



Maverick's Flat Has a New Owner in **Nina Rozá** (See page A-4)



LOS ANGELES SENTINEL



Rev. Dr. Amos C. Brown - Souls to the Polls and Souls to Shots (See page C-2)

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Keep Governor Newsom in Office VOTE NO ON REPUBLICAN RECALL

Run, Karen, Run: Why Rep. Karen Bass Should Be L.A.'s First Woman Mayor

By JASMYNE A. CANNICK
Special to California Black Media

I can describe the leading crop of declared candidates angling to lead the second largest -- and one of America's more liberal and progressive leaning cities -- in two words: White and male. So, when rumors hinted at a possible mayoral bid by Congresswoman Karen Bass, I thought to myself, now things just got interesting.

While the beloved Democratic Congresswoman, who served as the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus and authored the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021, hasn't officially declared her candidacy for mayor of Los Angeles, the rumors alone have already overshadowed

her would-be opponents and given Angelenos hope for an alternative to the candidates they've been presented with thus far.

Of the current mayoral candidates, one doesn't have a snowball's chance in hell after he spent his eight-year tenure as city attorney prosecuting the protestors and the homeless for everything from smelling bad to sleeping on the sidewalk while covering up the LAPD's misconduct and hiding body camera footage at taxpayers' expense. And speaking of the LAPD, one candidate is a former cop, and they aren't too popular these days. In addition, his approach to dealing with L.A.'s unhoused crisis has been opposite of how most voters want to see their

{See BASS E-1}



Congresswoman Karen Bass PHOTO BY PATRICIA MCDUGALL

Hurricane Ida Impacts Gulf Coast Relatives of L.A.-area Residents

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Staff Writer

Hurricane Ida heaped destruction and mayhem the Gulf states on August 29. The massive storm impacted relatives and friends of Los Angeles-area residents.

According to the National Weather Service, Ida tore through southern Louisiana and Mississippi, demolishing homes, buildings and other structures, along with triggering heavy flooding across huge swaths of land. Also, electrical power was knocked out, eliminating lighting, as well as air conditioning relief from the intense heat and humidity, plus rendering cell phone service inop-

{See IDA E-1}



Various areas in Louisiana deal with flooding, blackouts, unusable roads, and power outages; the effects of Hurricane Ida. CHRIS GRANGER/THE TIMES-PIAYUNE/THE NEW ORLEANS ADVOCATE VIA AP

Public Health Modifies Guidelines for Youth Sports in L.A. County

Weekly testing is being recommended for youth age 12 and older depending on circumstances.



NFL Linebacker Samson Ebukam poses with the Watts Bears AMANDA SCURLOCK/LA. SENTINEL

By BRIAN W. CARTER
Contributing Writer

The Los Angeles Department of Public Health (Public Health) reported a modification to youth sports

testing requirements for vaccinated and unvaccinated athletes, staff, coaches and volunteers. Public Health is recommending weekly testing for unvaccinated partici-

{See HEALTH E-2}

L.A.'s Black Community Urged to Participate in Redistricting Hearings

By Cora Jackson-Fossett
Staff Writer

More African Americans are needed to participate in the public hearings



The Black redistricting commissioners hosted a Zoom meeting with community members to explain why the process is important to African Americans. CORA J. FOSSETT/LA. SENTINEL

conducted by the Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission, especially if the Black community desires to retain a degree of power in the city.

The hearings are part of the redistricting process, which calls for city council district (CD) boundaries to be adjusted after the completion of the census. The L.A. city charter requires that each district be approximately equal in population size. A 21-member citizen's commission is charged with drawing the borders based on

{See HEARINGS E-2}

Emma Sharif Sworn In as Mayor of Compton



Emma Sharif takes oath as she is officially sworn in as the newly-elected mayor of the City of Compton. COURTESY PHOTO



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Maverick's Flat Has a New Owner in Nina Rozá

She shares how she has resurrected the iconic venue into something new for the community.

By BRIAN W. CARTER
Contributing Writer

Maverick's Flat, A New Day

Maverick's Flat is one of those venues synonymous with Crenshaw Blvd. having an iconic history of being a showplace to Black Hollywood and more.



Maverick's Flat owner, Nina Rozá

Founded by John Daniels, the venue debuted in 1966 with The Temptations as the opening act. Eventually coined as the "Apollo of the West," Maverick's Flat would showcase the who's who of entertainment such as Marvin Gaye, Parliament Funkadelic; Earth, Wind, and Fire, The Commodores and more. The nightclub highlighted and established the local jazz, soul, and R&B music scene. In 2000, it was designated as a city Historic-Cultural Monument.

As the new owner of Maverick's Flat, Nina Rozá intends to continue the venue's tradition as an icon within the Crenshaw District.

"Chance met opportunity," said Rozá about acquiring Maverick's Flat. "A whole bunch of people

wanted it."

Rozá stated God had her name on the well-known venue as she ended up with the winning bid. She shared how it dawned on her one day the history she had recently acquired.

"I was driving one day, coming in [to Maverick's Flat] and I was listening to

to do weddings, birthday parties, bar mitzvahs, baby showers, rap parties and more. Rozá is also behind the interior decorating giving the venue a classy, upscale appeal.

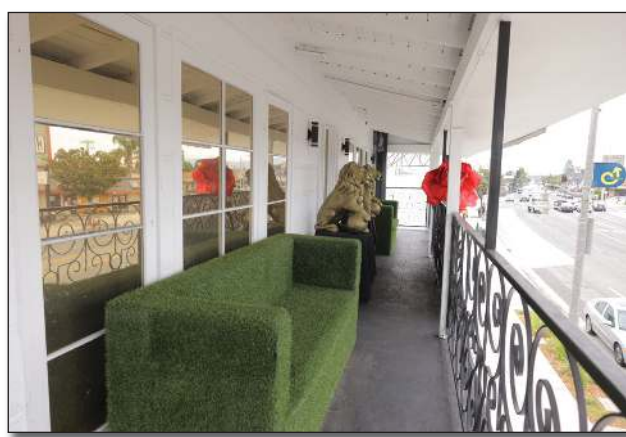
"I want to bring something different to the Crenshaw Strip," said Rozá. "When I put it together, I put it together in the mind of a movie set—not being set to one thing, where it's interchangeable depending on what you want to do."

Rozá added, "I call it the resurrection of Maverick's Flat."

Nina Rozá, The Backstory

Nina Rozá is a multi-hyphenated woman—business mogul, real estate guru, fashion and interior designer, motivational speaker, author and a mother of four children.

Rozá (pronounced like the wine, Rosé) is a native of Los Angeles, claiming both its corners: west and east.



COURTESY PHOTO

Describing herself as being tall in high school and "always fighting," Rozá stated that she was the one everyone thought would end up in jail or dead. Dubbed the "king of the school," she shared that she was always a leader.

"When I was a kid, I was one of them bad, little kids," said Rozá.

She added, "I got kicked out of every school in L.A.—I got kicked out of the L.A. School District."

She attended Crenshaw High School "for a minute" before her father moved the family to Beverly Hills, where she attended Beverly Hills High School. She got into trouble there too but, the school decided to work with her and she graduated.



COURTESY PHOTO

Rozá stated, "I'm a 90011 all the way to 90210—I'm eastside Hollywood."

Rozá had an entrepreneur spirit right out of the gate after high school and started a clothing store called Diamonds and

Pearls. In her early 20s, she purchased an apartment building and later, rented out a car wash on Slauson and Overhill, later purchasing it and half of the block.

events and her own fashion line, Rich Raggedy. Rozá has developed and purchased apartment complexes, single-family homes, and provided first-time



COURTESY PHOTO

"It was a car wash outside [and] upstairs on the side, I had a shoe shine and a barbershop inside," said Rozá.

She continued to buy more real estate and went into the restaurant business opening Nu Nu Orleans in Inglewood, which was also a Taste of Soul vendor. Rozá shared she was raised by her Aunt Eunice, affectionately known as "NuNu," whom the restaurant was named after.

Her other endeavors include a catering truck, opening up a car dealership, a venue for multiple

home buying training for the less fortunate. She has also set up shelters in the apartment complexes she owns for the homeless.

Rozá created a nonprofit, which helps ex-felons' transition back into society as she has a related story of being a part of the penal system. She also mentors other female CEOs as well as the youth in the community.

For more information about the Nina Rozá Penthouse at Maverick's Flat, please visit ninarozaaonthestrip.com. You can also follow on Instagram @NinaRozá247.

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A portrait of a smiling Black man with short, dark, curly hair and a goatee. He is wearing a light blue dress shirt, a dark red patterned tie, and a white lab coat. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue and white.

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Things Parents Should Know Sending Their Kids Back to School

By BREONNA RANDALL
Howard University News Service

For the first time since March 2020, millions of students, pre-kindergarten to high school seniors, will be attending in-person classes. Aside from attending class, they will be also participating in extracurricular activities, like sports, music and clubs. Parents have many concerns and questions. Howard University News Service reached out to five physicians for answers, Dr. Hadie Shariat, pediatrician, Howard University Hospital; Dr. Katherine Hager, Infectious Disease Fellow, Howard University Hospital; Dr. Catherine Marshall, pediatrician at Balboa Pediatrics; Dr. Andrea Goings, pediatrician, Baby Doc House Calls, and Dr. Stacey Eadie, pediatrician at her own private practice, Peds in a Pod.

Should I get my child vaccinated?

The unanimous opinion among our doctors was if your child can get vaccinated, they should. The only thing that has proven to be effective so far in fighting COVID-19 is the vaccine, they said. While a tiny fraction of people has died from

the vaccine, more than 600,000 have died from the disease. Children under the age of 12 cannot be vaccinated, though pharmaceutical companies are working on a vaccine for them.

What if my child is too young for the vaccine?

In this case, the doctors advise, your child should stay away from unvaccinated adults, stay away from crowded indoor places, always wear a mask and keep practicing social distancing and good hygiene. Also always remember to keep up with your local safety guidelines. Guidelines and prevalence of coronavirus are different in different cities and states. Residents may need to be more careful in some locales.

What kind of mask should my child wear and how many do they need?

The readily available blue and white surgical masks are the best option for students of all ages. They will protect your child if they are wearing them properly. The mask should cover their nose and their mouth. If the mask falls to the ground or gets wet either by sneezing into it or from water, they should be discarded, and a

new mask put in place. Younger children should



Dr. Andrea Goings

child's face. Children with disabilities who are not



Dr. Stacey Eadie

carry about a half a dozen surgical masks with them a day.

Students in grades 9-12 should not need to change theirs as often. They may only need to have about three. For older children doubling up by wearing a surgical mask and a cloth mask on top throughout their school day is the best option.

If your child is most comfortable wearing only a cloth mask, that is fine, but remember it needs to be cleaned daily, never wait more than a day to clean or rotate your child's cloth mask. N-95 masks are said to be the best option, but only if they have been fit tested by a doctor to a

able to wear a mask all day should wear a shield.

