeare Festival Theater in "Othello," "Macbeth" and "King Lear" and in off-Broadway plays.

Jones was born by the light of an oil lamp in a shack in Arkabutla, Mississippi, on Jan. 17, 1931. His father, Robert Earl Jones, had deserted his wife before the baby's arrival to pursue life as a boxer and, later, an actor.

When Jones was 6, his mother took him to her parents' farm near Manistee, Michigan. His grandparents adopted the boy and raised him. "A world ended for me, the safe world of childhood," Jones wrote in his autobiography, "Voices and Silences." "The move from Mississippi to Michigan was supposed to be a glorious event. For me it was a heartbreak, and not long after, I began to stutter."

Too embarrassed to speak, he remained virtu-

ally mute for years, communicating with teachers and fellow students with handwritten notes. A sympathetic high school teacher, Donald Crouch, learned that the boy wrote poetry, and demanded that Jones read one of his poems aloud in class. He did so faultlessly.

Teacher and student worked together to restore the boy's normal speech. "I could not get enough of speaking, debating, orating — acting," he recalled in his book.

At the University of Michigan, he failed a pre-med exam and switched to drama, also playing four seasons of basketball. He served in the Army from 1953 to 1955.

In New York, he moved in with his father and enrolled with the American Theater Wing program for young actors. Father and son waxed floors to support themselves while looking for acting jobs.

True stardom came suddenly in 1970 with "The Great White Hope." Howard Sackler's Pulitzer Prize-winning Broadway play depicted the struggles of Jack Johnson, the first Black heavyweight boxing

champion, amid the racism of early 20th-century America. In 1972, Jones repeated his role in the movie version and was nominated for an Academy Award as best actor.

In 2022, the Cort Theatre on Broadway was renamed after Jones, with a ceremony that included Norm Lewis singing "Go the Distance," Brian Stokes Mitchell singing "Make Them Hear You" and words from Mayor Eric Adams, Samuel L. Jackson and LaTanya Richardson Jackson.

"You can't think of an artist that has served America more," director Kenny Leon told the AP. "It's like it seems like a small act, but it's a huge action. It's something we can look up and see that's tangible."

Citing his stutter as one of the reasons he wasn't a political activist, Jones nonetheless hoped his art could change minds. "I realized early on, from people like Athol Fugard, that you cannot change anybody's mind, no matter what you do," he told the AP. "As a preacher, as a scholar, you cannot change their mind. But you can change the way they feel."

True stardom came suddenly in 1970 with "The Great White Hope." Howard Sackler's Pulitzer Prize-winning Broadway play depicted the struggles of Jack Johnson, the first Black heavyweight boxing

champion, amid the racism of early 20th-century America. In 1972, Jones repeated his role in the movie version and was nominated for an Academy Award as best actor.

Why Suicide Among Youth is Raising Red Flags, Recognize Symptoms to Save Lives

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Although suicide is a concern among all age groups, the return to in-person learning and the role social media plays in the lives of young people are raising red flags related to their mental health that need to be addressed to prevent lives from being lost.

September is National Suicide Prevention Month. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), suicide is the third leading cause of death among high school-aged youths aged 14-18 years. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) reports that from 2019 to 2020, the suicide rate among youth increased by 20%. The University of Georgia reported suicide is the second leading cause of death for African Americans between the ages of 15 and 24, based on CDC statistics. Suicide is particularly prevalent among Black men, who die by suicide at a rate more than four times

that of Black women.

CDPH noted that many factors can increase the risk for suicide or protect against it, adding that suicide is connected to other forms of injury and violence. For example, people who have experienced violence, including child abuse, bullying, or sexual violence have a higher suicide risk. Being connected to family and community support and having easy access to health care can decrease suicidal thoughts and behaviors.

The Impact of the Pandemic

According to Dr. Ashley Zucker, a child, adolescent and adult psychiatrist with Kaiser Permanente Southern California, reintegration into school through in-person learning has been a significant challenge for many children, causing a strain on their mental health.

"Going back to the classroom resulted in children seeing in person someone who may have been bullying them," she said. "It has also triggered separation

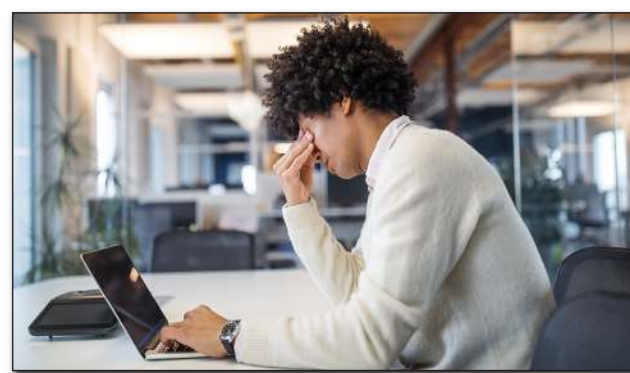
anxiety and, or, social anxiety; increased ease-of-access to illegal substances, as well as some kids having more difficulty keeping grades up. While remote learning was a challenge for many socially, some kids actually performed much better academically in that setting. Another trigger to anxiety or depression many children feel relates to their parents or guardians experiencing challenges in returning to work in person themselves."

Why Many Kids Aren't Speaking Up

There can be many reasons why youth experiencing mental health challenges don't speak up, Dr. Zucker noted. The stigma of mental illness is improving, but continues to be a barrier for children asking for help and seeking care.

"Children and teens are often afraid to discuss their mental health issues with their parents or other adults around them because they're afraid of the response they may get," Dr.

Zucker explained. "They may fear embarrassment, being ignored, or even being made fun of. Some other kids may be afraid of getting in trouble or being punished



Suicide among youth is a national concern that must be addressed, according to health experts.

by losing privileges such as access to their phones, social media or friends."

Dr. Zucker emphasized the importance of parents or guardians observing children's behavior, and when noticing abnormalities — such as changes in eating or sleeping habits, performing poorly in school, or being more withdrawn and isolating themselves — they should open a discussion or

seek treatment. This is especially the case if a child mentions or seems to be enamored with the topic of suicide.

"The worst thing you

can do is ignore early warning signs," Dr. Zucker warned. "It's always better to err on the side of caution. In fact, checking in on your kids even when they appear to be doing well can set the stage for them to share when they are not feeling good."

The Impact of Social Media

According to Dr. Zucker, social media can positively and negatively impact

young people's mental health.

"Social media can be a way for people to connect and to find community, but it can also lead to access to information that can be harmful," she said. "There's a known contagion effect of suicide, and social media can be one avenue where young people are seeing and hearing more about suicide."

Dr. Zucker added that social media is also known to impact self-esteem for teens as it induces a constant comparison to others, where children may judge their self-worth by the number of "likes" they receive. Additionally, social media has created a 24/7 source of information as well as access to one another, which can include bullying and other forms of victimization, Dr. Zucker said. That can contribute to depression, anxiety, and suicidal thoughts.

Kaiser Permanente offers valuable tips on suicide prevention and symptoms.

PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE {Continued from A-1}

Trump, by contrast, criticized the Biden-Harris economy, calling it “the worst period of time” he had seen. He defended his tariff policies and took aim at Harris, labeling her a “Marxist” while also accusing her of copying his economic policies. “I was going to send her a MAGA hat,” Trump quipped.

Abortion rights were another major focus of the night. Trump, when asked

if he would veto a federal abortion ban, declined to answer directly, stating, “I won’t have to,” and arguing that the end of Roe v. Wade had satisfied everyone. Harris, in turn, vowed to restore Roe’s protections through federal legislation if elected.

“I pledge to you: when Congress passes a bill to put back in place the protections of Roe v. Wade as President of the United

States, I will proudly sign it into law,” she said.

As the debate went on, Trump repeated several conspiracy theories, including a claim that migrants were eating pets in U.S. cities, which Muir quickly checked. Trump doubled down, citing “people on television” as his source. Harris largely let Trump’s more outlandish statements pass, opting to stay on policy while allow-

ing the moderators to address his factually inaccurate remarks.

In one of the most heated moments, Harris invited viewers to attend a Trump rally for themselves, commenting, “He talks about fictional characters like Hannibal Lecter and windmills causing cancer. You’ll notice people start leaving his rallies early—out of exhaustion and boredom.”

Trump, visibly irritated, retorted that he holds “the most incredible rallies in the history of politics,” but the debate soon returned to more substantive issues like crime and inflation.

The night clearly contrasted Biden’s earlier debate with Trump, as Harris managed to keep Trump on the defensive. Trump continued to fixate on conspiracy theories and past grievances, while Harris

stayed focused on presenting her vision for the future.

With fewer than 60 days until the election, the debate sets the tone for what will likely be a hard-fought campaign. As the debate ended, Harris closed with a message to the American people: “This is about who we are as a country. The choice is clear—between chaos and leadership, fear and hope.”

SOCAL FOODBANK {Continued from A-1}

hire of new CEO/President Brian Weaver this past spring, it would seem the organization’s proverbial cup runneth over.

Weaver, who was previously on the FBSC board for over a year, says, “We have probably about 300 pantries who come and get food from us. If you look throughout L.A., when you see people giving out food, there’s probably a 50% chance they got it from us. I like to say this is the one place all the churches get along.”

That “one place” features an immaculate 24,000 square foot warehouse replete with everything from fresh eggs to plant-based milks. Much of the food is organic, which supports the vision of serving the food-insecure with dignity, offering quality products comparable to that found at conventional grocers.

FBSC has served an estimated 1.5 million individuals so far this year. The goal? To surpass 2 million by the year’s end and double that next year.

On average, recipients receive 13-16 items, including milk, butter, meat, canned and fresh vegetables, as a start.

“We don’t give out anything that’s going bad,” said Weaver, referring to a practice some food banks employ regularly. Rather, FBSC purchases food from the same source as Ralph’s and Vons.

“In some respects, our food is actually fresher. Grocers have to send it to their stores. They have to spread it throughout their stores. They have to put it on the shelves,” Weaver explained.

Given the need and the breadth of FBSC’s network—while they tend to focus on South Central, Long Beach and surrounding areas, they serve all of L.A. County, from Palmdale to Pomona—the foodbank’s supply often lasts but a few days.

FBSC prides itself on partnering with smaller farms, many of which are BIPOC-owned. “We probably have about \$5 million that we spend with these [farms],” said Weaver. “So, we are actively searching for other BIPOC farmers we can partner with.”

In addition, FBSC is in the process of taking over an existing 88-acre garden owned by the county to expand capabilities and home-grow offerings. Planned practices are innovative, featuring aquaponics, a method of food production that mixes aquaculture and hydroponics.

“The harvest on that is 10 times as fast or faster than just planting on the ground, and it tastes 10 times better. It actually has flavor,” said Weaver.

“But the interesting thing is, if we harvested that whole 88 acres, it would probably last 3 days.” Such is the demand.

FBSC has successfully partnered with organizations like Mothers in Action and First Ladies of Black Churches. Another project close to Weaver’s heart involves local high schools and a curriculum empowering young people to grow their food, eschewing the food desert status of many of their communities, and instead of waiting for supermarkets to move in, inspiring them to reimagine how they get their food.

And the reimagination doesn’t stop there. Hearty new grants have made possible 10 new hires with full benefit packages over the last 7 months, as well as a renovation of the primary site and the acquisition of a new building outfitted to accommodate a broader “share house” vision. This will include workshops, corporate team building, produce prep/processing, the establishment of emergency response facilities and transport, and direct homeless-

ness assistance through mobile kitchens and the like.

“Our pride and joy are our new vehicles for emergency response,” said Weaver. “Because, in an emergency—earthquake, fire, flood, riot, whatever, we become first responders, so we have a truck, and we have three more coming. They are food trucks, kitchen trucks, and they have...commercial fryers, ovens, stovetops, fridges, everything. If there’s an emergency, we can respond in a minute with hot food and water. In the meantime, we’re going to use it for the homeless...because I view homelessness as an emergency. We understand that, in our homeless situation in L.A., 50-51% of those people are senior citizens, and 40% of those have never been homeless before. So they’re out there sleeping on the street while we’re trying to build new houses. The least we could do is provide a hot meal for them.”

This effort could be as impactful as it is ambitious.

Doubtless, Weaver’s background informs the transformational work he’s doing with FBSC, from his experience as a young boy residing in the Nickerson Gardens Housing Projects, being issued telltale blocks of cheese, to his time running food pantries in the eighties and working with kids at Jordan Downs. There, he recalls kids’ diets consisting merely of peanut butter and Top Ramen because their parents were strung out on crack.

“This was a no-brainer,” said Weaver. “We have the opportunity to actually change people’s lives with food. It’s available to us, and we don’t try to hoard anything. I feel that if we keep giving it out, it’ll keep coming in.”

Given that FBSC has been around since 1975, it’s a fair bet.

“We’re feeding people,”



Brian Weaver served on the board before becoming CEO and President of The Foodbank of Southern California in spring of 2024.

emphasized Weaver. “At the end of the day, we see food as a human right. No one should go hungry for any reason, not in this country. We waste billions and billions of dollars. We have

people who don’t know where they’re going to get [their next meal]. We can’t do anything about rent right now, but we can do something about food.”