What should be on my back-to-school shopping list?

You should buy everything that you would already get but more. Make sure your child has more than enough supplies, so they won't need to ask their classmates to share. Young children like to chew on their pens and sharing those supplies could increase the spread of germs. Aside from masks, you may want to add new items like hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes.

What are some school habits my child needs to break and new ones they should include?

The number one habit

that children of all ages need to break is sharing. They should not share toys, school supplies, food, drinks or anything else. It won't be easy to get young children to unlearn "sharing is caring," but it is very important that they try their best.

Other habits that students need to break is any unnecessary touching. Hugging or kissing other students is a no-no. Students have been away from their friends for a very long time, and they may want to show physical affection towards each other when they reunite but it is very important that they don't as much as possible.

They should also use disinfectant wipes to clean their desks between classes and the handles and locks to their lockers. Finally, most schools do not have automatic sinks or dryers. So, students should consider using paper towels to turn handles off and on and opening doors after washing their hands for at least 20 seconds.

Are there warning signs that my child may have been exposed to the coronavirus?

Children, especially younger children, seem to

always have a sniffle or runny nose. However, in today's climate, it's better to be safe than sorry. Every day after you child comes home, spend two minutes with your child and let them tell you about their day without asking any specific questions. In that time, they may tell you if they shared toys or snacks with anyone that they shouldn't have. If your child is having a cough or runny nose, yes it could be allergies or a common cold, but do not risk the safety of your family and others. Keep your children home and quarantine them until they can take a Covid-19 test at a medical facility, not an at home rapid test. A two year old may get sick and have just a runny nose or sore throat from the disease, but if they infect their grandmother, for example, she could end up in the hospital on a ventilator.

Are extracurricular activities okay for my child to participate in?

There is nothing wrong with your child returning to their extracurricular activities, just as long as these activities are supervised and are following all Center for Disease Control and Prevention and local health guidelines.

LET'S TALK BLACK EDUCATION

Black in School: Why Do CA Black Students Face Half a Billion Dollar School Funding Gap Amid Resurging Coronavirus?

By DR. MARGARET FORTUNE
President/CEO of Fortune School

I cannot aptly describe just how complicated running a school has become in the era of COVID-19. New

categories of jobs have been created in schools just to contact trace, test, and track the escalation of the virus as it spreads. The county health department gave our school a one-page "decision tree" last year to guide our

response when we got a COVID case. Now the document is literally called a "decision forest" and it's three times as long.

Quarantining people who become infected has an eerie effect in schools. A

person who is at work today, can disappear tomorrow into quarantine leaving the function they once performed to go undone for ten days at a time because there is nobody to replace them. These staffing gaps impact the ability of schools to consistently provide the services we take for granted.

The reality is before the pandemic, 67 percent of Black kids in the Golden State could not read or write at grade level, while 79 percent were below state standards in mathematics and 86 percent in science. Our fight at Fortune School, to successfully educate children, particularly Black children is California's fight.

However, there is a problem for Black kids going back to school in California. Our state funds public schools based on student demographics, giving more money to the schools that serve kids lawmakers say need more support. Right now, 80,000 Black kids don't qualify for extra support because they are not low-income, foster youth or English learners. If they were, the schools that serve

them would get \$7000 more per child. That adds up to a \$560 million funding gap for California's Black students.

We need a school funding formula that provides more support for all Black students because as a group, our children are in crisis.

The California Democratic Party (CDP) Black Caucus is calling attention to these inequities in a special series of hearings called Black in School on the state of Black students in California public schools and powerful ways to improve the Black experience. The CDP Black Caucus is right to call for change.

As a public school educator, I encourage parents and guardians of Black children to become partners with their schools. This must happen now more than ever. From understanding achievement and funding gaps, to learning how to advocate for your child, we need to be here for each other – teaching, learning, and lifting ourselves as we continue to navigate together in these unprecedented times. Support the CDP Black Caucus as they continue to fight for



the rights of all Black students who attend public schools in California. Together we can create the systemic changes that are critical for our children's futures.

To register for the CDP Black Caucus Black in School event, visit <https://bit.ly/3strzEQ>.

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

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Project: On-Call Environmental Assessment, Remediation, and Compliance Services for various projects throughout the Los Angeles County
RFQ Number: BRC0000247
Agency: Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Bid Date/Time: September 22, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.
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Gov. Newsom Praises Economy, Second Stimulus Payments as Rivals Step Up Attacks

BY ALDON THOMAS STILES
California Black Media

Californians are scheduled to start receiving their second stimulus payment on Sept. 1, two weeks before California's gubernatorial recall election. All California households that receive the state's earned income tax credit qualify for the one-time payments.

The state has provided a detailed guide, that readers can access here, as to who qualifies for these payments and how much residents can expect.

Gov. Newsom praised the support being provided to Californians last week that he says is being funded from federal recovery assistance and the state's budget surplus.

"Round 2 of Golden State Stimulus checks start to go out this week! Two out of three Californians are eligible for \$600 or more -- we're putting

money directly back into the pockets of those that need it most," the governor tweeted.

But his Republican opponents running to replace him in the recall election continued to rail against the governor's leadership on issues other than the economy, including homelessness, housing affordability, taxes and what they view as his mis-handling of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Last week, the San Francisco Chronicle and NBC's Sacramento affiliate KCRA hosted a debate featuring four of the candidates vying to replace Newsom: Republicans Kevin Falconer, former mayor of San Diego, Assemblymember Kevin Kiley (R-Rocklin), and businessman John Cox and Democrat and real estate investor Kevin Paffrath.

"This state is a mismanaged mess. His pandemic

management was an inconsistent disaster," Cox said, referring to Gov. Newsom during the debate.

"We don't have water. We live in fear of fires. Crime is rising. Housing prices are out of sight," added the businessman who supports expanding oil and gas exploration in California. "Taxes are out of sight. The homeless problem has only gotten worse. We've got to stop with these politicians and celebrities and get a businessman in there."

The disbursement total for the second round of Golden State Stimulus payments (or GSS II) will be about \$12 billion and is funded by California's \$100 billion California Comeback Plan budget.

California currently has the largest economy in the country and a budget surplus of \$75.7 billion, according to the governor. \$276 million, or .4%, of

the surplus is being used to fund the recall election.

Gov. Newsom boasted about the budget surplus

recovery. Close to an \$80 billion operating surplus and that's afforded us an opportunity to do some-

lus payments, California residents with one or more dependents could be eligible to receive \$1,100.



California Gov. Gavin Newsom speaks during a news conference in San Bernardino, Calif., on August 6, 2021.

and the upcoming stimulus checks in an announcement last week.

"I am incredibly proud of California's economic

thing no other state in U.S. history has ever done. And that's provide over \$12 billion of tax rebates."

In this round of stimu-

Undocumented immigrants who pay taxes and earn below \$75,000 a year will also receive the payments.

Five Ways to Make Sure Our Votes Count in the Upcoming Recall Election

BY EDWARD HENDERSON
California Black Media

For African Americans, the right to vote was won by the passion, sacrifice and bravery of many who came before us.

It is our responsibility to make sure we are doing everything in our power to ensure that our vote counts in every election held at the local, state or national level.

Here are five tips to make sure that our voices are heard (and our votes are counted) in the upcoming



gubernatorial recall election.

Make Sure You're Registered to Vote

Visit VoterStatus.sos.ca.gov to confirm that are you are registered to vote in California.

If you are not registered to vote, you can register

online or by mail to receive a mail-in ballot until Aug. 30 at registertovote.ca.gov. You can also register the same day you vote in-person at a polling place or vote center on Tuesday, Sept. 14. You can find more information on the requirements for registering to vote here.

Know What is on the Ballot

If you are in favor of Gov. Newsom remaining in office, vote "no" in response to the first question on the ballot: 'Shall Gavin Newsome be recalled

(removed) from the office of Governor?'

You do not need to answer the second question on the ballot if you would like him to stay in office.

If you are in favor of recalling Newsom, vote "yes" to the first question and choose the candidate you want to replace him on the second question.

Vote early

For this recall vote, election day is every day leading up to Tuesday, Sept. 14, 2021. You may return your vote-by-mail ballot at any

time, including on Sept. 14 at one of your local polling stations.

Return your vote-by-mail ballot properly

To return your vote-by-mail ballot properly:

- Drop it in the mail with pre-paid postage.

- Make sure you are using a tamper free mailbox that does not appear damaged.

- Make sure your signature on your ballot matches the one on your voter registration. If it doesn't match, your county election official

will contact you to resolve the issue.

- You may also drop off your vote-by-mail ballot in-person at any polling place on election day.

Sign up to track your ballot online

To keep track of your ballot from the time it is mailed, received, and counted, sign-up at <https://voter-status.sos.ca.gov/> to receive automatic email, SMS (text), or voice call notifications about your ballot. This will keep you informed throughout the entire process.

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Black Leaders Voice Strong Support for Gov. Newsom as Voters Return Recall Ballots

By EDWARD HENDERSON
California Black Media

Last week in support of the campaign to stop the recall of Gov. Gavin Newsom, Congresswoman Barbara Lee (D-CA-13) organized a “Black Leaders Press Conference.” Ninety influential Black leaders in education, the church, politics, civil rights, and more – as well as members of the California Legislative Black Caucus – attended the meeting last Tuesday via Zoom.

Lateefah Simon, a Bay Area-based women’s and civil rights activist, moderated the zoom rally.

Each of the speakers took about one minute to voice their support for the governor and share why they intend to vote ‘no’ on the recall. Many of them also spoke out against controversial recall candidate Larry Elder, who is L.A.-based radio talk show host and who says he not an African American but an American who is Black. He is the leading candidate vying to replace Newsom.

“We come together today as African American leaders because we understand the danger before us. We understand this is a right wing move and we’re not going to let it happen,” said U.S. Congresswoman Karen Bass (D-CA-37). “We can’t get confused by Larry Elder. I don’t care what he looks like. We know Larry Elder very well in Los Angeles. He has built his career on attacking Black leaders.”

The meeting began with a prayer delivered by the



California Gov. Gavin Newsom, middle, signs State Bill, SB-188 Discrimination: hairstyles by state Sen. Holly Mitchell of Los Angeles, third from left, that bans workplace and school discrimination against black people for wearing natural hairstyles, including locks and braids. Newsom signed the law, the first of its kind by any state, at the Capitol in Sacramento on Wednesday, July 3, 2019. Federal courts, though, have regularly ruled that hairstyles do not count as an “immutable” characteristic of race, meaning a trait that can’t be changed, and therefore don’t get protection under racial discrimination laws.

Rev. Amos Brown, pastor of Third Baptist Church in San Francisco and president of the city’s NAACP branch. Brown prayed for the “redemption of our democracy” and that the promise of the nation be upheld.

Congresswoman Lee echoed Congresswoman Bass’ support for Newsom. “We know that the health of our children, our neighbors and our communities depend on Governor Newsom’s leadership. He’s been there for us, and we will be there for him,” she said.

California Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond shed light on unprecedented education spending Newsom helped make a reality in the state.

“Our governor has given our schools a \$123-billion budget for education. A record budget. It includes funding for broadband, mental health, community schools, universal meals for

all kids, universal preschool for all 4-year-olds, COVID tests, PPE and anti-hate. We don’t recall governors who do good things for African Americans and for all people. We say ‘no’ to the recall.”

Malia Cohen, member of the California State Board of Equalization, called Black women to action, stressing that the recall election is especially urgent for women’s rights.

“If we lose Governor Newsom, we are losing our reproductive rights, we are losing our opportunity to have a champion that has been helping us fight the fight for child support and helping us lead the way for universal Pre-K. This is a human being that is an ally.”

San Francisco mayor London Breed thanked Newsom for believing in her and first appointing her as well as providing logistical support to her city.

“Governor Newsom has

been there for us. He has answered our calls. He has been active and reached out

friend to African Americans – not just in his capacity as governor but when he served here as mayor of San Francisco,” Breed continued. “The first position I was appointed to was on the San Francisco Redevelopment Commission and Gavin Newsom appointed me. A lot of people think it was Willie Brown. It was not Willie Brown. It was Gavin Newsom.”

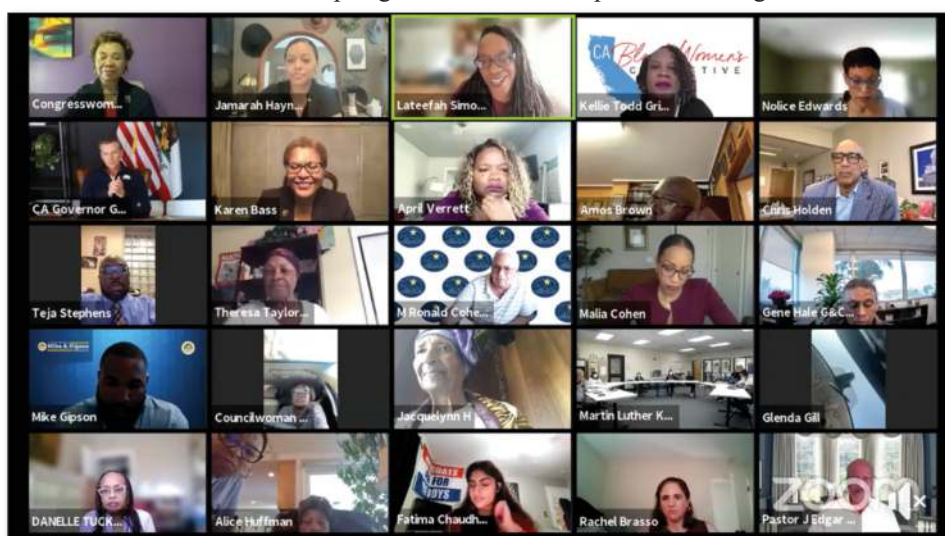
Brown was the first Black mayor of San Francisco and a former Speaker of the California Assembly.

Newsom, who joined the call, expressed his gratitude for the support he’s received thus far and reiterated the stances he plans to champion as governor. He pledged to continue to put

tion near the end of the meeting. He was responding to a question posed to him by California Democratic Party Black Caucus chair Taisha Brown about his agenda for Black Californians once the election is over.

“This is a point of passion for me. This is a point of pride that I didn’t just come to the issues of the African American community in the last 6 months since this recall became real,” he said. “This has been the cause a good part of my life, working with Rev. Brown and so many other leaders on this call. I look forward to continuing this work hopefully for many years to come when we defeat this recall.”

Voting in the recall elec-



Black Leaders come together during virtual conference in support of Gov. Gavin Newsom

to us on so many different levels. And what I don’t want to do is to go backwards and stopped the progress we have been making,” Breed said.

“More importantly, I want to express that Gavin Newsom has been an amazing supporter and

women in positions of power, to build on economic and workforce development strategies for minority communities, and to continue to reform the public education system in California.

His most candid moment came during a brief question-and-answer ses-

sion has started in California’s 58 counties. Voters can return their mail-in ballots now by mail or at designated drop-off stations or polling centers in their counties. Or they can show up to the polls on election day Tuesday, Sept. 14, to cast their vote.

BE PART OF THE CALIFORNIA COMEBACK

Vaccination is still the best protection against serious illness caused by COVID-19 and known variants.

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ALERT

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Project to Revive Historic All-Black Calif Town Brought Down by Racism

BY ANTONIO RAY HARVEY
California Black Media

As the California reparations task force determines the impact of slavery on the lives of Black Californians, a Black-led business management group in the Central Valley is revitalizing an obscure national treasure: Lt. Col. Allen Allensworth State Historical Park.

The project pays tribute to Allensworth, California, a town founded by African Americans in 1908. The history of the settlement speaks to the perseverance of African Americans and the terror that they experienced.

Last week, at a ceremony held at the park, Global Economic Impact Group, LLC (GEIG) and the African American Network of Kern County (AANKC) announced the launch of their revitalization effort.

At the event, California State Parks and Recreation official Russ Dingman gave details about the groups' plans to continue the late Lt. Col. Allen Allensworth's vision, one of the town's founders and its namesake.

"Col. Allensworth, with three other families, built this because of Jim Crowism," said Randall Cooper, CEO of GEIG. "We want to be a part of the restoration."

About 50 people attended the launch event held at Allensworth visitors' center. Among guests were members of the Black American Political Association of California-Fresno (BAPAC), San Joaquin Valley Chapter of Black Women Organized for Political Action



Located in the southern San Joaquin Valley in Tulare County, Allensworth was a town founded by 5 remarkable individuals: Professor William Payne, Dr. William Peck, J.W. Palmer, Harry Mitchell, and the Colonel the town was named after, Colonel Allen Allensworth. Their goal was to create a new beginning for African Americans, a beginning that freed them from the laws of the Jim Crow South and a beginning that prove that African Americans could be self-sufficient on their own. The land was purchased by California State Parks in 1974, forming Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park.

(BWOPA), Fresno Black Farmers, representatives from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Friends of Agriculture, Friends of Allensworth, the African American Clergy Caucus of Fresno, Kern County Black Chamber of Commerce, Mothers' Against Gang Violence, Kern County Black Chamber of Commerce, Buffalo Soldiers of Kern County, Allensworth Progressive Association, and others.

State officials present, virtually and in-person, included representatives from Gov. Gavin Newsom's office; California U.S. Congressmen David Valadao (D-CA-21) and Jim Costa (D-CA-16); Tulare County Supervisor Pete Vander Poel III; Corcoran Mayor Patricia Nolen, among others.

"One of Col.

Allensworth quotes was, 'Create sentiment favorable to intellectual and industrial liberty,'" Stephen L. Sanders, chief of staff for Kern County School District said. "It's all about teaching our kids that spirit is still alive."

Remnants of the colony that had a population of about 300 Black residents during its heyday can be found at the park.

Allensworth was an educator and U.S. Army's chaplain to four Black regiments. He was born into slavery in Kentucky. After leaving the Army, he moved to Los Angeles with his wife Josephine Leavell Allensworth.

The Birth of California's Historic All-Black Town

In 1908, Allensworth and Pasadena-based educa-

tor William Payne formed two organizations: the California Colony and Home Promotion Association (HPA) to create a settlement where Black people could live free from discrimination and racism.

The organizations purchased 900 acres for the town. By 1909, Allensworth had become the first California town founded, financed, and governed by Black Americans.

The town had a church, post office, hotel, library, two schools and numerous businesses that offered the essentials and comforts of a thriving community.

Socially, Allensworth bustled with activity. There were sewing circles, holiday events, glee clubs, an orchestra, fishing, hunts for jackrabbits, and more.

The Demise of Allensworth

By 1914, "a difficult year for the town" the brochure states, Allensworth began suffering from droughts and the lack of irrigation for farmlands.

Some historians believe, by 1925, racist White authorities intimidated by Allensworth's success were behind the Pacific Farming Company's decision to cut off the town's irrigation water supply. Fighting the action in court helped to deplete Allensworth finances.

The Santa Fe Railroad closed a major railway stop important to the town's commerce, citing Allensworth's low water level. That also factored into Allensworth's economic decline.

Also, that year, the

town's inspirational leader Allensworth was struck by a motorcycle as he crossed the street in Monrovia, California. He died on Sept. 14, 1914, at the age of 72.

The residents of the Black town tried to carry on Allensworth's vision but struggled when drought, poor crop harvests, and other hardships further deteriorated living conditions. Recruitment of the town's men to fight in World War I also decimated Allensworth's population.

Allensworth has been the target of demolition many times dating back to the 1960s, but the state of California bought the land in 1974 and turned it into a state park. About 70,000 guests visit every year.

Gail Crooms, who lives in Central Valley, says it is important to keep the Black heritage of the area alive.

"I wanted to be a part of this the first time I visited Allensworth in 1999," said Crooms, who is GEIG's director of Business Development. "It had always been my dream to put a Historical Black College and University (HBCU) on this site."

Cooper and Crooms are GEIG partners, along with former Fresno City councilmember Cynthia Sterling and William Broomfield. Sterling is GEIG's director of public affairs and Broomfield serves as CFO and COO.

The Possibility of Reparations for Allensworth Descendants

California's Assembly
{See ALLENSWORTH on A-10}

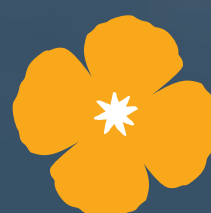
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FBI Reports Sharp Rise in Hate Crimes Targeting Black and Asian People

BY STACY M. BROWN
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

Law enforcement agencies submitted incident reports involving 7,759 criminal incidents and 10,532 related offenses motivated by bias toward race, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, sexual orientation, disability, gender, and gender identity.

Further, the FBI's Hate Crime Statistics, 2020, reported 7,554 single-bias incidents involving 10,528 victims.

Percent distribution of victims by bias type shows that 61.9 percent of victims found themselves targeted because of the offenders' race, ethnicity, or ancestry.

Further, 20.5 percent fell victim because of bias toward the offenders' sexual orientation, 13.4 percent because of the offenders' religion, 2.5 percent because of the offenders' gender identity, 1 percent the offenders' disability, and 0.7

percent because of the offenders' gender bias.

Specifically, in its Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program's latest compilation about bias-motivated incidents throughout the nation, the FBI noted that the number of hate crimes in the United States rose to the highest level in 12 years, driven by assaults targeting Black and Asian people.

The rise in hate crimes occurred in a year of renewed protests for racial justice in the wake of the murder of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and countless others.