To learn more about

FBSC food pantries, how your organization can host new food pantries, or how you can otherwise support the work of the FBSC, call (562) 435-3577 or visit [foodbankofsocal.org](https://www.foodbankofsocal.org).

HEATHER HUTT CAMPAIGN {Continued from A-1}

represent one of the city’s most diverse ethnic communities, such as Little Ethiopia, Little Bangladesh, and Korea Town.

Hutt is the only single mother and Black woman with a seat on the City Council at present. It has been decades since a woman has represented this district. Her leadership reflects a trend in politics.

“As a woman who has always pushed to represent people, it feels natural to be a woman in a leadership role here,” said Hutt.

“We have a woman mayor, state senator, our representative in Congress is a woman, and even our U.S. Senator Laphonza Butler—all women,” she said.

With only 60 days left in this election cycle, Hutt and

her many supporters mean business.

“This is so exciting,” said Hutt about her campaign kickoff. “I see so much beautiful support that I am so proud to have friends, relatives, neighbors, unions, businesspeople, grassroots organizers, and people from all corners of the district—they are all here today and that just feels great.”

City Councilwoman Traci Park was among the elected officials on hand to participate in Hutt’s campaign kick-off.

“Councilwoman Hutt is a fierce advocate for her community,” said Park of Council District 11. “She means business around that horseshoe (in Council chambers). And a real leader for what it means to be from

and for a community.”

As the former representative of the 10th District, Herb Wesson assured the attendees that she was the best person for the job.

“It’s important to me that you have somebody (in this city council seat) who is doing this for all of the right reasons, someone who loves this district, and someone who is just a human being,” said Wesson.

Several Democratic clubs have endorsed Hutt.

“I think Heather has done a great job of representing this district for the L.A. City Council,” said Mark Ramos, chair of the L.A. County Democratic Party. “Whether it is access to housing, making sure our streets and parks are safe, that’s what Heather cares about for the residents who live and work here.”

RICHARD ALATORRE FUNERAL {Continued from A-1}

Voting Rights Act.

His dedication to his community and public service continued when he was elected in 1985 to the Los Angeles City Council. It had been more than two decades since a Latino had served on the Council. His first big assignment was to chair the Council’s mid-decade reapportionment in response to the federal voting rights lawsuit. Richard’s tireless work resulted in the city’s first fair apportionment for

Latinos and the election of another Latino to the City Council.

During his tenure, Richard was instrumental in leading citywide efforts that substantially increased police protection; brought diversity to the city’s workforce, especially the Los Angeles Fire and Police Departments; expanded city support for anti-gang programs; stabilized neighborhoods and expanded economic, recreation and

education opportunities for his constituents. He also spearheaded efforts to raise more than \$13 million for the revitalization of Olvera Street, the city’s birthplace.

His love of children and ensuring that they had safe and affordable activities in their local neighborhoods led to the building the East Los Angeles YMCA and the establishment of the first Youth Council for CD 14. He also created the yearly Feliz Navidad Pro-

gram to ensure that families and children living in his district’s public housing projects had a warm meal and gifts during the holidays. He also played a pivotal role in building and transforming the City’s public transportation system during his tenure on the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission.

Richard will be remembered by the people of California and Los Angeles as one of the pre-eminent pub-

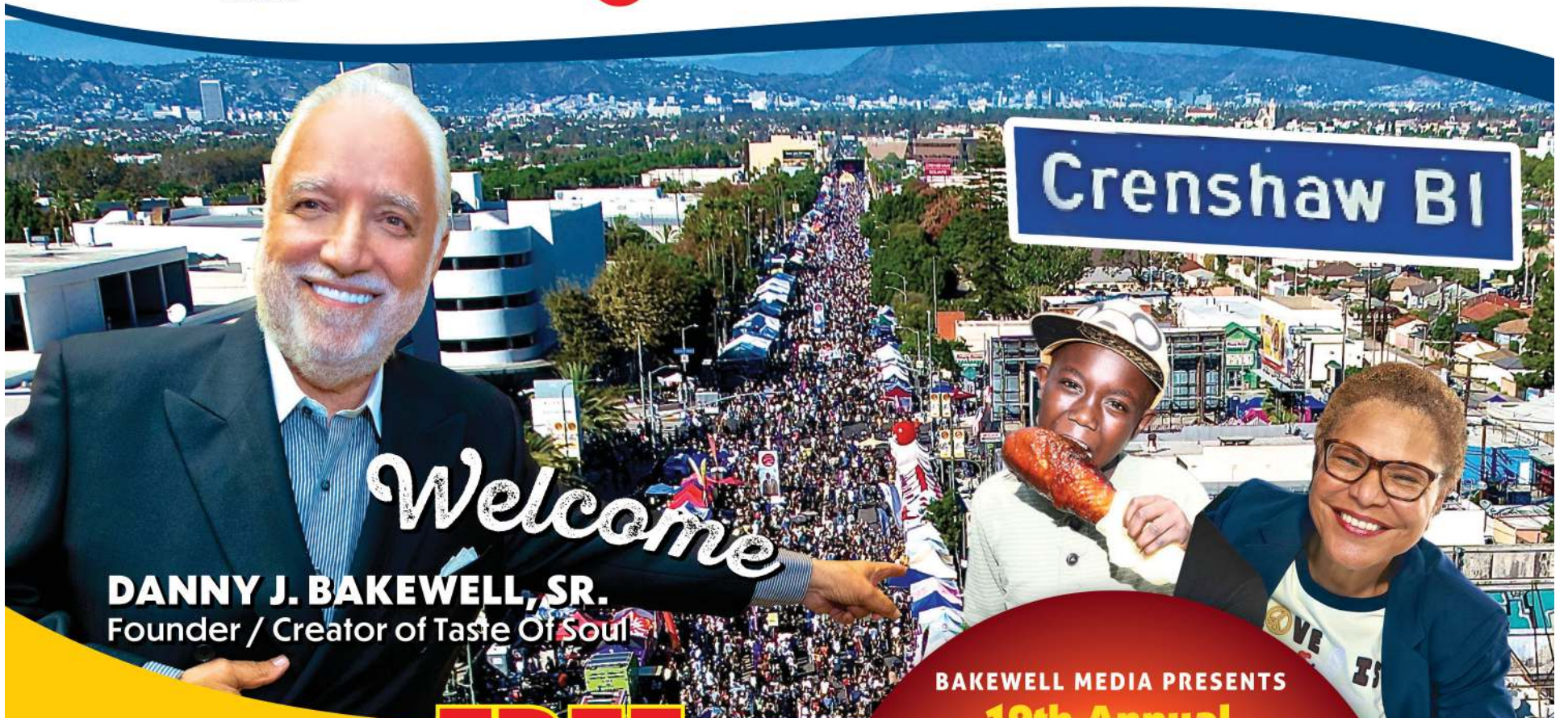
lic policymakers in California; a trailblazer in the fight for equal rights and representation in this country; the architect of reapportionment and an expert in voting rights; a champion for the voiceless; and a dedicated and man of faith with a servant heart.

His family and close friends will also remember him as a dedicated family man who loved his family dearly, a fiercely loyal friend and a mentor to

many. He is survived by his wife of 33 years Angie; sons Derrick and Darrell; daughter Melinda; granddaughters Gabriela, Mariela, Daniela and Kaycee; his sister Cecilia; son-in-law Patrick; and daughter-in-law Dayana.

In memory of Richard, donations can be made to: The United Farm Workers at <https://ufw.org/sparechange/> or Centro de Ninos at <https://www.centrodeninos.com/donate>.

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Ron Finley Presents Works in 'Breath(e): Toward Climate and Social Justice'

By E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS
Staff Writer

Ron Finley, a South L.A. conservationist known for his renegade gardening, participates with more than 20 artists in the Getty's region-wide initiative "PST ART: Art and Science Collide" with

the Hammer presents "Breath(e): Toward Climate and Social Justice."

The environmental art exhibit addresses the climate, issues of equity, and social justice. Finley's mission is for people to recognize their connection to nature and emphasizes the need for a healthy

planet. "I want people to come so I can change their DNA. We need to realize that we only got one planet," he said.

The massive elaborate and ornate gate at the entrance leads to a maze of enchanting plant-life, exploring the concept of



Finley walks through a garden of living and breathing elements.

E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS / L.A. SENTINEL



Artist Ron Finley

E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS / L.A. SENTINEL

nature as both art and inspiration. Within the crafted verdure are treasures of living and breathing flowers, herbs, vegetables, fruits, shrubs, trees, grass, earth elements, and Finley's renown handcrafted show-

els. "This is nature and art. Nature is art. Where do colors come from? Where does sound come from? There is no separation," said Finley.

The importance of healthy food growing is present throughout the exhibit. "With most artist,

their work isn't edible; you can eat my art."

The free exhibit opens at the Hammer Museum in the City of Westwood on Saturday, Sept. 14, and runs through Saturday, Jan. 5.

For more information, visit <https://hammer.ucla.edu/>

Stanley Jordan Mentors Students at 42nd Street Elementary School



From left are Jeremy McDavid, principal of 42nd Street Elementary School, Diane Robertson, and musician Stanley Jordan.

By SHAWNA CHARLES, PH.D.
Contributing Writer

Stanley Jordan, the legendary jazz guitarist known for his innovative "touch technique," recently brought

his musical brilliance and passion for mentorship to South Los Angeles.

As part of the 2024 Leimert Park Jazz Festival, Jordan not only headlined the event but also conduct-

ed special mentoring sessions for students at 42nd Street Elementary School. These sessions, made possible by the festival's community outreach efforts and festival Board Chair Diane Robertson, left a lasting impact on the young students and highlighted the powerful role of arts education in underserved communities.

"This school is near and dear to my heart. It is in Leimert Park where I am a stakeholder, resident, and homeowner," Robertson shared.

"I know the principal and asked if he would be amenable to having our headliner this year, the legendary guitarist Stanley Jordan. He told me emphatically, yes... These music mentoring sessions that [Stanley] conducts really help to spark an interest in our young people for an appreciation for music and art."

At 42nd Street Elementary, Jordan addressed both the K-2nd grade and 3rd-6th grade students where

he shared not just his musical talents, but also his insights on creativity and the importance of following one's passions.

"The best advice that I gave today, and I say this again and again, is to realize that your dreams are going to take work to achieve and don't give up," Jordan emphasized during the sessions.

"There's difficulty in almost everything that you do, but if you're not encountering resistance,

you're not really accomplishing anything."

On the day of the festival, Jordan took the stage with the Stanley Jordan Trio, delivering a performance that was as mesmerizing as his mentoring sessions. His innovative guitar techniques and emotional depth captivated the audience, reaffirming his status as one of the leading figures in contemporary jazz.

The festival, featuring a diverse lineup of artists,

was a vibrant celebration of music, art, and community, with attendees from all walks of life coming together to enjoy the cultural richness of South LA.

By bridging the gap between world-class artists and local students, the Leimert Park Jazz Festival fostered cultural pride and artistic curiosity in the next generation as well as ensured that the legacy of jazz and the spirit of community continue to thrive in Los Angeles.

Simon Burris: Africana Diaspora Black History Month II Crossword

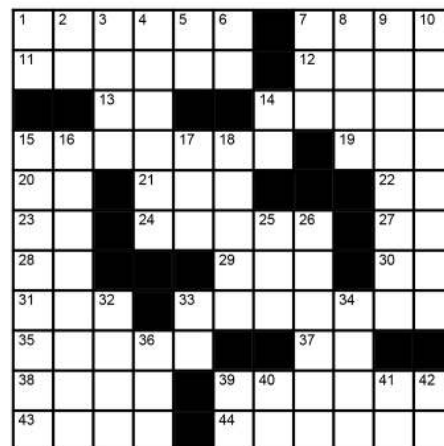
PULLMAN PORTERS: 1864-1968
www.simonburris700.com

Across

- 1. ** ___ Pullman (founder of the Pullman Company in 1864)
- 7. *Pullman's "hotels on wheels"
- 11. **Pullman porters worked 400 hours ___
- 12. Face-to-face exam
- 13. While
- 14. Pine Tree State (Pullman train route)
- 15. **Activist ___ X was a Pullman Company employee
- 19. Fruit drink
- 20. *Will Smith film "I ___ Legend" (2007)
- 21. *Author T ___ Morrison
- 22. *Folk ___ era "Porgy and Bess"
- 23. Concerning
- 24. *Black Wall Street massacre locale (1921)
- 27. *NBA superstar ___ Bron James
- 28. Name before JR
- 29. Brief Limerick
- 30. *Singer Robeson's monogram
- 31. Get moving!
- 33. Heavenly beings
- 35. **"40 ___ and a mule" (failed promise made to 4 million freed slaves (1865))
- 37. ___ Parking!
- 38. **Pullman chef's entree, perhaps
- 39. **Pullman porter, informally
- 43. Abbr. for Lane Airbase
- 44. **Some porters were former 'bondservants'

Down

- 1. *Macon's state (Pullman train route; abbr.)
- 2. A letter
- 3. Ozark Oaks, Alabama (initials)
- 4. Rens Ness, Scotland, for short
- 5. Great (abbr.)
- 6. What did you say?
- 7. Colorado Ante, briefly



- 8. *Leontyne Price's song
- 9. **A. Philip ___; founder, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (1925)
- 10. *Pullman trains, so to speak
- 14. 2000, in ancient Rome
- 15. **Supreme Court Justice Thurgood ___ was a son of a Pullman porter
- 16. **Porter from Ohio or Florida, for example
- 17. Extra or plus (B ___ S)
- 18. French girl's name
- 25. "Listen to us, ___" (Genesis 23:6)
- 26. * ___ Gorman; poet performed for Joe Biden and Kamala Harris
- 32. Girl's name
- 33. ___ ame ___ ize
- 34. Port of call village (abbr.)
- 36. ___ tide
- 39. Beatles drummer Starr's monogram
- 40. ___ Paso, Texas
- 41. M ___ West of films
- 42. Letter ender

(ANSWERS ON D-2)



Jordan performs for 42nd Street Elementary School students.