"The rise in hate crimes is sad but predictable given the well-documented efforts by elected officials and political candidates to foment hate and division for partisan gain, especially during the 2020 election season and amidst the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic," Damon Hewitt, president and executive director of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights

Under Law, stated in a news release.

Hewitt noted that The

thousands of racist robocalls delivering misinformation," Hewitt added.



The FBI's report revealed that of the 7,426 hate crime offenses classified as crimes against persons in 2020, 53.4 percent were for intimidation, 27.6 percent were for simple assault, and 18.1 percent were for aggravated assault.

Lawyers' Committee filed several lawsuits within the last year to address hate incidents by people emboldened by an atmosphere in which blatant lies flourish and the truth often questioned.

"Our clients were assaulted by racially motivated mobs, beaten by police using racially charged language, and targeted with

"While horrific on their own, all indications are that these incidents are still grossly underreported. Although hate crimes prey on historically disenfranchised groups, our government should treat these crimes as a threat to the very foundations of our democracy — a threat that we dismiss at our own peril."

March on Washington 2021 Focuses on Voting Rights

BY LAUREN VICTORIA BURKE
NNPA Newswire
Contributor

On the 58th anniversary of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have A Dream" speech and the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, marchers focused



COURTESY PHOTO
Martin Luther King, III

on voting rights. Voting rights have reemerged as a somewhat unexpected political battlefield as Republicans across the country pass new laws placing barriers in front of the ballot box.

Last week, the U.S. House passed the John

Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act which would restore pre-clearance, a 1965 Voting Rights Act



COURTESY PHOTO

provision requiring states with a history of restricting voting rights to receive pre-approval for changes in election laws.

"January 6 you saw an insurrection against people's right to vote," said Rev. Al Sharpton, a primary organizer of the March on Washington 2021. Today, Sharpton said, represents "Dr. King's resurrection of the right to vote."

In Washington, D.C. and several other cities,

marchers focused on voting rights along with the minimum wage, evictions and justice reform issues.



COURTESY PHOTO

Marchers at the Washington, D.C. event featured members of Congress and voting rights activists.

"Fifty eight years ago today, a preacher from Georgia stood on these steps and declared, in the face of racism and economic justice, a nightmare — a nightmare that was lengthened by congressional and state filibustering," said Rev. Dr. William Barber, President of Repairers of the Breach.

Marchers in Washington, D.C. wore "good trouble" t-shirts and face masks and held signs on voting



COURTESY PHOTO

rights and ending the filibuster. Voting rights activists



COURTESY PHOTO
Rev. Al Sharpton

have been putting pressure on Congress to end the filibuster and make it harder for

need the Senate to pass the For the People Act and the House-passed John Lewis



COURTESY PHOTO

state legislators to change voting laws that place barriers in front of the ballot box.

"Fifty-eight years after the #MarchOnWashington, Americans are marching again today for our democracy. With state laws disenfranchising voters and making it harder to vote, we

Voting Rights Advancement Act!" wrote House Speaker Nancy Pelosi on social media.

The Senate is expected to return to session in September and deal with a close vote that will include the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

The Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission (LACCRC) Community Public Hearing Dates

Join us for an important meeting about "redistricting." **The purpose of redistricting is to redraw the maps that impact your community and to ensure you have the power to determine fair and inclusive representation in your council district.**

<p>Thursday, July 1 (6pm) Council District 12</p> <p>Wednesday, July 7 (6pm) Council District 5</p> <p>Monday, July 12 (6pm) Council District 11</p> <p>Thursday, July 15 (6pm) Council District 3</p> <p>Wednesday, July 21 (6pm) Council District 2</p> <p>Thursday, July 29 (6pm) Council District 13</p> <p>Saturday, July 31 (10am) Council District 6</p> <p>Wednesday, August 4 (6pm) Council District 4</p> <p>Wednesday, August 11 (6pm) Council District 7</p>	<p>Saturday, August 14 (10am) Council District 1</p> <p>Wednesday, August 18 (6pm) Council District 15</p> <p>Saturday, August 21 (10am) Council District 14</p> <p>Wednesday, August 25 (6pm) City-wide Public Hearing - Spanish</p> <p>Saturday, August 28 (10am) Council District 10</p> <p>Thursday, September 2 (6pm) Council District 9</p> <p>Wednesday, September 8 (6pm) Council District 8</p> <p>Saturday, September 11 (10am) City-wide Public Hearing</p>
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To attend or participate virtually: Go to bit.ly/LACCRCZoom

To listen only: Call 1-669-254-5252, enter 161 545 4787#

To submit written comments: Go to bit.ly/lacitycoi

All hearings will be provided with Spanish interpretation. If you require translation services in other languages please let us know at 213-263-5765.

For more information please visit our website at laccrc2021.org

{Continued **ALLENSWORTH** from A-9}

Bill (AB) 3121, signed into law in 2020, created a nine-member task force to investigate the history and costs of slavery in California and around the United States.

The commission is examining the extent of California's involvement in slavery, segregation, and the denial of Black citizens their constitutional rights.

It is also studying incidents of state-backed racial crimes, like the illegal shutting down and state acquisition of the Black-owned Bruce's Beach in Southern California and the seizure of Black-owned property in Folsom County involving the Burgess family.

GEIG hopes that Allensworth is a part of

those discussions.

"Allensworth has not been part of the conversations of reparations," Broomfield said. "But (GEIG) is now bringing it to the forefront so that family members of the original Allensworth community, who are still living, are able to get reparations."

GEIG plans to restore landmarks and build a museum, an amphitheater, a water park, campground and other attractions.

"You don't hear about Black history in California and the West Coast," Broomfield said. "Because of what happened to Black Wall Street people are becoming aware of what happened to Black communities."

Follow us:

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

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

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'Everyone is Special' at Snoop Special Stars Fourth Annual Football and Cheer Camp

By E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS
Staff Writer

The fourth annual Snoop Special Stars Football and Cheer Camp was held on the

honor for us to be able to provide the kind of events for our special needs community that are normally overlooked because of their disabilities, said Nykauni

in the Snoop League; that idea has led the organization where it is today. Tadem says Snoop was in full support of the program from day one. Not really know what to expect, she says they all stepped out on faith. The camps have been a resounding success, and after missing the 2020 season due to the pandemic, she was happy to bring the camp back.

Tyrone Rodgers, a former Banning High School, University of Washington and Seattle Seahawks football player, helps run the



PHOTO BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

Snoop Dogg with Hip Hop Harry one of his favorite campers.

was special ... everybody is special," said Snoop.

"There's some kids who remember me out here. Some have been here since day one. That's what I love. Big double shout out to the one and only Hip Hop Harry who came through for the Snoop Special Stars. It's his first year coming out here and you can see the kids love him."

"I would like to personally thank all of our wonderful staff, volunteers, all our sponsors, participants and parents for always being dedicated and com-



PHOTO BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

Southwest College football field. The day is comprised of volunteers training the participants in football and cheerleading drills created for special needs individuals ages five and up. "It was such a wonderful feeling

Tadem, a long-time team mom for Snoop Dogg's Pop Warner team and the co-founder /director of Snoop Special Stars operations. "Our motto is 'everybody plays' and our goal is to erase the negative stigma



PHOTO BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

The fourth annual Snoop Special Stars Football and Cheer Camp at Southwest College.



PHOTO BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

Tyrone Rodgers (middle) and volunteers do football drills with a camp participant.

organization. He says Snoop Special Stars is not just about kids and young adults playing football and cheer. "It's an organization that allows all those who participate an outlet to be expressive, creative, exercise, feel the sun on their faces, to smile and to laugh while having fun," he said.

"Snoop Special Stars is very dear to me because my own son has been diagnosed as autistic. I feel the world of autistic families is misunderstood and put aside by society. Snoop Special Stars is putting our communities and our kids and young adults up in the front, giving them a chance to be able to express and celebrate themselves, as well as the chance for their families to celebrate as well."

activity they would otherwise not be allowed to be a part of. "The smiles on the face are the most rewarding part of my day and because of that, I know we succeeded!" said Rodgers.

Snoop Dogg says being a part of the event brings him



PHOTO BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

just as much happiness as the people they serve. Nykauni is my team mom 11 years straight! With that you get her personality, counsel-

ents. And it's like, from the football league to this, it's

ment to our program. A big Thank you to our CEO



PHOTO BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

3rd from right, Nykauni Tadem, co-founder/director of Snoop Special Stars operations with proud registration volunteers.

about caring. We care so much; we want to help those who don't have. So, that's why we provided the football league in the first place, to provide an affordable football and cheer experience. And with [the Snoop Special Stars], it was just about kids and getting out and having fun ... that

and Co-founder, Coach Snoop for your time and commitment to the SSS program. Without all of you, none of this would be possible," said Tadem.

To follow Snoop Special Stars, visit them at IG-Syfl snoopsspecialstars FB-SYFL SpecialStars Website-Snoopstars.com

being back in person and seeing all of our returning and new participants at our fourth annual football and cheer camp. It's such an



PHOTO BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

and stereotypes associated with the special needs community. We will continue to provide a service and bring much-needed awareness as much as possible."

Tadem brought the idea to Snoop five years ago to start a special needs division



PHOTO BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

Rodgers says the main goal was to create a platform to allow their kids and young adults to participate in sports and cheer, an

ing, everything. With us, it's not just sign 'em up and get the money, you gotta understand, it's a job. We care about the kids and the par-



PHOTO BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

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FITNESS & FAMILY: HOW ONE BLACK 'MOMPREENEUR' IS RESHAPING THE WELLNESS EXPERIENCE FOR LOS ANGELES RESIDENTS

HELP FROM CHASE IS LIFTING TONE BODY FITNESS TO NEW LEVELS OF BUSINESS (AND PERSONAL) HEALTH

As a successful Black female businessowner in a male-dominated industry, Aliyah Ortiz started Tone Body Fitness in the mid-1990s out of a desire to provide her local Hawthorne community the foundation needed to successfully reach their health and fitness goals.

It was a unique mindset at the time – this was before the fitness club boom and social media fueled health and nutrition trends. Inspired by the long-term benefits of physical fitness and nutrition, Ortiz wanted to implement change and motivate her community in the Los Angeles area to pursue a healthier lifestyle. So, she became a certified master trainer, studied exercise fitness and nutrition in college and signed the lease on her first fitness center in 2001.



Lisa Dixon, Chase Consultant

but also receive the education and resources they need to live a healthy life."

Ortiz says it's her loyal customers, and eventually their kids who grow up to

touchless payments, Ortiz has big plans for Tone Body Fitness. She recognizes the importance of having a business partner to lean on – especially when it comes to reaching her long-term goals, like expanding to include classes for kids with special needs, senior citizens and other underserved communities.