COURTESY PHOTO



Nina Flagg

PHOTO BY TERRELL MULLIN

Nina Flagg Lives How She Dances

about who we are as human beings and who we are as dancers.”

It’s evident that fluidity is another value that Nina embodies and personifies. Not only does it describe her aqueous way of movement and ability to wade between genres, but also her fluidic journey between the roles of performer, educator, and movement creator.

“When we think about a dance career, there are these different facets but we don’t always talk about how diverse that can be,” said Nina, reflecting on her own life. “We talk about ‘either you’re a dancer, and then you’re a choreographer’...but those things are all swirling, and it’s really great when you’re in practice in all three, as a dancer, as an educator, as a choreographer. I’ve been really fortunate.”

Those who grew up within or in close quarters to the world of dance understand the label-dependency and genre-confinement many dancers experience. “[Rennie Har-



Nina and her family.

PHOTO BY TERRELL MULLIN

lished dance makers: “It [was not] a choice of ‘am I going to deliver?’ I just had to deliver,” she said.

With the level of ability of the USC Kaufman students, delivering was certainly within the realm of possibility. “You don’t usually see that [level of ability] at their stage in their career,” she explained. “They already came with a lot of information in their body. They have house technique, dancehall technique, hip hop technique. That’s a testament to the faculty, to the Dean.”

In only ten years, USC Kaufman has cemented a rightful place as one of the best higher education dance programs in the States. It is a deep breath of fresh air for changemakers who want to see new styles of dance become highly regarded and widely taught. In a world where other cities, like New York, have historically offered a greater plethora of styles and masterful dance educators, Nina knows it’s important to bring her knowledge back to L.A.

“I think it’s wonderful to go out and see the world, but it’s as important to bring that information back home when it’s appropriate. You have to give back to the community that made you, and

L.A. has made me who I am.”

This integrity is a way of life for Nina, whose belief system is held in a simple chiasmus:

“How you dance is how you live, and how you live is how you dance.”

Stay aligned with Nina Flagg on Instagram: @ninaflagg_dance.

By MYKO LYRIC
 Contributing Writer

Nina Flagg is a dancer, choreographer, and pedagogue native to Los Angeles. Studying dance and gymnastics since three years old led Nina toward a deeply impactful and widely renowned career embellished with inimitable milestones, accolades, and accomplishments that continue to accrue to this day.

She has worked with legendary entities including Tina Turner, Bette Midler, Prince, Beyoncé, and the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, she has performed as a member of Rennie Harris Pure Movement and toured both domestically and internationally, and she has served as faculty at a myriad of institutions including Cal Arts and, currently, the USC Gloriana Kaufman School of Dance.

The root of her dance career began with her creative parents, Valdez Flagg and Karen McDonald, the latter being the director of the Debbie Allen Dance Academy and a dance pio-

neer in her own right.

“My favorite thing about growing up in L.A., I would have to say, was going to class with my mother and watching her teach,” Nina shared with the Sentinel. “[To see] a Black woman practitioner who had gone to New York to dance, she was bringing back a knowledge base to L.A. in a very intentional way.”

“My father was also a dancer. I grew up watching [them both]. It taught me about integrity....integrity



USC Kaufman students performing “L/Anding”

PHOTO BY ROSE EICHENBAUM

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 Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
 Bible Study on Wednesdays 11:00 a.m. @ 6:00 p.m.

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Giving Options: Online at www.grantamechurch.org
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RELIGION

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

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B-3

Faith Community Celebrates Life of Rev. Dr. Quincy Fielding

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Religion Editor

The sudden passing of the Rev. Dr. Quincy D. Fielding Jr., a renowned choral director, musician, and songwriter, shocked many in the faith community throughout the nation. Fielding, the pastor of Shiloh Full Gospel Church, died on August 26 in Los Angeles.

His homegoing services will commence with a public viewing on Friday, Sept. 13, from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., at Greater New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church, 4927 S. Western Avenue in Los Angeles. A musical celebration will take place the same day at 7 p.m. at McCoy Memorial Missionary Baptist Church, 802 E. 46th St., in L.A.

Dr. Fielding's life and legacy will be celebrated on Saturday, Sept. 14, at 10 a.m., at Faithful Central Bible Church, 321 N. Euclalytus Ave., in Inglewood. The viewing will be from 9 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

A native of East St. Louis, IL, Dr. Fielding was born on Jan. 22, 1957, to Quincy Sr. and Merdean

Fielding. Recognized as a musical prodigy, he played the piano, bass, drums and organ from an early age and continued to excel with these instruments throughout his life.

After graduating from Horace Watkins High School in Ladue, Missouri in 1975, Fielding attended Anderson University in Anderson, IN and Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA. Ultimately, he received his Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctorate degrees in Theology from Abundant Faith Catholic Theological Seminary.

Initially, Fielding exploded upon the gospel scene with the 1975 hit "I Feel a Change in My Life," which was recorded by the Gospel Music Workshop of America Mass Choir in New York City. Also, the GMWA choir taped his songs "I'm Going to Serve Him Forevermore" in 1976 and "I Want to be Filled More with the Spirit" in 1977.

Upon relocating to Los Angeles in 1981, Fielding's career reached even higher levels. A protégé and godson of the legendary Rev.

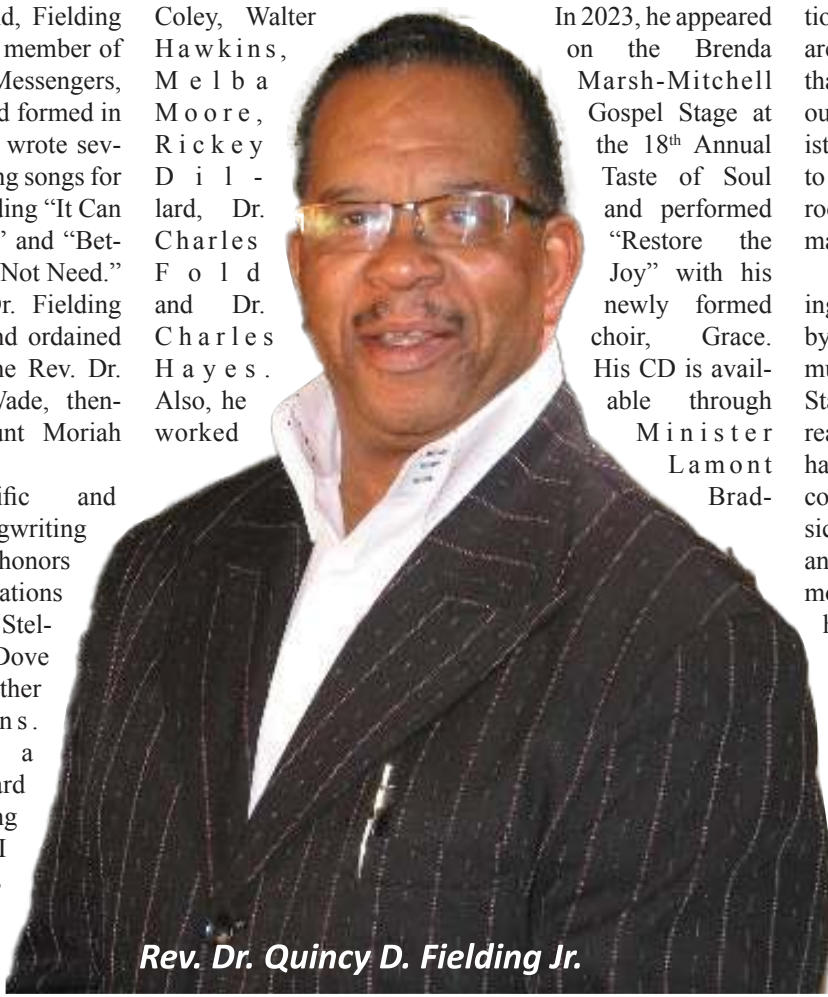
James Cleveland, Fielding was an original member of L.A. Gospel Messengers, which Cleveland formed in 1982. Fielding wrote several chart-topping songs for the group including "It Can Happen to You" and "Better to Have and Not Need."

In 1983, Dr. Fielding was licensed and ordained to preach by the Rev. Dr. Melvin Von Wade, then-pastor of Mount Moriah Baptist Church.

His prolific and anointed songwriting resulted in honors and commendations from GMWA, Stellar Awards, Dove Awards, and other organizations. He also won a Grammy Award for composing "What Shall I Do," which was recorded by both Tramaine Hawkins and Rev. Cleveland and the Southern California Community Choir.

Dr. Fielding collaborated with a range of gospel and contemporary artists such as Rev. Daryl

Coley, Walter Hawkins, Melba Moore, Rickey Dillard, Dr. Charles Foulds and Dr. Charles Hayes. Also, he worked



Rev. Dr. Quincy D. Fielding Jr.

with the Baptist Assembly of Free Spirit Churches Mass Choir, the O'Neal Twins, The Charles May Workshop Ensemble, and Minister Donald Taylor and the L.A. Mass Choir.

In 2023, he appeared on the Brenda Marsh-Mitchell Gospel Stage at the 18th Annual Taste of Soul and performed "Restore the Joy" with his newly formed choir, Grace. His CD is available through Minister Lamont Brad-

ley at Lord Before Us Productions by calling (323) 993-8581. "He leaves a lasting catalog of rich gospel music to inspire and encourage the Body of Christ for genera-

tions to come. I think there are two distinct qualities that are threaded throughout his multi-faceted ministry. He has remained true to God and to his spiritual roots," said Quaford Coleman, a longtime friend.

"Rev. Dr. Quincy Fielding, Jr. will be well-missed by the collective gospel music world of the United States. He was always ready to lend a helping hand and a word of encouragement to other musicians. He was beloved and always smiling. Almost everyone who knew him considered him their family member," added Arvis Jones, a co-musician with Fielding in the Gospel Music Workshop of America - Los Angeles Chapter.

Cherishing the memory of Dr. Fielding are his wife, Lady Wanda Fielding; sons, Quincy III and Freeman; mother, Lady Merdean Fielding-Gales; and many relatives, church members and friends.

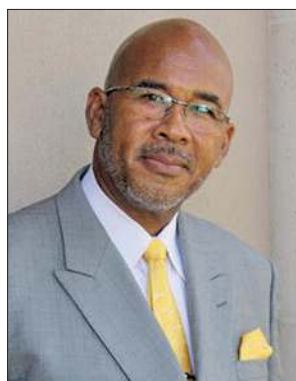
Quaford Coleman and Arvis Jones contributed to this article.

'Dementia Friendly Service' at Grant AME Focuses on Brain Health

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Religion Editor

Emphasizing the importance of brain health, Grant AME Church will hold a Dementia Friendly Service on Sunday, Sept. 15, at 9:30 a.m., in the edifice located at 10435 S. Central Ave., in Los Angeles.

The special worship will include participation by Dr. Fayron Epps, found-



Rev. Dr. Timothy Coston, Jr.



Dr. Fayron Epps

er of the ALTER, and a sermon by Pastor Timothy O. Coston, Jr.

According to Dr. Epps, "This program supports building resources and awareness around dementia and brain health in African American and faith communities."

"The Alter program assists faith-based communities in meeting the needs of families based on three

pillars - education, support and worship," explained Pastor Coston.

"We believe that faith-based communities are important sources for providing health related information and offering connections to services, particularly for African Americans. Historically churches have been a safe haven for African American families, however, many

churches do not currently have programs to support families/congregants living with dementia," added Dr. Epps.

Inviting the public to attend, Pastor Coston said, "Join us and feel free to bring someone for our next Dementia Friendly Service on Sept. 15, at 9:30 a.m. If you have any questions, please contact Grant AME Church at (323) 564-1151."

Pleasant Hill Marks 55th Pastoral Anniversary of Bishop Washington

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Religion Editor

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church will mark the 55th Anniversary Celebration of Bishop Sylvester and Mrs. Earlee Washington with two services.

The observance begins with a musical on Sunday, September 15 at 3:30 p.m., in the church's sanctuary located at 2099 West Martin Luther King Blvd., in Los Angeles. On Sunday, September 22, at 3:30 p.m., an appreciation service will take place at Pleasant Hill. The guest preacher will be the Rev. Dr. Donald R. Robinson, pastor of the Community Missionary Baptist Church of Redlands, California and first

vice president of the Baptist Ministers Conference of Los Angeles and Southern California.