Helping Minority-Owned Business Stay (Financially) Fit

Earlier this year, Ortiz was introduced to Lisa Dixon Stevens, a vice president and senior business consultant with Chase. The bank recently launched a new initiative to address the structural economic challenges experienced by minority communities as part of its \$30 billion commitment to advance racial equity and provide economic opportunity. Though Dixon Stevens and Ortiz have only worked together for a short time, Ortiz refers to Dixon Stevens as her "guardian angel" and feels grateful to be receiving such instrumental support from her financial partner.

"When we first met, [Ortiz] told me, 'I don't need another financial institution to deposit my money. I need someone to help me grow,'" Dixon Stevens said. "I knew at that moment that we could succeed together."

Dixon Stevens, who comes from an entrepreneurial family, has a long history of helping local minority small business owners gain access to resources, technology support and mentorship they need to grow their enterprises. For example, Dixon Stevens has helped Ortiz imagine – and bring to life – new virtual coaching services during the pandemic including group fitness therapy and a YouTube series to expand her impact to a new, virtual audience. In addition, Dixon Stevens helped Ortiz to enhance her customer service experience through contactless payment options at the point of sale.

"[Ortiz] is the perfect representation of this Chase program because we want to be catalysts for

positive change, especially in underserved communities," Dixon Stevens said. "She lives that mission every day, and in everything that she does."

JPMorgan Chase's new program aims to help strengthen sustainable business growth for entrepreneurs in historically underserved neighbor-

hoods. Through this initiative, small business owners in 13 cities across the U.S., including in Los Angeles, will be matched with a Chase senior business consultant who will provide advisory services such as mentorship, business development coaching, resources and financial planning. The program is available to all, Chase customers and non-customers alike.

With the support from

build on her company's longstanding success and create real generational wealth for her family."

To learn more about how Chase is supporting minority entrepreneurs in the Los Angeles area, reach out to Chase Senior Business Consultant Lisa Dixon Stevens at lisa.stevens@chase.com.



Aliyah Ortiz in office setting.



Ortiz inside her gym at Tone Body Fitness.

Today, 20 years later, Ortiz has impacted countless lives through a premium physical fitness studio in the Hawthorne community of Greater Los Ange-

les. Combining her love of fitness and nutrition with her many years of business experience, Ortiz welcomes a wide range of clients and athletes at Tone Body Fitness. The facility has grown to provide the public with machines, free weights, studio classes, a cozy lounge, nutrition bar and more.



Ortiz poses with Dixon.

"We are more than just dumbbells and treadmills," Ortiz said. "We help bring families and the community together by providing a facility where people can come to not only exercise,

clients and community might not see is Ortiz diligently working behind the scenes every single day to scale her business and better serve her customers.

Although Aliyah has been a successful business owner for more than two decades, she understands there is always room for improvement – especially as her business continues to pivot in response to COVID-19. From the plot of land where her physical business stands to the recent adoption of tech services, like virtual coaching and

hoods. Through this initiative, small business owners in 13 cities across the U.S., including in Los Angeles,

Dixon Stevens and her financial partners at Chase, Ortiz says she is, "strong, confident and motivated to

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To my lovely wife, Fannie. I thank GOD for the opportunity to live my life with a God-fearing woman. Your warm embrace, and caring attitude, will bless me the rest of my life. Your many talents as a singer, actor, home maker, great cook and personal care professional, to name a few, will enhance our lives, and those we touch. I wish to be your Boaz. A man deserving of a phenomenal woman. I love you and all who come with you. May we be an example of what GOD desires that all Husbands and Wives should be. Baby, I won't kiss and tell, I will just say, Baby, you are the "bomb", meaning you are a surefire blessing.





RELIGION

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

www.lasentinel.net

B-3

McClaney Shares Rewards of Attuning Your Ear to God

Dr. La-Doris McClaney writes "God, I Listened Too" to encourage others to hear the voice of the Lord

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Religion Editor

Attuning your ear to the voice of God will lead to an incredibly rewarding life, insists Dr. La-Doris McClaney, and her achievements verify to the truth of her advice.

Well-known for her incredible success in the field of real estate as well as her overwhelming generosity in the area of philanthropy, McClaney overcame multiple challenges to reach the pinnacle of victory that the Lord prepared for her.

She recounts her amazing journey in a new memoir, "God, I Listened Too," where time and again, she credits God for all of her accomplishments because she heard His voice and obeyed.

"We have to realize that our power is God. He is always speaking to us. We must attune our ear to hear Him in our lives. It isn't optional," explains the active 83-year-old, the holder of a B.A. degree from Shaw University and Master's degree from Pepperdine University.

"If you want to live a whole and complete life full of God's abundance

and grace, you must listen to His direction and instructions. My prayer is that my story reminds you to do that."

A two-fold inspiration moved McClaney to pen the book. The first impetus was her mother, Eula McClaney, whose memory continues to motivate on a daily basis. The second incentive was the author's desire to encourage, edify and empower readers to trust God and put all of your faith in Him.

"My mother set a standard and we were expected to meet those standards. Strong faith, education, and giving back were and remain tenets in my life," she recalls.

"By reading my book, [people] will see that God can dream a bigger dream for you that you could ever dream for yourself. But, He also requires you to do your part. It will not fall in your lap. You have to work for what you want. My book will remind you that you are NOT alone."

McClaney's strong faith combined with helping others appear to be a family trait. As a youngster growing up in rural Alabama, she witnessed her parents

"slaughtering hogs to feed the masses, even when they didn't have much themselves." After migrating to Los Angeles, her



Dr. La-Doris McClaney

COURTESY PHOTO

parents opened Flagstone Guest Haven where she remembers, "We had BBQs every weekend and served hundreds of people."

While applying her real estate expertise resulted in possessions such as a mansion in swanky Holmby Hills, McClaney remained humble and never placed material belongings above

her relationship with the Lord.

"God is first. I believe that our family has been blessed to be a blessing and we committed long

ago to give to anyone in need and we have done that for thousands of people and given millions of dollars. God's been good to us and we are obligated to be a blessing to others," she firmly states.

Blessing others comes easy to McClaney, even during tough times in her life. No matter what she

was facing in her personal life, she always took time to help another whenever she could and that approach, with God on her side, is a key factor in the triumphs she writes about in "God, I Listened Too," and anyone can relate to the up-and-downs that McClaney experienced.

"My book is for everyone; young and old, Black and White, believer and non-believer. If you are willing to read a story about overcoming odds, this book is for you. If you have ever been told that you 'can't,' this book will inspire you and encourage you.

"You will learn about yourself through my life story, and my prayer is that after reading it, you walk fearlessly into your own destiny," she expresses with strong belief.

To people who may be encountering hurdles during this pandemic season, McClaney advises to stay strong and recite, "But God...with every adversity, every hurt, every pain, every joy, every triumph, every defeat, in everything, But God."

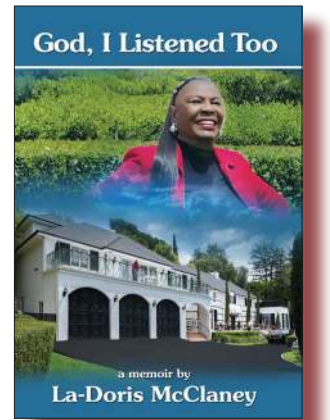
Expanding on her philosophy, she says, "God

is in every part of my life. He leads, guides, and directs me and His infinite love for me is shown even in the hard times. He is my all-in-all. He amazes me everyday.

"I am 83-years-old, in good health. I surround myself with love and I do my best to show the love of God to people everyday. I want only to be a witness for Him and share with the world all that He has blessed me with.

"I fully believe that to whom much is given, much is required. I have been given a lot, and I am required by my Heavenly Father to give...and I do!"

"God, I Listened Too" is available at Amazon.com, BarnesandNoble.com, Target and www.mcclaney-media.com.



Homegoing Service Held for Rev. Dr. Solomon Drake

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Religion Editor

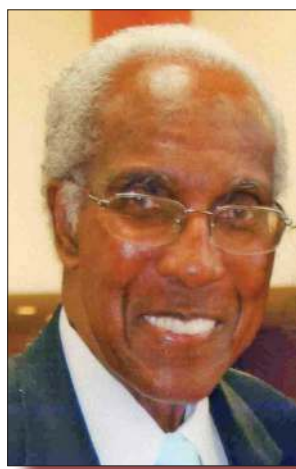
Los Angeles lost a giant in the faith with the passing of the Rev. Dr. Solomon L. Drake, pastor emeritus of Greater Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church. Drake, who died on August 18 at the age of 90, was a spiritual father and mentor to scores of leading ministers.

His homecoming celebration was held September 1, in the sanctuary of Greater Ebenezer, 5300 Denker Avenue in Los Angeles.

Drake has served at Greater Ebenezer for nearly 34 years. During his tenure, he led the membership in expanding the edifice, purchasing additional properties, opening a preschool, and establishing a state-of-the-art library. In addition, a portion of South Denker Avenue was designated as 'Pastor Drake Square' by the City of Los Angeles.

"We sorrow deeply, but not as those that have no hope. 'For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain' (Phil 1:21). Please keep Sister Drake, the entire Drake family and our church family lifted in prayer as we navigate this season," wrote Greater Ebenezer Pastor DeNon A. Porter on Facebook.

Throughout his ministry, Drake made a significant impact upon clergy on



Rev. Dr. Solomon L. Drake

the West Coast and across the nation. "Dr. Drake is well known for his distinguished preaching, teaching and for leading hundreds to Christ. He is a godly man of impeccable integrity, outstanding character and has served as an exemplary leader, mentor and spiritual father to many younger ministers," said Trinity Baptist Church Pastor Alvin Tunstill, Jr., as he announced Drake as a guest preacher at Trinity in 2017.

When Drake retired as pastor five years ago, several preachers saluted his ministry such as the Rev. K.W. Tulloss, pastor of Historic Weller Street Baptist Church and current president of the Baptist Ministers Conference of L.A. and Southern California. "I say to him thank you for being an example to young pastors like me," Tulloss said.

Bishop-designate Xavier L. Thompson, pastor of Southern, St. Paul and Calvary Baptist Churches, described Drake's attributes as, "Integrity, good character and a good Christian. That's the summation of Dr. Drake. He has always a senior pastor that I could seek out wise counsel and advice."

On a personal level, Thompson shared that Drake wrote a letter of recommendation in support of Thompson's enrollment at Fuller Theological Seminary. "He was always been a senior pastor that I could seek out wise counsel and advice. He's been like a physical, living and spiritual GPS for me," noted Thompson.

Prior to his ministerial career, Dr. Drake made a significant mark in professional baseball as an outfielder for the Chicago Cubs, Los Angeles Dodgers and Philadelphia Phillies. Also, he and his brother, Samuel, were the first African American brothers to play in the major leagues.

A native of Little Rock, Arkansas, Drake was born on October 23, 1930 to Solomon and Jessie Drake. He was a high achiever, both academically and athletically. Not only was he a member of the National Honor Society, but he also excelled in track, football and baseball.

Dr. Drake graduated from Paul Laurence Dunbar High School in 1948 and played on several baseball minor league teams while also attending Philander Smith College. From 1951 to 1953, he served in the U.S. Army and participated in the Korean War. After the military, Drake received his B.A. degree and resumed playing professional baseball until he retired from the game in 1960.

Following his MLB career, Prudential Insurance Company hired Dr. Drake in 1963 and he became the firm's first African American representative west of the Mississippi. In protest, White agents resigned from their positions because they refused to work alongside a Black man. However, Drake remained with the company and earned countless awards and commendations until retiring in 1983.

Dr. Drake united with Greater Ebenezer in 1964, accepted his call to preach in 1968 and was ordained by the late Rev. Alzo W. Lott, then-pastor of Greater Ebenezer, two years later. In 1975, he became the pastor of Santa Barbara

Avenue Baptist Church and later organized Good Fellowship Baptist Church. Also, he enrolled in Fuller Theological Seminary where he earned his Master of Arts degree in Pastoral Theology in 1977.

On September 19, 1982, Drake was installed as pastor of Greater Ebenezer. The members of Good Fellowship Baptist Church voted to join with Greater Ebenezer and the two churches became one congregation. Ten years later, the Southern California School of Ministry conferred upon him an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree in recognition of his contributions to the evangelical community.

A member of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, he was also active in a number of organizations including

the Pacific District Baptist Association, California Missionary Baptist State Convention, Eight Council District Clergy, Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks Commission, Athletics for a Better America and the Young Men's Christian Association.

Cherishing his memory are his wife of 53 years, Isabelle Frances Drake; sons, Ronald Drake and Gary Cunningham; daughter, Yvette Drake, M.D.; grandson, Gary Drew Cunningham; great granddaughter, Bonnie Drew Cunningham; sisters and brothers-in-love (law) Verna Jean Brown, Wrenetta Howard, Alola (Joseph) Stoot, Edwin (Edith) Dunlap, Edwina Dunlap and a host of relatives and longtime friends.

Scarred Like Him
Forth coming...
Book will be available on Amazon soon!
www.denisegoosby.com ♦ goosbydenise@gmail.com



The Baptist Ministers Conference of L.A. saluted Rev. Drake in 2016. From left are Pastors J. Wendell Davis, William Turner, and L.A. Kessie., Rev. Joe L. Gates, Pastor Xavier L. Thompson, Rev. Drake, Pastor K.W. Tulloss, Pastor Welton Pleasant and Pastor Stanley Richards.

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Resisting the Republican Recall: Not Confusing Need With Anger at Newsom

Whatever issues Democrats, progressives, liberals, independents and others have with Gov. Gavin Newsom, they should not confuse or conflate it with the urgent and essential need to resist, reject and defeat the Republican recall. For it is indeed a right-wing Republican effort regardless of the many ways they might nickname the truth, and repackage and present social callousness and cold political calculation as genuine concern for the welfare and future of sunny California. Their appeal is not only to the gullible and short-sighted, but also those who are prone to experience and express personal pique as real politics, tossing aside the critical issues at stake and the long view of politics and struggle.

These Republican masters of manipulation, misinformation, duplicity and deceit strive to reverse the will of the majority who elected Newsom by using and abusing an outdated referendum system which, if Newsom doesn't get enough No Recall votes, gives the governorship to the candidate with the highest vote, regardless of how low the number, and regardless of whether Newsom has a higher number of votes than this person. Some lawyers are challenging this system as unconstitutional in its nullifying the majority will, but this will no doubt take longer than the election which is on the 14th of September. Thus, there is an urgent need to get up, stand up and go vote.

Clearly, the Republicans – active Trumpites and silent and submissive supporters – have decided they cannot win in regular ways, which on special occasions they concede are constitutional and democratic. So,

they have, in California and across the country, developed ways to prevent the vote, steal or nullify the vote, and frighten and penalize the voters, creating a chilling effect on the voting process and practice. By their action, they have dismissed the importance of voting in a democracy, for in fact, the hero of the recallers has embraced and expressed a commitment to self-serving autocracy. In this system and scenario, it's not the people, but the person who counts, not promotion of the general welfare, but of autocrat and corporate well-being through perpetual power-grabbing and profit-making at all costs, including the lives and livelihoods of the people.

They also target people who are angry about their lives, the limitations imposed by the pandemic, the loss of income, security, social exchange, and the sense of possibilities. And they direct their anger toward those in power, in this case a progressive governor, who promised and have not miraculously or meaningfully delivered according to their quick and simplistic calculations. In this regard, we must note that there are so many unreflective Americans and Californians who want and demand immediate gratification, quick results, and simple solutions for complex long-term problems. They want to make war without casualties on their side, withdraw immediately without inevitable consequences, and defy health restrictions and requirements without infection, illness or death of their loved ones, associates or themselves.

These and others like them offer a panderer's personal anger that is misdi-



DR. MAULANA KARENGA

rected and destructive of real space and pathways to achieve good, real and lasting things of value. One cannot miss the concentrated stench of hypocrisy and double standards in all of this. That is to say, tolerating and explaining and joking away Trump and trashing Newsom and Biden for lesser failures, mistakes and missed opportunities. But deny the right-wing what you will, they do not, like the liberals, find more fault with their representatives and leaders than their opponents. And they don't give up offices easily, even when they lose.

Witness the pathetic wilderness howling and hustling of Trump, clinging to cobweb-thin shreds of hope of reversing his loss to President Biden and brazenly inciting the insurrection at the Capitol to stop the count and approval and reverse reality. Remember too all the outright lies and attempts of grand larceny, of theft of office on state and national levels. And

recall (no pun intended) the prior attempts to steal the election by shutting down postal machines, removing mailboxes, reducing polling places, pressuring state officials, and calling for recounts and decertifications of results. Then recall all the laws being proposed and put in place to deny the right and responsibility of Black people and other people of color to vote, to elect their representatives, to address and pursue issues important to them, and to build cooperatively with others the just, equitable and good society we all want and deserve to live in.

Thus, we cannot talk about this Republican recall in isolation from the continuing history of vote and voter suppression. In other words, we cannot talk about or engage this recall rightly without placing it squarely within the framework and context of what has been the Republicans' strategy all along and all across the country. It is to remove us from the political map by hook and crook, by all means legal and illegal, immoral and undemocratic that they can devise and get away with. And the same and similar policies and practices are applied to other communities of color.

Indeed, these right-wing Republicans are still reeling and hyperventilating from Black people's critical role in choosing and electing the president and vice-president, putting the first Black and Jewish senators from

Georgia in office, and ending the tyranny of racist and anti-progressive policies and practices of the Republican-controlled Senate, and thus opening up new space for progressive possibilities in this country and the world. It drove Trump and his faithful followers and feckless enablers racistly mad and made them swing into gut-level gear to halt and reverse this transformative thrust forward.

Moreover, the strategy of the Republican recall is also to win California and other soft target and susceptible states, introduce and pass more democracy-disabling legislation, and prepare and pave the way for a Trumpian triumphant return in 2024. In addition, there is the declared intention to reverse progressive gains and policies and prevent the realization of initiatives in the areas of climate change, labor relations and practices, healthcare and housing, women's rights, just immigration policies and race relations, among others.

Of concern also to progressives is the potential negative and disruptive effect of a Republican governor having the power to appoint someone to replace Sen. Dianne Feinstein now 88, if she retires or to block replacement of Supreme Court Justice Breyer now 83, if he retires. Both of these would change the national political and judicial landscape in ways that not only undermine our electoral gains, but give

Republicans the capacity to block, not only progressive legislation, but also the appointment of a replacement of a justice until they realize their hope to regain the presidency. No one sane, serious or honest can deny the disruptive disaster Trump was and continues to foster. And to stay home and not come out to vote or mail in "No" on the recall is to enable a similar disruptive disaster in the state.

It is easy to tear down years of gains, but who is conscious, committed, bold and strong enough to build even when we don't get all we want when we want and need it? We talk of creating a new, just and good society, but we cannot build or achieve it by episodic engagement, brushing aside in the heat of the moment gains we've made, the needs of the people, and the demands of a long, difficult and ultimately rewarding struggle.

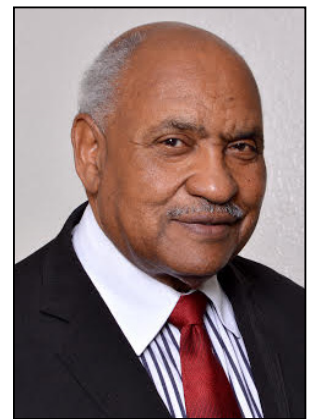
Dr. Maulana Karenga, Professor and Chair of Africana Studies, California State University-Long Beach; Executive Director, African American Cultural Center (Us); Creator of Kwanzaa; and author of Kwanzaa: A Celebration of Family, Community and Culture and Essays on Struggle: Position and Analysis, www.AfricanAmericanCulturalCenter-LA.org;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

•DR. JOHN E. WARREN•

Contracts, Grants and Those Intended to Be Served

It has come to our attention that a number of organizations have received contracts and grants to serve intended communities, often without verification of communities intended to be served. Some of this happens without ever providing notice that contracts or grants are available. For the benefit of both grantors and grantees, it should be stated as a reminder that public policy requires a notice of the availability of such funds and the right for those interested or affected parties to have an opportunity to apply for such funds. This is done by issuing a "RFP" (Request for Proposals) or a "RFQ" (Request for Quotes) on a proposed project. Due Process under Federal Statutes (Title 5 USC Sec 554 and 555) sets out this process.

Under the California State Codes, there exists the



DR. JOHN E. WARREN

Administrative Procedures Act which carries the same requirement. To date, there have been no amendments to the State Government Code allowing the internet publication to become a substitute for such notices being published in adjudicated newspapers of general circulation of which this newspaper is and has been since 1966.

It appears that some well known organizations are receiving grants and contracts

because of their name recognition rather than a verification as to whether they can perform the needed task. In an increasing number of instances, the public is only hearing of these contracts and grants after they have been awarded. A number of these grants or contracts are not being advertised before being awarded. It should also be noted that while these rules do not apply to private foundations, many of them provide such notice in advance of awards, which is much appreciated.

Many times, communities intended to be served are listed in the Statement or Work, often included in the response to such contracts or grant RFPs, without the knowledge of such designated groups. Some recipients of such grants or contracts often never spend dollars with those designated communities in terms of real outreach.

The San Diego Voice & Viewpoint intends to take a very long look at who is receiving contracts and grants for service to elements of our communities. We want to know if social media has become a designated substitute for due process. We are increasingly having people announce contracts after they have been awarded with no prior communication with the people intended to be served. We are concerned about oversight and actual service received.

We would like to know if you, the reader, have recently found out that there were services available to you that you didn't know about and, if so, how did you find out? We look forward to your response.