Bishop Washington, popularly known as a soul-winning pastor, has served as pastor of Pleasant Hill since 1969. Over the years, he has led the congregation in assisting the underserved through community outreach activities such as food distributions, Thanksgiving meals and Christmas toy drives.

In 2021, the bishop responded to God's command 'to do more for people' by uniting with Central Neighborhood Health Foundation in 2021 to provide medical, dental and mental health services to the community.



Bishop Sylvester and First Lady Earlee Washington

"The goal is to minister to the mind, body and spirit of all people, especially vulnerable populations," explained Bishop Wash-

ington. Other programs he has spearheaded include The Blanket Drive, which solicits blanket donations to distribute to unhoused

people, and Abundant Life Counseling Center, which offers ESL and reading programs as well as therapeutic counseling for individuals and families.

His initiatives have resulted in Washington being the recipient of numerous commendations and honors. The Los Angeles City Council recognized him in 2009 by designating the intersection of King Boulevard and Wilton Place as Sylvester Washington Court. In 2014, the City Council installed a stone monument on the church campus in his honor.

Bishop Washington was consecrated and elevated to episcopal service in 2017. Also, he received an honorary Doctor of Di-

vinity degree from Providence Baptist Seminary and completed graduate studies at Fuller Theological Seminary and the Ecumenical Center for Black Church Studies.

According to Anniversary Chair Betty Baker, the public is invited to attend the 55th Pastoral Anniversary Celebration.

"The greater Los Angeles community is welcome to fellowship with us for this momentous occasion as we thank and praise the Lord for His blessings upon Bishop and Lady Washington."

To learn more about the anniversary celebration, call the church office at (323) 293-6448.

'Confession of Evangelical Conviction' Puts Jesus Ahead of Politics

By JEFF BRUMLEY
Baptist News Global

A new confession of conviction to counter the politicization of evangelical congregations will generate pushback from Christians convinced their preferred political candidates are chosen by God, faith leaders said during an online briefing about the document.

The "Confession of Evangelical Conviction" also aims to inspire evangelicals to publicly proclaim their loyalty to Jesus Christ, to serve as theological backing for beleaguered pastors and to set an exam-

ple of faith for a younger generation of Christians, its signers said.

But it's not going to be a popular statement to evangelicals who have elevated party and nation above gospel teachings, said Skye Jethani, author, speaker and co-host of "The Holy Post" podcast.

"This statement is designed to hold up a mirror to those who read it and reflect back either the image of Jesus or the image of their partisan idolatry," Jethani explained during the Sept. 9 Zoom call featuring six other national evangelical leaders involved in the document.

"Ultimately, this is a moment for us all to take stock of where our allegiances lie. Who's teaching and what teaching are we really called to pursue in this world? And if it's not the teachings of Jesus and if it's not the values of his kingdom, then maybe we shouldn't be calling ourselves his followers," Jethani said.

The confession presents seven convictions central to fostering revival and civic renewal, beginning with "We give our allegiance to Jesus Christ alone." Numerous Scripture passages affirming the supremacy of God and

Scripture are provided to support that top value.

"We reject the false teaching that anyone other than Jesus Christ has been anointed by God as our Savior, or that a Christian's loyalty should belong to any political party," it says. "We reject any message that promotes devotion to a human leader or that wraps divine worship around partisanship."

"We will lead with love, not fear" follows with biblical reminders that Jesus never will abandon his people: "We reject the stoking of fears and the use of threats as an illegitimate form of godly motivation,

and we repudiate the use of violence to achieve political goals as incongruent with the way of Christ."

The truth of Scripture and its warnings against bearing false witness also are affirmed: "We reject the misuse of holy Scripture to sanction a single political agenda, provoke hatred or sow social divisions, and we believe that using God's name to promote misinformation or lies for personal or political gain is bearing his name in vain."

The statement concludes with a resolution to uphold the gospel regardless of cultural shifts or political pressures: "We



Skye Jethani

commit to being a light in the world, and faithful witnesses to the transforming power of Christ's love. We pray that God's Spirit will revive our church and strengthen Christ's people to be agents of his presence and blessing in this turbulent age."

• DR. MAULANA KARENGA •

Honoring Us' 236 Seasons of Struggle: Notes on Revolution from a 1960s Lecture

Fifty-nine years and 236 seasons ago, we met together to build an organization, actualize an idea and pursue a revolutionary initiative we named the Organization Us. Born in the tense aftermath of the assassination and martyrdom of Haji Malcolm X and in the fluid wake of the Watts Revolt of August 1965, we of Us dared to offer our life and death in the liberation struggle of our people and to dedicate ourselves to service, sacrifice, work, institution-building and righteous and relentless struggle to achieve this goal.

Below are notes on revolution and liberation from an unpublished 1960s lecture of mine. It speaks to the continuingly relevant questions we sought to address concerning key cultural and political requirements on the liberating road to revolution.

In the midst of a system of oppression that would deny us recognition, rights and respect, we stand up to recognize and praise ourselves and declare our right to self-determination, self-respect and self-defense in pursuit of Black Power over our destiny and daily lives. And we dare to practice each of these in revolutionary defiance of our oppressor and our oppression.

Today, we want to talk about revolution, and we want to talk about revolution in terms of cultural revolution. But since we see everything we do, think and feel as expressions of culture, it involves a discussion of politics, economics, art, liberation and all else. However, our main focus will be on building revolutionary consciousness in the midst of discussing and waging the liberation struggle.

As we say in Kawaida, until we win the battle for the minds of our people, waging armed struggle or getting out in the streets with guns won't work at all. For you can give a Negro, an unconscious Black, a gun, but if he's not conscious, he might end up

shooting you or himself and run out of bullets before he encounters the real enemy, our oppressor.

Unconscious, they mimic the mentality and actions of our oppressor. As Malcolm taught us, they are sick when the oppressor is; they defend him with their lives; and they are emotionally in bondage to him in clearly psychologically unhealthy ways. Our task, then, is to reshape the Negro mind and make it a Black one.

This is based on the fundamental assumption that in every Negro, there is a Black man or woman struggling to come into being. It is within this understanding that we put such emphasis on cultural and political education, on cultivating a nationalist and revolutionary consciousness.

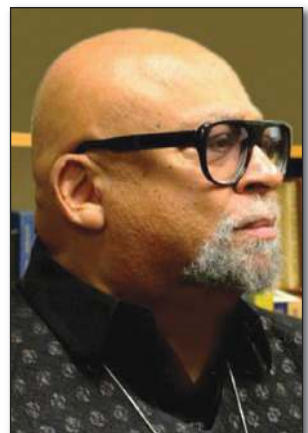
We say that coming into consciousness is first of all accepting that we are Black and acting on that reality in liberating ways. Also, as we continuously say, the fact that we are Black is our ultimate reality. But Blackness is not simply a color, it is three things: color, culture and consciousness.

Color is phenotype, physical appearance, which reflects historical origin within our people, Africans. Culture is our system of views and values that shape the way we understand ourselves and the world and the practice that proceeds from that. And consciousness is an active awareness of ourselves and the world that commits us to the practice of nation building, national liberation and revolution.

Among these three key aspects of Blackness, we stress culture. For culture gives us identity, purpose and direction. It tells us who we are, what we must do and how we can do it. And consciousness must be grounded in and informed by our culture or it is not in our interest.

We are an oppressed people in the midst of a liberation struggle, a righteous

struggle. As we say in the Seventh principle of the Nguzo Saba, we must "believe in our people and in the righteousness and victory of our struggle." There-



DR. MAULANA KARENGA

fore, our culture is and must be the basis of our revolution and recovery.

We can't make revolution in the abstract. That is to say, we can't jump up and try to make revolution out of random thoughts and practice. We must study other revolutions, as Malcolm taught us, and learn their lessons without trying to import things wholesale from another culture or country. You cannot have a revolution without direction, but that direction can only come from an ideology developed out of and for your own situation and culture.

Not understanding this, a lot of brothers play revolution rather than practice it. They read a little Frantz Fanon or Sekou Toure, a little Mao or Marx and believe that this makes them ready

for the revolution. But although this information is necessary it is not sufficient, for we must develop a new plan of revolution for Black people here in America. At one point, as much as we admire other revolutionaries, in order to become real revolutionaries ourselves, we must believe in our own cause and be willing to die for it. And we must stop reading other peoples literature and write our own, and stop pretending revolution and make it.

As Malcolm taught, this is the era of revolt and revolution. All over the world, oppressed peoples of the Third World are rebelling and making revolutions. For Us, this era and process started in 1965 in what we call the Year of Revolt. Since the August Revolt in 1965, Black people have risen up in a new form of resistance, moving forward at a fast and defiant pace, actually setting cities on fire and confronting our oppressor on many levels and in many ways.

People are beginning to change now, to acquire a new consciousness and to look at themselves and the world in new and necessary ways. And the questions we are faced with now are how shall we move forward in the most productive and effective ways, and how can we make a revolution like the world has never seen, but recognizes and respects it when they do see it?

Surely, we in Us say

"We have not simply come to be taught by the world but also to teach the world." That is to say, we must strive to achieve and offer a model for struggle and liberation recognized and respected by the world. Fanon has taught us that we must offer more than "an obscene caricature of Europe," that we must think new thoughts and engage in new practices that produce a new man, a new people and a new history.

Moreover, until we produce and offer some lessons and models of excellence in life and struggle, the world will not recognize and respect us for who we really are. We can run around repeatedly quoting Lenin about smashing the state, but without a disciplined guerilla army and the people organized into a self-conscious revolutionary social force, you will only get smashed yourself. What Lenin did in Russia is not a plan for us here in America. And even Mao's model cannot be applied without serious adjustment and modification. That is why to those holding up the Red Book as a model that we can mechanically apply, we say "the Red Book is better read."

So what we've got to do is build a revolutionary movement in our own image and interests, one that speaks to us, one that raises the consciousness of our people and unites them into a self-conscious social force for liberation. And we

say that we have to mobilize, organize and nationalize our people to achieve this in any real and successful way. This requires at every stage a deep thorough-going educational process and practice directed toward liberation.

To mobilize our people is to call them into action around their own interests, to make them aware of these interests, and to put before them issues they care about, confront and successfully resolve. To organize our people is to bind them together with culturally grounded principles in liberating work and struggle.

To nationalize our people is to build with them a self-conscious revolutionary culture and community that sees itself, as Malcolm taught, as a "nation within a nation", a people rooted in its own culture, and about the serious business of freeing itself, radically changing this country, and participating in the global rebellion against oppression in the world.

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.

• ASSEMBLYMEMBER TINA MCKINNOR •

Reparations and the CLBC Bill Package: A Path Toward Justice

As a direct descendant of enslaved people, I carry their pain, sacrifice, and resilience in my heart. Their dream of freedom, and the hope that one of their descendants would rise to serve in the California State Assembly, empowers me daily, giving me purpose and strength. I know who I am. I know that the work I dedicate myself to honors my ancestors and the generations that will succeed me.

I fully support reparations for the descendants of formerly enslaved people in the United States.

Let's be clear: reparations are not just one thing. No single action can repair the physical and emotional harm, or undo the generational economic damage, inflicted upon my family and millions of Black Americans who suffered through slavery, Reconstruction, Jim Crow, and the War on Drugs. Reparations are many things, which is why the California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC) stood united this year and authored an impactful and thoughtful reparations legislative package of fourteen bills that begin the work of all Californians and all Americans to right the wrongs of the past.

These fourteen bills came directly from the 250 recommendations of the Reparations Task Force—a body that spent two years traveling across the state, gathering data and testimony to develop policies for reparations. The task force's recommendations resulted from an exhaustive process of listening to the voices of Black Californians and documenting the injustices that continue to affect our communities.

In October 2023, the twelve-member CLBC convened to strategize how we would advance the first of a multi-year reparations bill package. We voted on key principles: that all our names would appear on the package of bills and that we

would need to build coalitions while showing discipline to pass reparations legislation that may be unpopular with some voters. We are twelve members in a 120-member body and to pass something as significant as reparations, we understood that it would take inclusive, strategic work to get it done. We also needed to ensure our colleagues had the political will to vote for this package.

What we never anticipated, however, was that one of our biggest obstacles in passing this reparations package would come from within our own ranks—one Black caucus member did more damage to our collective efforts to achieve reparations in California than any other legislator in the state.

From the outset, a black caucus member worked against the CLBC's efforts. Days after the CLBC introduced its reparations legislative package, a black caucus member introduced his own reparations bills, not part of the CLBC's work, and spent months attempting to negotiate away the \$12 million that the CLBC had secured in this year's state budget for his own project.

Despite our efforts to

remain unified, one member of the caucus chose to hold a separate press conference, which caused



FILE PHOTO
Asm. Tina McKinnor

unnecessary division when we needed to stand together. These bills will take time to pass, and we are asking the community to be patient and work with us to get this historic set of bills through the legislature. Of the 14 bills in our package, four of them stalled—some were held, others were watered down with amendments, or they simply didn't have the votes. It's been a long and difficult process, but we remain determined to see this through.

The lack of community support during critical moments has also been disheartening. We hoped for a stronger, more consistent turnout as we fought for reparations, only to be met

with silence from some and hostility from others. After two years of fighting for Black people, it's devastating to encounter such resistance. As we move forward, I will need my community to be present, from the very beginning, working alongside us to achieve the justice we all deserve.