By Dr. John E. Warren, Publisher, The Voice and Viewpoint Newspaper

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CARTOON: BY DAVID G. BROWN

STOP THE REPUBLICAN RECALL

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•REV. DR. AMOS C. BROWN•

Souls to the Polls and Souls to Shots

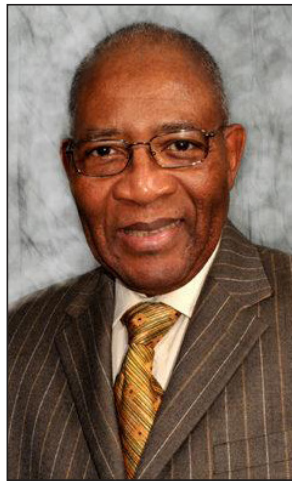
Communities of color and especially the African American community across California are under attack today by not one but two incredibly dangerous viruses: the invisible COVID-19 and the all-too visible Republican recall campaign against Governor Gavin Newsom. If we are to avoid these devastating infections, we must stand up and act right now!

The dangers are clear. When it comes to COVID, vaccination rates for Black Californians, and many other communities of color in our state, remain far below that of the overall

population. This poses an enormous and needless risk to the health of our communities, which already suffer from a lack of adequate and affordable healthcare.

Similarly, the GOP's attempt to usurp power in California threatens the well-being of the Black community, as well as other communities of color. Should Governor Newsom be recalled, he almost certainly would be replaced by a radical right-wing Republican. And while the candidate leading in the polls may be Black, his rabid anti-science, anti-woman policies would devastate our community.

We must fight both of



REV. DR. AMOS C. BROWN

these viruses. That means we must GET VACCINATED and GET OUT THE VOTE.

In support of both efforts, the San Francisco

Branch of the NAACP is organizing a series of "Souls to the Polls" and "Souls to Shots" events around the state, starting on Saturday, September 4th in San Francisco. Our goal is simple: Educate our community and eradicate the dangers.

The event will begin at 11:00 a.m. at the Third Baptist Church in San Francisco and hosted by its pastor, Dr. Amos C. Brown, the president of the San Francisco Branch of the NAACP. The day will feature a parade and music by the Gumbo Band, led by trumpeter Dr. David Hardiman

The real purpose of bringing people together will be to take action. First,

we will be offering both COVID-19 testing and vaccines at Third Baptist and along the parade route, thanks to the assistance of the Governor's office as well as San Francisco Mayor London Breed. Additionally, we will have a drop-off box for ballots in the recall election, and assistance for those who want to register to vote.

Because we want to protect our community from these viruses, we also will be hosting "Souls to the Polls" events each Sunday through the date of the special election, September 14th. We will be encouraging all who attend to find ten other members of their

community and encourage them to vote and get vaccinated. With ten, we can win the battle against these threats to our Black communities and all underserved communities throughout the state.

As followers of Jesus of Nazareth, who came that we may experience the abundant life (John 10:10), we have a moral obligation to do the right thing for the welfare of all.

For more information, please contact me by email at dramoscbrown@third-baptist.org.

•LA COUNCILMEMBER MONICA RODRIGUEZ AND LA COUNTY SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL•

Who owns our neighborhoods?

Los Angeles rents are on the rise, hundreds of thousands of Los Angeles renters still await rent relief, and now, Southern California home prices have hit a new all time high. As we work to find creative solutions to the number of challenges Los Angeles residents are facing during this uncertain time, we must evaluate not only how we can increase the production of new affordable housing, but how we ensure that our existing housing stock is being managed in a way that makes homeownership obtainable and provides safe and affordable options for renters.

Home and rental prices in Los Angeles have been steadily increasing for the last decade; every year, housing costs get further out of reach of Angelenos, particularly vulnerable low- to middle-income residents and communities of color. In the LA region, Black and Latino renters are far more likely than white renters to be cost-burdened, making it that much harder for families of color to save for a down payment and become homeowners. Only about

34% of Black Angelenos and 39% of Latino Angelenos own homes, compared to 58% of white households.

There is an increasing prevalence of large, corporate landlords--private equity firms like Blackstone as opposed to smaller local landlords--and nearly 75% of rentals are now owned by large landlords and investment vehicles. Although many corporate landlords entered the market in a big way in 2008, buying up foreclosed homes, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated their impact on our housing crisis. The sudden surge in potential homebuyers over the course of the last year, partnered with our ongoing home shortage, has made the housing market even more competitive. In this environment, corporations with billions of dollars at their disposal to gobble up single-family and "missing middle" homes like duplexes still thrive, far outbidding ordinary homebuyers--particularly first-time homebuyers and people of color. These investors then



MONICA RODRIGUEZ

rent their investments, often at above-market rates, making rental costs higher and depriving ordinary individuals of the ability to build intergenerational wealth by purchasing a starter home or building savings.

Large corporate landlords also enjoy an anonymity that many smaller landlords do not. In Los Angeles and across much of California, LLCs and other legal entities, which many corporate landlords operate through, are not required to disclose their beneficial owners' identities to state regulators. The result is that it's harder for tenants in these rentals to



HOLLY MITCHELL

advocate for themselves, and just as hard for city and local governments to advocate on their behalf. Tenants who have issues with negligent corporate landlords often don't know how to elevate their issues. It's impossible to hold absentee landlords accountable for code violations or unlivable conditions. Importantly, it also makes our jobs as policymakers harder when we do not have access to full information or transparency about our housing markets.

While large real estate firms have an important role to play in our housing market, as a city of renters it's important that Los An-

geles' rental housing stock is managed and operated by responsible actors invested in providing safe, adequate, and secure housing. Our renters are not to be treated as pieces in a game of Monopoly.

Passing state legislation like AB 889, introduced by Assemblymember Mike Gipson, that will require corporate landlords to report their identities and make that information accessible to the public, will make it harder for bad actors to skirt responsibility for their profit-driven buying practices and rental conditions. And support for AB 1199, also from Assemblymember Gipson, will impose a tax on the largest corporate landlords and discourage the further consolidation of property ownership in the hands of a few while addressing the impacts of this consolidation by supporting relief for tenants and small mom and pop landlords, homebuyer education, affordable housing and homelessness, and job training. Disclosure of beneficial ownership of corporations purchasing

residential real estate in Los Angeles and imposing a tax on the largest corporate landlords is necessary to further our understanding of the issue and to begin to bring accountability to our communities.

At this critical moment, we are calling on our state legislators to help local governments protect tenants and increase opportunities for Black and Latino homeownership by requiring greater transparency of corporate landlords. Together, we can protect tenants, increase transparency, improve homeownership opportunities, and work to resolve the housing crisis.

Councilmember Monica Rodriguez is a Los Angeles City Councilmember, representing the 7th District including the San Fernando Valley, Pacoima, Sunland-Tujuga, Sylmar.

Holly Mitchell currently serves as a member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. She served as a State Senator for California's 30th Senate District from 2013-2020.

•DR. NADINE BURKE HARRIS•

Vaccinated Californians Can Still Collect Their \$50 Incentive Cards – But Not For Long

As a pediatrician and the Surgeon General of California, one of my key responsibilities is to take science and translate it into simple recommendations to keep Californians healthy. This has and continues to be critical as we navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. More than 64 percent of Californians are fully vaccinated, which is promising. But to stop this virus from spreading and mutating, those who are eligible must do their part to get vaccinated. All three available COVID-19 vaccines are proven safe and highly effective at protecting us from this deadly virus that has taken the lives of more than 64,000 Californians.

To provide additional motivation to get vaccinated, the state has created the Vax for the Win incentive program. As part of this program, if you started your vaccination between May 27 and July 18 in California, you are eligible to receive a \$50 incentive card as a "thank you" from the state. Those eligible will be able to choose either a \$50 prepaid card, which can be spent online and in stores where major debit cards are accepted, or a \$50 grocery card to use at Kroger (Ralphs, Food 4 Less,



NADINE BURKE HARRIS

Foods Co.) or Albertsons (Safeway, Vons, Albertsons, Pavilions, Andronico's) supermarkets.

In order to put an extra \$50 back in your pocket, you must take a minute to redeem your incentive card! Redemption codes are automatically sent out via text or email 7-10 days after you finish your vaccination, but you only have 90 days to redeem and pick your reward before the code expires. To redeem: copy the redemption code, visit www.youcalltheshotca.com, enter your code, and click "submit." It's that easy. But you need to do it now to make sure you don't miss your chance!

To date, California's Vax for the Win program has helped us reach one of the

highest vaccination rates in the country – with approximately 75 percent of the state's eligible population at least partially vaccinated. But we aren't out of the woods yet. As the highly infectious delta variant of COVID-19 continues

to spread, Californians who are unvaccinated remain vulnerable to serious illness and death. If you haven't yet been vaccinated, I urge you to visit www.myturn.ca.gov to schedule an appointment or find a walk-in clinic. COVID-19 vaccines

are safe, free, and the most effective way to protect you and your loved ones. If you have questions or concerns, talk to your health care provider where you will receive the most up-to-date and reliable information about COVID-19 vaccines.

Let's reach community immunity and put this pandemic behind us.

Dr. Nadine Burke Harris is the first Surgeon General of California.



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Let Us Rethink this Recall?

On September 14, 2021 Californians are going to have a special election to vote if Governor Gavin Newsom should be recalled.

not happy with some of the decisions then Democratic Governor Gray Davis had made, especially concerning gun legislation and the state's handling of the electricity industry.

must ask yourself what are the facts concerning this recall, who is behind it and who has the most to gain from a successful recall.

This recall election will only be the fourth gubernatorial recall election ever held in the United States.

Before you cast your ballot, and by the way every voter should have received by now a ballot at their address for the option to vote by mail, which began August 16, 2021, you

{See WENDY C-5}

Success On "The Way"

Ask Dr. Jeanette Parker™



WWW.ASKDRJEANETTEPARKER.COM

"We Can Heal Our World"

My mother used to say, "Jean (she called me Jean), "This a mean ol' world to live in."

Interestingly enough, however, even if she thought that from time to time, she did not live it in real time.

and trying to "get over" on the misfortunes of others. This is nothing new to us. Greed, lust, lying and other devious activities permeated the world then and continue to flow throughout society today.

out. The serpent "duped" Eve. She was believing her own press release thinking she could "be God."

{See PARKER C-6}

CLASSIFIED

Table with 6 columns: Rooms for Rent, APARTMENTS - UNFURNISHED, APARTMENTS - UNFURNISHED, EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, ANNOUNCEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PERSONALS. Contains various real estate listings, job openings, and community notices.