The halls of the Capitol need to see and hear from Black people if we are going to get this done. I took on this fight because I love my people and I believe we deserve reparations for helping to build this great nation.

Reparations are essential for achieving true equity and ensuring that future generations of Black Americans have access to the same opportunities as everyone else. They are about addressing historical wrongs and recognizing the ongoing disparities that continue to harm Black communities today.

For me, reparations are about far more than a monetary payment. We need the community to understand that this fight is far from over, and it requires all of us to work together because - together - we can Restore Black California for All California, ensuring that our shared future is just and equitable.

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Coach Wendy

Life Strategist / Consultant
Author / Speaker

Do You Know a Shooting Star?

There is a children's song about friendship that shares the importance of making new friends but keeping the old for some are silver and others are gold. What is interesting about these lyrics is that we must value those who come into our lives and remember they are valuable, but some hold a special place in our hearts and lives forever.

One such friend of mine is retired Colonel Yvonne Cagle, MD, PhD, NASA

astronaut, senior flight surgeon, aerospace professor, and recent honoree of the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award Gold Medal from President Joe Biden. Now, of course, when we first met as young teenagers this was not her pedigree, but the character and integrity that built such a woman was evident even back then.

When we were young girls growing up, she lived in Northern California and I



hailed from Southern California, but the California Baptist Young People's Convention not only caused our paths to cross, but also would knit our hearts together forever. Over time life would take our paths in different directions but we still managed to stay in touch and connect whenever possible whether it was partaking in a Thanksgiving dinner while in college or making sure when one of us was in each other's territory we would pause and reach out to make sure the other

was doing well. Our families are close, and I am honored to be the godmother to her daughter.

Earlier I referred to Dr. Yvonne Cagle's pedigree, as they would say fruit does not fall far from the tree. Her parents were highly accomplished and always supported and encouraged her to reach for the stars and be her best self. She excelled in STEAM, sports, and student councils. After receiving her degrees she served as a physician, rising to the rank of colonel as a senior flight surgeon, maintaining the air crew's safety, readiness, and performance while logging hours on a wide variety of high-performance aircraft.

Yvonne is also recognized as a global speaker, including presentations on TEDx. She has made history here on Earth, but now we need to help her make history in space. Her unique accomplishments as a colonel culminate in a long

and distinguished career in the service of her country, reflecting credit upon herself, the Air National Guard, and the United States Air Force.

One of Dr. Yvonne Cagle's mentors was Creola Katherine Johnson, who was one of the first Black women to work for NASA. What is a shame is that we had to learn about Ms. Johnson and all the contributions she made to history from the movie "Hidden Figures." As a mentee of Ms. Johnson, Yvonne had the honor and privilege to escort Ms. Johnson across the stage at the Oscars when she was given an honorary award.

As Yvonne's friend, it brought tears to my eyes when I saw her side by side with her mentor. I feel like it is Dr. Cagle's turn to go from a hidden figure to her time in the spotlight and being among the stars. This starts by making sure we know who she is, what she

has accomplished, and helping her get her star right now here on earth.

Knowing someone for close to half a century is a long time. Yvonne and I have such a relationship. I am grateful for the seeds she has planted in my life to help me to continue to grow and believe in myself and that I can do anything I put my hands to do.

Her life can also serve as an excellent example to other young women, especially women and girls of color that they too can reach for the stars and be all they believe they can be. Let us not keep her "hidden but let us bring her to the light and shoot her into space.

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Visit www.WendyGladney.com and www.forgivingforliving.org to learn more. Wendy is a life strategist, coach, consultant, author, and speaker.

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Get Real! Focus on Reality!

You know... people laugh and talk and play music and have fun. And there is time for joy and happiness. Optimistically, some think that is the reality of life. If someone is laughing a lot, one might think they must know what they are talking about.

However, wisdom isn't tied up in a bundle of laughs and waving hands nor is it bundled in cover-ups and deceitfulness. That's not the description of reality. So, you're jovial and enjoying the occasion, but there are those (and

many of them) who don't have such joviality.

So, we might have to come into reality. Look around. Read the fine print. What does it say? Look beyond the facades and the front pages. How are you making your decisions? What's your guideline for making wise choices? Who do you look to believe? Will you make a choice just from appearance OR does the person have depth?

Is your decision based on appearance and appearances only? What are they



saying? Is it making any sense while you may be worrying about the next meals for your young children? Ask the in-depth questions to hear the real message. That's important. Your future depends on it. What's real?

A friend became ill and had to be hospitalized on an emergency basis! It was difficult, but fortunately, all went well. That portion of the insurance coverage was good. However, in the aftermath during healing, a special medication was required. The insurance

didn't cover about a 30-day supply of a medication called Elliquis which cost roughly \$600. That was not covered.

So, my question is, "Who can pay for this?" This medication is not readily available in the pharmacy, and we know why - because most folks can't afford it. Fortunately, the friend said she acquired it through samples.

Things must get better. WE need to stop looking around with blinders! All this laughing and talking isn't going to answer the needs of this complex society.

When Paul was about to be beaten by Roman soldiers, Paul spoke out and said, "I'm a Roman citizen!" How will these problems be solved? There is a spirit trying to take over our country. Our country was founded on Christian principles; by those who established it and those who supported it. There is a way to help and support

people. The Homefront should be first. There are global issues that affect our survival. Experience counts. What can we do?

The reality is that the best advice is to follow in the footsteps of our Savior, Jesus Christ. How can we follow Him? Accept Him as your Lord and Savior. Read the scriptures. And do what? Jesus told the apostles (the twelve) and the seventy to go and preach and heal.

He said, "I give you power and authority over all the works of the adversary (the enemy) and nothing shall by any means hurt you" (Luke 10:19). Jesus walked on water. He demonstrated that through His divine power, we could do these things.

He told those who were in the boat and saw what they thought was a ghost, "Do not be afraid." But before He sent them out, He empowered them. When He fed the 5,000 and healed all those who came

to see Him because they heard He was at home; He healed them.

What's my message here? Overcome life's challenges by keeping our thoughts focused expecting a miracle from our Lord. Don't blink. He is "the light in the darkness. There is no darkness in Him."

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. Don't stop praying and hoping. "Today is another great day to do good and be successful."

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Contact Murphy Richardson Agent Lic #00753317 3105702533- Call anytime</p> <p>760 Real Estate Wanted</p> <p>WE BUY HOUSES/UNITS 3 day close 213-479-5659 Francisco 310-420-9599 Tracy Call or text tracy@hubilu.com</p>	<p>DBE SUBCONTRACTOR BIDS REQUESTED DBE SUBCONTRACTOR BID REQUESTED REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO. PS124715 METRO BIKE SHARE PROGRAM LOS ANGELES, CA. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL DATE: SEPT 19TH, 2024 @ 2:00 PM OWNER: LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (LACMTA) PERFORMANCE/PAYMENT/SUPPLY BOND MAY BE REQUIRED LA SENTINEL, CLASSIFIED AD, SEPT 6TH-SEPT 13TH, 2024 THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS IN RESPONSE TO LACMTA'S DBE PROGRAM. LYFT WILL EXTEND OPPORTUNITIES AND CONDUCT ITSELF IN "GOOD FAITH" WITH DBE FIRMS SEEKING SUBCONTRACT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THIS PROJECT. PLEASE SUBMIT NOTICE OF INTEREST IN BIDDING FOR THE FOLLOWING WORK INCLUDING (BUT NOT LIMITED TO): BIKE SHARE STATION INSTALLATION/REMOVAL, BIKE SHARE STATION CLEANING/LITTER REMOVAL/GRAFFITI REMOVAL, AND BIKE SHARE STATION ELECTRIFICATION MAKE READY WORK. SCOPES OF WORK WILL BE SHARED VIA EMAIL IN RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF INTEREST. DBE BIDS/PROPOSALS ARE REQUIRED BY COB, SEPT 13TH, 2024, TO ALLOW FAIR EVALUATION OF ALL PRIOR TO RFP SUBMITTAL DATE. IF THE PROPOSAL DEADLINE IS EXTENDED, MORE TIME FOR DBE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ALLOWED. CONTACT: JOSH JOHNSON TEL: (213) 604-0186 EMAIL: TBS-OPS-LAX@LYFT.COM</p>



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CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTING OPPORTUNITY for Contractors, Subcontractors, Suppliers Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts Invite Bids For The Construction of: JOINT OUTFALL H UNIT 9C TRUNK SEWER REHABILITATION PHASE I (Bid Opening October 15, 2024 - Estimate \$6,000,000.00 - \$9,000,000) Contracting And Supply Opportunities Include: Pipeline Rehabilitation; Manhole Rehabilitation Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts encourage participation of minority, women, disadvantaged, disabled veterans, and small business enterprises. Plans and Specifications may be obtained through Quest Construction Data Network (QuestCDN) for a nominal nonrefundable fee. This can be done via a link on the Districts' Listing of Advertised Construction Projects webpage https://www.lacsd.org/opportunities/bids-purchasing/construction-bids or by inputting Quest project number 9297890, through the QuestCDN website (www.questcdn.com). Visit our Web site at "www.lacsd.org" and click on "Bids & RFPs" CNSB #3850176

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legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso. The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 200 West Compton Blvd. Compton, California 90220 The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Joshua E. Kohanim, Esq. FAIR CASES LAW GROUP P.O. Box 5800 Beverly Hills, CA 90209 ALDER LAW, PC 12800 Riverside Drive, 2nd Floor, Valley Village, California 91607 DATE (Fecha): 07/31/2023 David W. Slayton, Clerk (Secretario), by A. Corona, Deputy (Adjunto) (SEAL) 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/24 CNS-3846755# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

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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. Notice of Hearing: Date: OCT 28 2024, Time: 9:30AM, Dept.: 9, Room: 9 The address of the court is 312 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.) A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at 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: L. A. Sentinel DATE: AUG 22 2024 ELAINE LU Judge of the Superior Court 8/29, 9/5, 9/12, 9/19/24 CNS-3846755# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

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la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento de la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso. The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Superior Court of California 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Afshin Siman, Esq., Siman Law Firm, 6363 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 118, Los Angeles, CA 90048, 424-229-9778 DATE (Fecha): 06/05/2024 David W. Slayton, Executive Officer/Clerk of Court, Clerk (Secretario), by G. Delgado, Deputy (Adjunto) (SEAL) 8/29, 9/5, 9/12, 9/19/24 CNS-3842426# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

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). 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3/24 CNS-3851570# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

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). 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3/24 CNS-3851421# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

CIVIL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24TRCP00348 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of LORECE HARPER for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner LORECE HARPER filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: LORECE HARPER to LORECE CUFFEE 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. 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. Notice of Hearing: Date: 10/18/2024, Time: 9:30AM, Dept.: 8 The address of the court is 1 E. REGENT ST., INGLEWOOD 90301 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.) A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at 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: 09/06/2024 RONALD FRANK Judge of the Superior Court 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3/24 CNS-3851382# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

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. Notice of Hearing: Date: 10/18/2024, Time: 8:30AM, Dept.: H The address of the court is 400 Civic Center Plaza 3rd Floor, Pomona, CA 91766 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.) A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at 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: 8/26/2024 Allison L. Westfahl Kong/ Judge Judge of the Superior Court 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/24 CNS-384854# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): 23CMCV01198 NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): ATASHEYONNA PARKS, an Individual; FAIRY J. WILLIAMS, an Individual; DIANA SHORTS, an Individual; and DOES 1 through 25, YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): IGNACIO ESTRADA OJEDA NOTICE: You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. ¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento de la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24CHCP00337 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of TAMARA IMBER for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner TAMARA IMBER filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: TAMARA ROSE IMBER to TAMARA ROSE IMBER ARTOLOZAGA 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. 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. Notice of Hearing: Date: 10/29/2024, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept.: F47. The address of the court is 9425 PENFIELD AVE CHATSWORTH 91311 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.) A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at 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: 08/27/2024 MELVIN D. SANDVIG Judge of the Superior Court 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/24 CNS-3848113# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24STCP02225 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: RAUL GUTIERREZ for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner RAUL GUTIERREZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: RAUL GUTIERREZ to RAUL MENENDEZ TORRES 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. 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. Notice of Hearing: Date: OCT 04, 2024, Time: 10:00AM, Dept.: 86, Room: 836 The address of the court is 111 NORTH HILL STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.) A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at 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: 7/15/24 CURTIS A. KIN, JUDGE Judge of the Superior Court 8/29, 9/5, 9/12, 9/19/24 CNS-3847581# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24SMCP00376 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: ROBERTO ORTIZ for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner ROBERTO ORTIZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: ROBERTO DASHAUN ORTIZ to ROBERTO DASHAUN GUERRERO BROWN 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. 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. Notice of Hearing: Date: 9/13/2024, Time: 8:30AM, Dept.: K The address of the court is 1725 MAIN STREET, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.) A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at 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: JULY 17, 2024 LAWRENCE H. CHO Judge of the Superior Court 8/22, 8/29, 9/5, 9/12/24 CNS-3843993# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

1st AMENDED SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): 23STLC07045 NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): Jensen Kumamoto YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): William Monette NOTICE: You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. ¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24STCP02790 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: ORLANDA PEARL CUNNINGHAM for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner ORLANDA PEARL CUNNINGHAM BOLDEN filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: ORLANDA PEARL CUNNINGHAM BOLDEN to ORLANDA PEARL CUNNINGHAM 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. 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. Notice of Hearing: Date: NOV 22, 2024, Time: 10:00AM, Dept.: 86, Room: 836 The address of the court is 111 N HILL STREET, ROOM 102 LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.) A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at 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: L.A. SENTINEL DATE: AUG 30, 2024 CURTIS A. KIN, JUDGE Judge of the Superior Court 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3/24 CNS-3850678# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024189325 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SABAL'S CARPENTERS PRE APPRENTICESHIP UNION BASS SCHOOL, 13212 MANHATTAN PL GARDENA, CA 90249, County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): MICHAEL BERNARDEZ, 13212 MANHATTAN PL GARDENA, CA 90249 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/ MICHAEL BERNARDEZ, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on SEP 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 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). 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3/24 CNS-3851485# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024171950. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SECRET FOOD TOURS, 3014 DAUPHINE ST SUITE 16868, NEW ORLEANS, LA 70117 County of ORLEANS PARISH Registered owner(s): ESSOR INC., 3014 DAUPHINE ST SUITE 16868, NEW ORLEANS, LA 70117; State of Incorporation: DE This business is conducted by a Corporation The registrant(s) started doing business on 11/2023. 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).) ESSOR VCI. S/ JOHN NOCI, SECRETARY This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/15/2024. 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

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024172982 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: DEEP DISCOVERY INVESTIGATIONS, 2450 COLORADO AVE. SUITE 100E, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404 County of LOS ANGELES Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: N/A Registered owner(s): CASE CLOSED, INC., 3006 S. VERMONT AVE. #503, LOS ANGELES, CA 90007; This business is conducted by a Corporation The registrant(s) started doing business on 08/2024. 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).) CASE CLOSED, INC. S/ DUSHON RAY BURSEY, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/16/2024. 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). 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3/24 CNS-3851442# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024185137 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: RADIANT SPACES, 13819 CALAIS ST., BALDWIN PARK, CA 91706, County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): SUSIE AGUIRRE, 13819 CALAS ST., BALDWIN PARK, CA 91706 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/ SUSIE AGUIRRE, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 9/4/2024. 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). 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3/24 CNS-3851439# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024178444 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: OUR BROTHERS KEEPERS ONLINE BOUTIQUE, 12231 S. LOS ANGELES STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90061 County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): DEBRA KENDRICK, 12231 S. LOS ANGELES STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90061 This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant(s) started doing business on 08/2020. 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/ DEBRA KENDRICK, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/25/2024. 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

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024185768 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TIMELESS TREASURES, 4858 W PICO BLVD 227, LOS ANGELES, CA 90019, County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): CCN INNOVATIVE LLC, 4858 W PICO BLVD 227, LOS ANGELES, CA 90019; CA This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company 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/ CRYSTAL NICHOLS, CEO CCN INNOVATIVE LLC This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 9/4/2024. 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). 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3/24 CNS-3851414# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024174398 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: GOAL RECRUITING GROUP, 12405 BENEDICT AVE 15, DOWNEY, CA 90242 County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): PORTIA THOMPSON, 12495 BENEDICT AVE 15, DOWNEY, CA 90242 This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant(s) started doing business on 08/2024. 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/ PORTIA THOMPSON, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/19/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024174398 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: GOAL RECRUITING GROUP, 12405 BENEDICT AVE 15, DOWNEY, CA 90242 County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): PORTIA THOMPSON, 12495 BENEDICT AVE 15, DOWNEY, CA 90242 This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant(s) started doing business on 08/2024. 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/ PORTIA THOMPSON, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/19/2024.

• RENFORD REESE, PROFESSOR AT CAL POLY POMONA, FOUNDER/DIRECTOR – PRISON EDUCATION PROJECT •

Dr. Boris E. Ricks: A Champion of Black Los Angeles

Dr. Boris ‘Bo’ Ricks suddenly passed on September 5 — shocking many of the people that knew him. I met Bo at USC when we were both first-year Ph.D. students. He was pursuing his doctoral degree in political science and I was pursuing my doctoral degree in public administration.

Bo played college football at Mississippi Valley State University and I played college football at Vanderbilt University. We both were proud members of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. We were the best of friends and kindred spirits.

Boris received his bachelor’s degree in criminal justice in 1989 from Mississippi Valley State where he played football with NFL Hall of Fame wide receiver, Jerry Rice. He received a master’s degree in public administration in 1991 from the Univer-

sity of Mississippi, a master’s degree in political science from USC in 1994, and he received his Ph.D. in political science from USC in 2003.

Dr. Ricks’ research, teaching, and advocacy highlighted the intersectionality of racial and ethnic politics, urban affairs, civic engagement, and political science education. The aim of his research, according to him, was: (1) To advance how the field of political science understands and critiques systemic and structural racism within U.S. political institutions, and (2) to advance diverse, inclusive, and equitable approaches in the field of political science, which sought to redress racial and economic injustices.

Dr. Ricks was a superb professor who cared deeply about enlightening and mentoring his students at



Dr. Boris Ricks

Cal State Northridge. His passion for deconstructing the dynamics of Black politics in Los Angeles endured throughout his academic career.

He was a frequent commentator on local news shows about national politics. His research interests made him notable as a scholar, but this is not what made people who knew him feel a deep sense of loss

when learning of his sudden passing. Bo was iconic in many ways.

Each day he came out of his house, he made a fashion statement. His colorful bowties defined him. I remember going to his graduate student apartment for the first time and him showing me his closet.

He had his crisply starched white shirts in one section, his baby blue button-down shirts in another section, and his yellow, pink, and purple shirts at the end of the rack. His many ties were on a tie rack. When he got tired of wearing a shirt, tie, or blazer, he would give them to me.

And, just like his clothes closet, his life was defined by his routines. He worked out religiously for 4-5 days per week for the 32 years that I knew him. He prepped his meals to make sure he con-

sistently ate healthy.

He got his clothes dry cleaned, his hair cut, and his shoes shined biweekly like clockwork. He attended church every Sunday. He consistently attended meetings for the local graduate chapter for Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. Ricks was ‘Mr. Kappa.’ No one loved our fraternity more than he did.

What made Bo different from any other person that I have met in Los Angeles in the three decades since I have lived here was his charisma, selflessness, and his sheer love for Black Los Angeles. He grew up on 42nd and Hoover Street in South Central Los Angeles and became one of the community’s greatest champions.

He was an example of the brilliance that resides in this community. There is no one that I know who was more fundamentally con-

nected to the ‘Haves’ and ‘Have Nots’ in Black Los Angeles than Bo.

Quick with an encouraging word, a smile and a laugh, a thumbs-up, a hug or a pat on the back, Bo always made you feel good about today and better about tomorrow. His energy was radiant and his personality was simply magnetic.

Usually when we meet someone with his credentials, they are arrogant with a chip on their shoulder. His loss is so profound because rarely do we meet someone with his combination of radiance, grace, and humility. He lived a purpose-driven life that empowered and inspired all that knew him.

Renford Reese is a professor in the Political Science Department at Cal Poly Pomona and the founder/director of the Prison Education Project.

• EARL “SKIP” COOPER, CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT EMERITUS OF THE BLACK BUSINESS ASSOCIATION •

A Sensible Approach to Fixing California’s Broken Lemon Law

Access to reliable cars is a fundamental need for consumers, small business owners, and their hard-working employees. The California Lemon Law is an important consumer protection that allows community members to replace their family car if it cannot be fixed after multiple repair attempts. It is a vital tool for consumers that must be protected at all costs. However, there are significant flaws in the current system that require attention, especially with the current increase in the cost of living.

In recent years, the number of lemon law complaints filed in California

courts has increased significantly, leading to a severe backlog in the court system. This backlog is causing delays in delivering justice to consumers who require it the most. To provide some perspective, there were 4,300 cases filed in 2015, and it is anticipated that this number will rise to approximately 30,000 this year.

It’s important to note that this increase is not due to issues with vehicle quality; in fact, studies indicate that vehicle quality ratings are better than ever. Instead, the current law has created a system that encourages and rewards unscrupulous attor-

neys to file thousands of lawsuits in order to pressure companies to settle and obtain sizable payouts. This trend cannot be allowed to persist.

The backlog in the courts caused by these bad actors’ results in families waiting years for these cases to resolve, which means they have to spend their hard-earned dollars renting vehicles for months or relying on rideshares and taxis constantly. Anyone who ever had to call a car with a baby and a car seat in tow knows this option is expensive, inconvenient, and nearly impossible.



Earl “Skip” Cooper

To give a real-world example of the effect of this problem, it is not uncommon for families to be forced to wait 3-5 years for their car to be replaced while their case is tied up in

court. The court backlogs are especially bad in our Southern California courts, which has trickle effects to the health of other parts of the system.

This problem, which is heavily affecting our communities who rely on vehicles to get around the large Los Angeles region in particular, can be significantly helped by a piece of legislation that just made it to Governor Gavin Newsom’s desk with the heavy opposition of mass-filing, litigious plaintiff attorneys, some of the foreign automakers, and some of the companies pushing the exclusive use of electric

vehicles, like Tesla.

Meanwhile, supporters of this legislation include storied American companies like Ford, General Motors, and Stellantis, as well as the statewide organization representing the consumer-side lawyers trying to fight for the best interests of their clients while not prioritizing delay tactics and punitive, unfair penalties.

The bill is called Assembly Bill 1755, coauthored by very well-respected and strong leaders in our State Legislature — Senator Thomas Umberg

[See EARL “SKIP” COOPER on D-2]

• TONY WAFFORD •

What About Poor People?

Am I the only one who thinks—what about the poor—when I hear people talk about helping to rebuild the middle-class or strengthening the middle-class? I don’t know about you, but I remember growing up seeing poor people, and years later, I remember talking with my mom and her telling me that we were poor, and when she was growing up in Detroit’s “Blackbottom” they were poor for real!

Have you ever asked yourself just what is the middle-class and just where did that term come from? I don’t know about you, but I never do all that math; I see four classes of people. I see poor people, people doing a little better than others (on the outside), people doing well and those that are grossly wealthy.

So, what is the middle-class? Sociologist Leonard Beeghly identifies a man making roughly \$57,000

and his wife making roughly \$40,000 with a household income of around \$97,000 is middle-class.

Another sociologist identifies household incomes between \$35,000 and \$75,000 as being lower middle-class and \$100,000 or more as being upper middle-class. Now I’m not saying these so-called middle-class people are rich, but if you bring home between \$75,000-\$100,000 a year, that looks damn good to someone making \$7.25 an hour.

In the spirit of transparency, last week I saw a video of Rev. Dr. William Barber and Daily Show host Jon Stewart talking about his book, “White Poverty and Poor Peoples Campaign” which made me delve in deeper into the issue of poor people in this country.

Did you know that in 2024, the Federal Poverty Line (FPL) is \$15,080.00 for

one person and \$31,200.00 for a family of four? Think about it—an annual income of \$15,080.00 makes you poor as hell to me! So now some of you are saying, “Well that’s better than nothing, isn’t it?” Well, here’s the way I see that. If you have a knife in your back 12 inches, and someone pulls it out 6 inches, yes that helps, but you still have 6 inches of knife in your back and you are still hurting, bleeding and at death’s door.

When the average monthly rent in this country is between \$1,372.00 and \$1,563.00 a month and the federal minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour, (\$290.00 a week before taxes) giving you \$15,080.00 per year (before taxes) and after paying your rent all year long, you are \$724.00 in the hole at the end of the year. You noted I didn’t include little things like food, utilities and transportation to and from that \$7.25 an hour job.



Tony Wafford

How many times have you heard people say, we have made so much progress in this country? Let me say to that, America couldn’t fall off the floor and for Black people and other poor and oppressed people living in America, America was on the floor. In August 1963, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. marched on Washington for jobs and justice. He was primarily there to address the federal minimum wage, which was at the time, \$1.25

per hour; 61 years ago.

Did you know that had America just stayed on track with inflation that minimum wage of \$1.25 would be equivalent to \$10.81 in 2023, yet today, in 2024, we are only at \$7.25. We’ve made progress alright! So much so that according to current data, the top 1% in this country controls 30% of its wealth. Now that’s some progress for yo A\$\$!

Meanwhile, our brothers and sisters working in the service industry are supposed to get excited about a proposal to no longer tax their tips. How about paying them a living wage so they won’t need to depend on the magnanimity of patrons to make ends meet! How in the hell in any decent society can 1% of its population control 30% of its wealth? Don King was right—only in America.

The poor and the homeless (I don’t like or use the word unhoused) issue is a

problem all over this country and guess what, putting a mini house in your backyard, building new houses and apartments that most people can’t afford to live in, and after you cut the ribbon, and the cameras are gone, in less than two months they are going to be back on the streets and sleeping in cars.

And you damn sure ain’t going to solve the problem of poverty and the poor by cutting taxes and allowing rich people to get richer because the crumbs will never fall from the table of the greedy, they would rather sweep them up than to give them to you (the poor).

Just maybe when Jesus said, “The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me.” I don’t need to ask, what would Jesus do, I read the book! He was asking us, all my good Christian friends, I believe, to do something about the poor among us.

Public Notices	Public Notices	Public Notices	Public Notices	Public Notices	Public Notices	Public Notices
creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of GIRLEAN WHITTAKER. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by ANDRE COY in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ANDRE COY 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: 10/01/24 at 8:30AM in Dept. 99 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 ANDRE COY 339 E 64TH ST LOS ANGELES CA 90003 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/24 CNS-3851240R LOS ANGELES SENTINEL	representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests the decedent’s WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. 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: 11/01/24 at 8:30AM in Dept. 99 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 GLENN H. SMITH 2421 10TH AVE LOS ANGELES CA 90018 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/24 CNS-3850470R LOS ANGELES SENTINEL



ENTERTAINMENT

Martin Lawrence Performs to Packed Crowds at Yaamava' Resort and Casino



BY KEITH L. UNDERWOOD
Contributing Writer

Not long ago, actor and comedian Martin Lawrence performed at the Yaamava' Resort and Casino at San Manuel. The cozy 2,500-seat venue was packed with Lawrence's fans. They were all very eager to see

ment here in California is cool because you get a big diverse audience at the show, and they brought the energy."

Yaamava' offers first-rate casino gaming, lavish resort spaces, award-winning dining, a world-class spa, and live performances from legendary artists like Lawrence.

While waiting for the show to begin, many fans gossiped amongst themselves about Lawrence's



The Yaamava' Resort and Casino marquee featuring Martin Lawrence.

A few months back, Lawrence addressed the health rumors on Hot 97's "Ebro in the Morning," where he said, "I'm fine. I'm in God's hands. You know, I'm glad to be waking up every day. I'm all good. There is no need for people to be concerned."

When Lawrence finally made his way onto the Yaamava' Theater Stage, almost without delay, he delivered a joke about the stroke rumors.

In true Lawrence style, he remarked on the chatter about his supposed stroke, followed by him spritely side-leaping across the stage, and then he said, "Does that look like I had a stroke?" From there, he uproariously enthralled the

audience.

Although Lawrence's speech sometimes seemed a bit impaired, his comedic timing was masterful. He even took out time from his set to chastise an audience member for recording the show, which was strongly prohibited by Lawrence and the Yaamava' venue.

"I see you," said Lawrence. "I can see the light on the top of your phone recording."

Lawrence is widely known for his work on television and film in projects like his self-titled Fox TV sitcom "Martin," and the "Bad Boys" franchise, which includes its latest box-office smashing installment "Bad Boys: Ride or Die."

Lawrence's filmography also includes "A Thin Line Between Love and Hate," "Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins," "Life," "Big Momma's House," and many more films.

Lawrence said with all his success in film and television, standup always brings him back to the stage because of the instant gratification he gets from comedy, which he referred to as "his first love."

"When you are on stage in the moment and the crowd reacts to you in real time, there is no better feeling," said Lawrence. He said it makes him feel alive and that he always wants to give the audience more.

"There are so many struggles' people face, and

the world is in turmoil with so much division but there is unity in laughter," said Lawrence. "So, if I can bring people together for one hour through laughter it's a great feeling."

From the long-standing ovation at the end of Lawrence's set, his performance at the Yaamava' Resort and Casino appeared to be everything the comedian could have hoped.

The Yaamava' Resort and Casino is a top entertainment destination in Southern California, serving 14-million patrons annually, which is second only to Disneyland.

"The venue was beautiful, and I look forward to returning," said Lawrence.



Martin Lawrence on stage at the Yaamava' Resort and Casino.

his stand-up show, "Y'all Know What It Is."

"Playing Casinos are always a good time. It was my first time at Yaamava', and they rolled out the red carpet," said Lawrence. "Having a casino environ-

health and mental well-being because of several unverified online rumors.

"Do you think he's okay," peddled one audience member. "I heard he might have had a stroke," whispered another.



The crowd reacts enthusiastically to Martin Lawrence on stage at the Yaamava' Resort and Casino.

La Faye Baker Parlays Stunt Work Into Advocating for Women

BY KEITH L. UNDERWOOD
Contributing Writer

La Faye Baker is an iconic stunt performer, stunt coordinator, and producer. She is also a humanitarian whose charitable endeavors focus on empowering women.

Baker is the founder of the Diamond in the RAW Foundation, which enables at-risk girls to change their lives through S.T.E.A.M. (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) programs.

Baker is also the founder of the Action Icon Awards, a luncheon benefiting the Diamond in the RAW Foundation. At the luncheon, the Action Icon Awards acknowledge and pay tribute to the achievements of stuntwomen, action-oriented actresses, and extreme sports stars in film and television.

Baker's interest in stunts began as a gymnast in college and early in her career as a probation officer. She was voted most athletic in high school, and Baker was also a Guinness-record



La Faye Baker

holder for the hula-hoop.

"A guy walked up to me and said, 'You ought to be a stunt woman.' I was like, 'You're crazy,'" said Baker.

Baker said she was oblivious to what stunt performers did, and she did not know much about their world. However, she did know their job was dangerous.

"I put in my Bible that I wanted to do something in entertainment," said Baker,

"Then, I met three people in less than a year who said I should be doing stunts." She was professionally trained and then began doing random stunts for individuals in

the stunt profession.

"I think God prepared me for this... I didn't know what I wanted to do in entertainment, but this came my way," said Baker. Although Baker said her first stunt was easy, she learned early that safety and preparation are key to overcoming fear.

"We exercise safety first," said Baker. "That's most important because we want to live to work again. We don't want to be injured."

Baker said early on, she practiced with several different stunt performers who had varying areas of expertise, like motorcycle stunts, high falls, and more. "When I was younger, I was really dedicated to and enthusiastic about the business," said Baker.

Baker enjoyed all the perks that went along with being a stunt performer — such as the travel. She also remembered embracing the idea of being paid to have fun. "We don't get the recognition we deserve, said Baker, "but it's exciting and fun, but it's also dangerous because you can get hurt."

Baker said patience and networking are key to becoming invaluable as a stunt performer because stunt people do not have agents. As an introvert, she believes she missed out on many opportunities.

Today, through Baker's organization Diamond in the RAW, networking skills is



Baker is an iconic stunt performer.

one of the key components they teach the young girls in the program. Networking is taught through the career development training at RAW, while other training focuses on education and life skills.

"Diamond in the RAW was the non-profit I created," said Baker. "The [Action Icon] Awards show benefits the non-profit. Diamond in the RAW is transforming and empowering the lives of young girls through the arts."

Baker said because she rarely saw Black people on set when she was coming up in the entertainment business, it was important for her to introduce these careers to girls in the inner-city.

"It's about generational wealth, building legacy, and letting them see and know these opportunities are out here — and they can make a lot of money," said Baker. "I created Diamond in the RAW at the same time I created the awards show."

Baker said during the Action Icon Awards, she not only honors those who are already accomplished in the industry but the young girls from the community, too, who are participants in RAW.

Baker explained, "[I want them to] experience the ambiance of what's out there. They see celebrities,

they're on the red carpet." Baker continued, "We have to introduce them to it because otherwise they don't know."

Diamond in the RAW also exposes the girls to non-traditional entertainment careers, such as nursing and architecture, and how these skills can be used in other jobs on set.

"If you want to go to school to be a nurse, you can be a medic on set," said Baker. "If you want to be an art director, you can actually design sets. So, have a plan b, so you don't miss out on something."

Baker hopes Diamond in the RAW will perpetuate generational wealth and teach girls how to be independent and support themselves inside the entertainment industry.

Baker's organization, Diamond in the RAW, and the Action Icon Awards are seeking sponsors and donors. For more information on both, please visit www.lafayebaker.com. Additional information about Baker's stunt career can also be found on the site.

The Anansi Writers Workshop is Still in Good Hands

BY MYKO LYRIC
Contributing Writer

Every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the historical Leimert Park, The World Stage hosts the Anansi Writers Workshop for any creatives looking to deepen and expand their skills. In an exclusive interview with former workshop facilitator, V. Kali, the Sentinel was able to gain greater understanding of how and why the workshop was developed.

"The actual World Stage was founded by Billy Higgins and Kamal Daud in 1989. Kamal had come from the Watts Writers Workshop and he founded Anansi in

1990, and I've been there since 1992...I facilitated it solo for thirteen years before 2024," Vali revealed.

"When I got to the world stage, there were groups of

young people who had just graduated from college. Now, they're Pulitzer nominees, they're on Los Angeles Times and New York Times bestseller lists."

Today, a wide and impressive array of wordsmiths attend the donation-encouraged workshop weekly. It follows a tried-and-true, three-part agenda:

artists arrive at 7:30 p.m. to showcase new works and receive feedback. Next, the evening's featured writers present their poetry, excerpts, or performances.

Finally, the facilitator hosts an open mic where anyone can share their completed works.

Some audience members attend not as performing participants, but as supporters and engaged listeners. On one Wednesday night that featured a performance from the female collective 'The Ovary Office,' an attendee noted, "I've learned more about women here, through poetry, than in any movie."

"This space is created for us, by us," remarked Kali. "It's created for our survival, our growth, our history, it's our medicine."



The Ovary Office performs at the Anansi Writers Workshop (V. Kali center in black).

PHOTO BY MYKO LYRIC

{See WRITERS WORKSHOP on D-2}

Antwon Russell the DJ - Mixing Dreams into Reality

BY NATHAN J. LEE
Contributing Writer

It's 10 p.m., and the air inside The Falls Lounge is alive with electricity. Retro lights flash in time with the beat, a disco ball glimmers overhead, and LED walls cast a nostalgic glow across the room. But the true magic happens behind the DJ booth, where Antwon Russell stands, orchestrating what promises to be the best night of your life.

With his mix controller, speakers, headphones and trusty MacBook, Antwon transforms the dance floor into a euphoric escape. By layering vocal effects and instrumental loops with harmonic transitions, his sets become more than just a series of beats—they're a journey. Each track he spins pulls the crowd deeper into a world where they can leave behind their worries and live in the music.

"All I want is to make people feel good," Antwon shares with a smile. "My role as a DJ is to create an escape—a moment where you're carefree, lost in the music."

Born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia, Antwon Russell always dreamed of

being a DJ. But like many creatives, life threw challenges his way. Before the pandemic, his dream was just that—a distant fantasy.

"DJing has always been something I wanted to do," Antwon reflects. "But it wasn't until the world shut down that I had the time to



COURTESY PHOTO

invest in myself. It was now or never."

As the global pandemic halted everything, Antwon found the space to prioritize his passion. He bought the equipment, studied the

craft, and began mixing tracks in his small apartment. Childhood talent shows fueled Antwon's journey, inspiring him to create magic through sound. Music became his lifeline, releasing years of bottled-up emotion and energy.

Soon, the opportunity he had been waiting for arrived. DJ Moonflower's event, "Moonflower Mondays" at The Falls Lounge — a hidden gem in the heart of downtown L.A. —

became his breakthrough moment. With its disco ball hanging from the ceiling and 90s music video vibe, the lounge immediately felt like home to Antwon.

"The moment I walked in, I knew this was it," he says. "There's just something special about the energy here. It's the kind of place that takes you back while keeping you rooted in the moment."

Antwon's rise from The Falls Lounge to larger venues was swift and well-earned. His growing reputation as a DJ led to a career-defining opportunity in August — a Michael Jackson tribute performance at the Hard Rock Café in Hollywood. Standing in the spotlight on Hollywood Blvd was a surreal moment for him, one that solidified his belief in the power of persistence and passion.

"So those things you once thought were unreachable? Like, last month, I was on a freaking billboard. I couldn't believe it," he says with a laugh. "It was this huge affirmation that anything is possible."

But Antwon's journey is not just about high-profile performances. He is committed to uplifting his



Antwon Russell

COURTESY PHOTO

community through music. Recently, he mixed the track for The Black Pride Cypher, showcasing his versatility and dedication to elevating Black voices. With over 20 performances this year alone — whether mixing for dance floors, producing tracks for music videos, or DJing major events — Antwon's presence is felt across L.A.'s vibrant music scene. And he's just getting started.

As Antwon Russell continues to rise in L.A.'s dynamic music scene, his

focus remains on creating unforgettable experiences for his audience. He plans to expand his presence beyond Los Angeles, with aspirations of performing at international festivals and collaborating with other artists to create original music. For now, though, Antwon is all about making each night memorable, one mix at a time.

To catch Antwon, live or stay updated on his latest projects, follow him on Instagram @imantwonrussell.

KJ Booze is Getting Our Stories to the Screen

By Myko Lyric
Contributing Writer

KJ Booze is an Oklahoma-raised, Los Angeles-based television producer. He currently serves as a Vice President at Khalabo Ink Society (KIS), which is the production company of "Black-ish" writer, Kenya Barris. At KIS, KJ helps to oversee the development process of a film slate with projects at multiple studios, including Netflix, Disney, 20th Century, and Paramount.

KJ sat down with the L.A. Sentinel for an exclusive interview on both his career and his hopes for greater diversity for behind-the-camera roles in the Film and TV industry. First, he explained the responsibilities of an

executive producer both on and off set through his own, real-life example.

"I was watching 'Top Boy,' and there were some episodes that almost made me tear up. And I went, 'who's the director?' and it was this guy, William Stefan Smith. I went and met with him and was like, 'we're doing this show, the Vince Staples Show, we gotta get you on this.' He ended up doing episodes on the show for us."

As a co-executive producer for The Vince Staples Show, KJ was instrumental in ensuring that the project reached Kenya Barris, while also recruiting the creatives he knew would enhance the show. In this way, being a producer provides KJ the privilege of engaging both



KJ Booze

COURTESY PHOTO

the business and creative sides of his brain; it's his job to build relationships with

managers and agents to recruit great scripts, and it's also his responsibility to con-

sistently consume art to discover promising talent. Having more diversity in the behind-the-scenes work can lead to diverse and daring casting, allowing a myriad of artists the platform to be seen and valued in a new light.

A significant aspect of KJ's success was the development of a strong community within the entertainment industry. "My network, not just at [KIS] but throughout Hollywood, is great. I've built a really strong and dependable network," he mused.

A graduate of USC's School of Cinematic Arts, he acknowledged how the school greatly impacted his trajectory.

"USC really helped give me a foundation by meeting people and connecting with

people who can also just hang out socially. I try to have genuine connections, and that helps.

"The cool thing about being a producer is you have a lot of say and more control, and we need more of us at the table making decisions for our stories. I do think there should be more examples of Black men doing things like this," KJ admitted.

With such a gratifying career, KJ is looking forward to inspiring melanated creatives to pursue this field.

"I'm at a point in my career, I would love to become a part of some programs where I'm mentoring and guiding young Black and Brown people who have no idea what this is because this career is so fulfilling."

EARL "SKIP" COOPER {Continued from C-6}

and Assembly Member Ash Kalra. AB 1755 is a vital bill that gives consumers the right to cut out expensive, unnecessary middlemen and email the auto manufacturers directly to own the resolution of the problem and find out directly whether and how quickly an auto manufacturer will offer a vehicle repurchase or replacement for a customer having a car repair issue that can't be fixed.

Under the deadlines in the bill, manufacturers would have to decide within 30 days of simple customer notice whether they will make it right. And if a vehi-

cle repurchase or replacement is offered, that solution must be completed within the next 30 days. Simply put, this is a strong new policy that will provide real relief for many of our community members while also strongly protecting a consumer's right to sue if they do not get a new car or money quickly to buy a new one.

AB 1755 is a historic piece of compromise legislation that will give consumers peace of mind, alleviate our court systems of unnecessary lawsuits, and help our small businesses save and avoid litigation costs. By signing AB

1755, Governor Newsom can address these delays and provide timely solutions to consumers who depend on reliable transportation for work, school, and family obligations. It is past time for California to afford consumers the same rights that people in other states get in getting their defective cars replaced on quicker timelines.

AB 1755 is proudly supported by our California African American Chamber of Commerce, and speaking for myself as a community activist for over 50 years and the Chairman of the Board

and President Emeritus for the Black Business Association, headquartered in Los Angeles, I wholeheartedly agree. On behalf of the consumers and businesses I work with, I very respectfully call on Governor Newsom to sign AB 1755.

The delay in justice for our friends and family members who were unlucky enough to get a lemon vehicle is unfair. Consumers should not be forced to wait months and years for a replacement vehicle so that they can get to work, drive their kids to school, and explore everything our great

region has to offer in their time off. I would humbly ask for our community to support the common-sense reforms proposed in Assembly Bill 1755, which is on our Governor's desk awaiting his signature.

Let us be a leader and provide an example of what good reform can look like — supported by both the Big 3

domestic automakers who employ thousands of Americans nationwide and by good-acting consumer attorneys who do their best work every day to fight for the best interests of their clients.

Earl "Skip" Cooper is the Chairman of the Board and President Emeritus of the Black Business Association.

WRITERS WORKSHOP {Continued from D-1}

"Being connected is so important. It's what holds us up and keeps us together. If we don't tell our stories, not only will they not get told, but somebody else will make up some [stuff]," advised Kali.

The workshop is a space in which all ages are invited to share their perspectives and stories; parents bring their teens, young adults come of their own volition, those in the middle stages of their lives sharpen their abilities, and elders share their wisdom.

"The generations merge in this place: you aren't too young, and you aren't too old.

Multi-generational

access is necessary because the world is just waiting for you to tell you all kinds of [stuff] that ain't true. If you're not getting your foundation built sturdily enough, then when you go out into the world, you fall apart. You grow up differently when you have a village," said Kali.

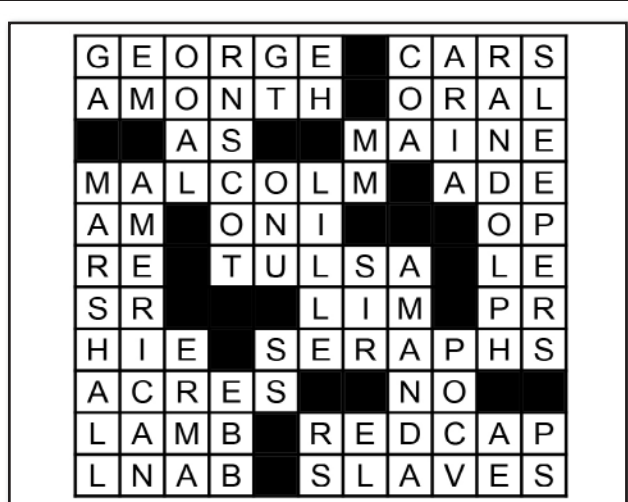
The workshop is now in the safe hands of co-facilitators and long-time attendees, Jessica Gallion and Nadia Hunter Bay. Writers are welcome to share and learn more about the gift of words, which Kali recognizes as a deeply revolutionary modality:

"When we are unable to express in the ways that will

help us the most, when you're at the job and you're being oppressed and you can't speak up, writing is quiet. It transfers what is in the mind, heart, spirit, and

soul systems. Writing is sacred."

For updates on events and schedule changes, visit the Anansi Writers Workshop page on Facebook.



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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

Student Athlete of the Week: Ashton Johnson

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Editor

Dorsey junior Ashton Johnson is a multisport athlete, helping the Dons 4x400m relay team reach the CIF State Championship. Johnson also competes in baseball and soccer.

While baseball and track and field season goes on at the same time, Johnson makes time to compete for both.

"I usually do one day of track and then one day of baseball," Johnson said. "The games don't usually fall on track meet day, so I just go to the track meets on Fridays and Thursdays."

Johnson helped Dorsey win the City Section

Championship in the 4x400m relay. He also competes in sprints and hurdling events. Johnson became a leader on the relay team.

"It's helped me to be understanding," Johnson said. "Our coach can't be on the field with us. When we're on the field, I make sure the drills are right, make sure everyone's handoffs are right."

Baseball was the sport Johnson competed in first; the World Cup inspired him to play soccer. Johnson did not compete in track and field until his sophomore season.

A highlight with the Dons baseball team is when he hit a home run last season against King/Drew.



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL

Dorsey junior Ashton Johnson helped the boys 4x400m relay team win the CIF City Section Championship.

"That was my first home run out of the park," Johnson said. "I didn't even know I hit a home run, I just swung, I was just

lightly swinging at it." Johnson had a 4.0 GPA last year, his favorite class is English. Perseverance and time management are

helpful characteristics for student-athletes, according to Johnson.

"I usually don't stress myself that much about the work that I have to do because I know I'll get it done and I know the teachers trust me," Johnson said. "When I go to school, at lunch and nutrition, I do my work."

With the soccer team at Dorsey, he has been enjoying their successes on and off the field.

"Last year, we went to the playoffs, that was exciting," Johnson said. "For this year I would say the overall bond we had with our coach and our team in general."

Running the 400m or the 4x400 is a tradition for

the Dons. Competing in those events is a method to condition for other events.

"I don't mind running the 4x400m because I actually enjoy it," Johnson said. "After I run the 100m, I'm not tired."

Johnson is a part of the Firefighting magnet at Dorsey. Outside of academics and athletics, he has experience playing the clarinet and he is a member of the Metro Fire Youth Program and Upward Bound. He has also volunteered at the African American Firefighter Museum.

"It was something that one of our mentors here provided for us," Johnson said. "It was a good experience for me to see all the artifacts."

Kei Kamara Finds Unity, Success in Soccer

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Editor

Los Angeles Football Club forward Kei Kamara is an elite and historic figure in the MLS. On June 22, he scored his 146th



JEVONE MOORE/L.A. SENTINEL

LAFc forward Kei Kamara (23) is defended by Columbus Crew defender Steven Moreira (31).

career goal, making him the second all-time leading scorer. He is among 11 players in MLS history to have over 100 goals.

Although he moved away from his native Sierra Leone to live in Hawthorne, he always had a piece of his home with

him through the Sierra Leone Interstate Soccer Association (SLISA). SLISA had teams in different states including Arizona, Virginia, and Maryland.

"Moving into the U.S.

would train with his SLISA teammates at Dorsey High School.

"It's always been a very close community, we were more like brothers other than friends," he said.

The teammates that Kamara calls his older brothers taught him about the city while protecting him from gang activity. Soccer was also a way that Kamara fit in at Leuzinger High School. He mentioned that the men's soccer coaching staff at Cal State Dominguez Hills also provided a family environment.

"Most of the guys are

still my family until this day," Kamara said. "They come to my games."

SLISA recently hosted a community celebration for his 40th birthday. The Los Angeles that he grew up in is different from the L.A. that he now plays professionally for. The LAFc is the 11th team Kamara played for.

"LAFc and what we've done around the neighborhood over there where it's so different now," Kamara said. "I see everybody walking around with LAFc t-shirts and jerseys, it's fun to see that."

Throughout his career,



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Kamara created the Heart Shaped Hands Foundation to give opportunities to underserved youth.



JEVONE MOORE/L.A. SENTINEL

With 147 career goals, Kamara is the second all-time leading goal scorer in the MLS.

Kamara showed how a player can come from a Division II university and be successful in the MLS. Another example of such is the all-time leading goal-scorer Chris Wondolowski, who competed for Chico State.

"Me and him has always had this bond to say let's keep it one and two," Kamara said. "I've been fighting for a long time to get close to him."

Kamara has been able to give back through his Heart Shaped Hands Foundation, the name coming

from his goal-scoring celebration. He has helped students by giving out scholarships; he now works on building a boarding school in Sierra Leone.

"If I can make one person smile, I love it... Now, I decided I want to take some of this joy and happiness back to Sierra Leone, where most of the kids don't even get close to the opportunities that we have here," Kamara said. "I'm using my heart and my hands to give back to the country where I came from."

Fairfax Beats LA High During Centennial Celebration

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Editor

Fairfax High School celebrated their 100th anniversary with a victory when they defeated Los Angeles High School 18-14 on Friday. The game kicked off their festivities which also included a dance and picnic on Saturday.

During halftime, Fairfax honored their past stu-

dent-athletes with a parade. All attendees also got to enjoy a fireworks show prior to the start of the second half.

Fairfax senior Gideon Obienu noted how alumni have shared their memories with the team.

"Before the game, a couple of alumni were coming in showing us their old jerseys," Obienu said. "It was very nice to see that and to be able to talk to the

alumni."

The Lions came out strong, scoring on their first possession on a 55-yard rush by junior Evan Castillo.

"I'm proud of him. He has been playing [junior varsity] since I've known him and he's finally getting some playing time playing varsity," Romans junior Isaac Andrews said about Castillo. "We were warming up earlier, I was telling him 'calm down, make the right reads and play hard.'"

The Los Angeles Romans fumbled on their next possession and the Lions offense was able to start right outside the Roman red zone.

Andrews ran in his first touchdown of the game from 17 yards out. The Los Angeles offense made a turnover at their own 38 yard-line, allowing Andrews to score again on a 13-yard passing play.

With every touchdown Fairfax made, they were unable to score the extra point, leaving them with an



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL

Fairfax celebrated their 100th anniversary during their matchup against LA High School.

18-0 lead in the first quarter.

The Romans defense brought more intensity in the second quarter, denying the Lions a touchdown on a fourth and goal and sacking quarterback Matthew Gonzalez.

After celebrating its centennial during halftime, Fairfax remained silent. This allowed the Romans to rally late.

Carries by seniors Semaj Williams and

Jeshua Alcantara would lead Los Angeles to their first touchdown with 8:16 left in regulation. A successful two-point conversion put the Romans within 10 points of the Lions.

The Romans battled in the final minutes, committing a pitch-pass to score one last time. Quarterback Ethan Grant handed off the ball to Williams who threw a deep pass to senior Roberto Garcia for a touchdown.

"It was a last second decision, we haven't practiced that at all," Williams said. "(Romans head coach Anthony) Jackson asked me if I was ready to throw the ball and I took my glove off, saw [Garcia] wide open and I just threw it to him."

Fairfax will travel to battle Chatsworth on Sept. 13 at 7:00P.M. and Los Angeles will have an away game against Westchester on Friday at 7:30P.M.



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL

Fairfax junior Isaac Andrews (1) scored two touchdowns against LA High School.