'We Can Heal Our World'

{continued from Pg. C-3}

along in your own house when one believes in Christ and another holds idolatrous beliefs, they are not holding in their hearts the same belief and trust. They are trusting in ways and attitudes contrary to Christian beliefs. The Gospel cannot

be purchased nor bartered for material things. When there are directly conflicting doctrines, there is not peace. There could be a surface or peripheral peace, but not real peace. On this point, one major (if not the problem) in this situation today is when the United

States is in Afghanistan nation building. Although we were there 20 years, the others were there also patiently waiting for us to get out. Peace with the Taliban and other parts of the world is most difficult. The beliefs are so completely different. That's why people have

to sit down and negotiate peace treaties. Jesus came to bring love and show through the Gospel message and His resurrection and ascension that He has victory over the flesh! WE CAN HAVE VICTORY TOO!--RIGHT HERE ON EARTH. BUT, WE

MUST "PURSUE PEACE (Hebrews 12:14). Make Every effort to be at peace WITH EVERYONE, AS WELL AS HOLINESS, WITHOUT WHICH NO ONE WILL SEE THE LORD. Thanks for reading! Jeanette Grattan Parker, Founder-Superin-

tendent Today's Fresh Start Charter School 323-293-9826 www.todaysfreshstart.org; Askdrjeanette@www.askdrjeanetteparker.com Askdrjeanette.succe-sontheway@gmail.com "Inquiring minds want to know."© All rights reserved. Ask Dr. Jeanette®

Let Us Rethink this Recall?

{continued from Pg. C-3}

made during his time in office are not mentioned.

Many people believe this is a political battle orchestrated by Trump Republicans, to try and take California back and out of

the control of Democrats. If you believe this to be true then you must vote "no" on the recall and not let this shameless power grab be successful. To put a gubernatorial recall on the ballot, organizers must collect

signatures equal to 12% of votes cast in the most recent gubernatorial election- which meant they needed at least 1,495,709 signatures from registered voters and they delivered 2.1 million signatures, even though

400,000 were deemed invalid and tossed out. What these so-called concerned citizens do not mention is the cost of the recall, which is estimated to cost taxpayers \$276 million. That would be you and me.

I would never tell you who or what to vote for, but I will strongly encourage you to vote! Do your homework and make sure you are truly informed before you cast your ballot.

Healing Without Hate:

It's a choice. It's a lifestyle. Pass it on.

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

Public Notices

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).
Original Filing 8/19, 8/26, 9/2, 9/9/21
CNS-3502851#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2021166936
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
AOL LIVE-SCAN FINGERPRINTING, 3159 WEST 75TH STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90043 County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s):
ANNETTE YOUNG, 3159 WEST 75TH STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90043
This business is conducted by an individual
The registrant(s) started doing business on N/A
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)
S/ **ANNETTE YOUNG**, PRESIDENT
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/23/2021.
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).
Original Filing 8/12, 8/19, 8/26, 9/2/21
CNS-349967#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: LLC/AI No 202116111076
Registered owner(s):
PHARMACY OF THE WEST LLC, 1465 TAMARIND AVE #3, LOS ANGELES, CA 90028; State of Incorporation: CA
This business is conducted by a limited liability company
The registrant(s) started doing business on N/A
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)
PHARMACY OF THE WEST LLC
S/ **ARTASHES HAROUTUNYAN**, Manager
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/26/2021.
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).
Original Filing 8/12, 8/19, 8/26, 9/2/21
CNS-349967#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

Proposals for **AE77613 - I-105 Express Lanes Final Design Plans Specification and Estimates** at the 9th Floor Receptionist Desk, Vendor/Contract Management Department, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012.
Will be e-mailed to you upon request by e-mailing rbruibo@dpw.lacounty.gov.
9/2/21
CNS-3505243#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Notice is given that proposals for CMatRisk for Hall of Admin Base Isolation Seismic Retrofit (BRC000214) will be received by the County of L.A. Public Works, Cashier Office, 900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra, CA 91803 until 4 pm, on October 11, 2021. An RFP may be obtained by accessing the link at <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/general/contracts/opportunities/> or will be emailed to you upon request by calling (626) 300-2325 or TDData(626) 282-7829. 9/2/21
CNS-3505232#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY
IFB NO. EP216-22
Arrow Maintenance Facility Lift Jacks
The Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRRA) is seeking Bids for (Contract>Title). Bid documents may be downloaded at SCRRRA's website at <http://www.metroinktrains.com/contracts>. Select Vendor Portal. Bids are due on September 17, 2021. The contract to be awarded will be funded in part by grants under the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transportation Administration and is subject to an DBE Participation Goal of 0.0%. For further information contact: Dorothea Cantero, Contract Administrator, at canterod@scrra.net. 9/2/21
CNS-3503543#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

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. Attorney for Petitioner **WILLIE L. GRANT - SBN 143299**
LAW OFFICES OF WILLIE L. GRANT & ASSOCIATES
2710 E. CHAPMAN AVE., #101
FULLERTON CA 92831
8/19, 8/26, 9/2/21
CNS-3503159#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: ROBERT CHARLES COSBY CASE NO. 21STPB03407
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of ROBERT CHARLES COSBY. A PETITION FOR PROBEATE has been filed by ROBERT CHARLES COSBY MANAGEMENT LLC in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ROBERT CHARLES COSBY MANAGEMENT LLC 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: 12/10/21 at 8:30AM in Dept. 5 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. Attorney for Petitioner: **BRADLEY VAN SCOYK, ESQ. SBN 280158**
VANSCOYK LAW
1918 W. HILLCREST DRIVE THOUSAND OAKS, CA 91360.
8/19, 8/26, 9/2/21
CNS-3501014#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

Notice is hereby given to the creditors and contingent creditors of the above-named decedent, that all persons having claims against the decedent are required to file them with the Superior Court, at 111 N. Hill St, Los Angeles, CA 90012, and mail or deliver a copy to 11947 Peach St, Lynwood, CA 90262, as Trustee of the Trust dated 9-2-2020 wherein the decedent was the settlor, at 11947 Peach St, Lynwood, CA 90262, within the later of four months after August 19th, 2021 (the date of the first publication of notice to creditors) or, if notice is mailed or personally delivered to you, 60 days after the date this notice is mailed or personally delivered to you. A claim form may be obtained from the court clerk. For your protection, you are encouraged to file your claim by certified mail, with return receipt requested.
John Robinson
11947 Peach St
Lynwood, CA 90262
8/19, 8/26, 9/2/21
CNS-3502840#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JILL ROBERTS JUDGE CASE NO. 21STPB05643
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of JILL ROBERTS JUDGE. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by TERENCE JUDGE in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that TERENCE JUDGE 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: 09/10/21 at 8:30AM in Dept. 9 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. Attorney for Petitioner: **BRADLEY VAN SCOYK, ESQ. SBN 280158**
VANSCOYK LAW
1918 W. HILLCREST DRIVE THOUSAND OAKS, CA 91360.
8/19, 8/26, 9/2/21
CNS-3501014#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2021159335
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **EMPOWER YOUR CREDIT**, 626 WILSHIRE BLVD SUITE #410, LOS ANGELES, CA 90017 County of LOS ANGELES
Mailing Address: 7046 1/2 LA TIJERA BLVD, Los Angeles, CA 90045
Registered owner(s): **TIFFANY ANDERSON CONSULTING & CO LLC**, 626 WILSHIRE BLVD SUITE #410, LOS ANGELES, CA 90017; State of Incorporation: CA
This business is conducted by a limited liability company
The registrant(s) started doing business on N/A
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)
S/ **TIFFANY ANDERSON CONSULTING & CO LLC**, S/ **TIFFANY ANDERSON, OWNER / MANAGER**
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/14/2021.
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).
Original Filing 8/12, 8/19, 8/26, 9/2/21
CNS-349968#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2021171443
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
SPIRITUAL GROWTH MINISTRIES, 322 EAST CEDAR AVE #C, Burbank, CA 91502 County of LOS ANGELES
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: XXX
Registered owner(s): **SHAUNTAE SPAULDING LLC**, 322 EAST CEDAR AVE #C, BURBANK, CA 91502; XXX
This business is conducted by a limited liability company
The registrant(s) started doing business on N/A
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)
S/ **SHAUNTAE SPAULDING, OWNER - MEMBER**
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/30/2021.
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).
Original Filing 8/12, 8/19, 8/26, 9/2/21
CNS-349967#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2021171443
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
SPIRITUAL GROWTH MINISTRIES, 322 EAST CEDAR AVE #C, Burbank, CA 91502 County of LOS ANGELES
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: XXX
Registered owner(s): **SHAUNTAE SPAULDING LLC**, 322 EAST CEDAR AVE #C, BURBANK, CA 91502; XXX
This business is conducted by a limited liability company
The registrant(s) started doing business on N/A
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)
S/ **SHAUNTAE SPAULDING, OWNER - MEMBER**
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/30/2021.
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).
Original Filing 8/12, 8/19, 8/26, 9/2/21
CNS-349967#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Notice is given that proposals for On-Call Environmental Assessment, Remediation, and Compliance Services (BRC000247) will be received by Los Angeles County Public Works, via BidExpress or mail-in electronic proposals via Universal Serial Bus (USB) drive to 900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra, CA 91803 until 4 pm, on Wednesday, September 22, 2021. An RFP may be obtained by accessing the link at <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/general/contracts/opportunities/> or

Public Notices

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: DONALD L. THOMPSON CASE NO. 21STPB07696
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of DONALD L. THOMPSON. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by VERNESTINE B. THOMPSON in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that VERNESTINE B. THOMPSON be appointed as personal 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: 09/09/21 at 8:30AM in Dept. 29 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. Attorney for Petitioner: **ROBERT CHARLES COSBY MANAGEMENT LLC**, 1147 WEST 92ND STREET LOS ANGELES CA 90044
8/19, 8/26, 9/2/21
CNS-3502848#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY (LACMTA) REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
LACMTA will receive

Celebration of Life

Delano Catherine Hadley Robinson



Delano Catherine Hadley Robinson, widow of the

late Matthew "Mack" Robinson - 1936 Olympic Silver Medalist, 200 Meters, Berlin, Germany - and older brother of baseball legend, Jackie Robinson, passed away on Wednesday, August 18, 2021.

Delano, a native of Thomasville, Georgia, 8th of 15 children - was also the Homecoming Queen at Douglass High School in 1951.

She settled in Pasadena, and married Matthew "Mack" Robinson in 1955. To this union were, Wayne Robinson, Kathy Robinson Young, Betty Robinson

Coleman, William Robinson, Rose Robinson & Edward Robinson.

As a longtime member of Scott United Methodist Church (Pasadena, CA),

Delano also sang with the Church choir.

Socially, and alongside 'Mack,' she enjoyed volunteering at The Arco Jesse Owens Games, and the Special Olympics Southern California. Delano attended many events which promoted the Dodgers/MLB, and Olympic Team USA.

Delano's career was in nursing. It's with this experience she attained, assisted



her in taking care of her beloved husband "Mack," until his death on March 12, 2000.

Delano Robinson loved her city. She represented her family on several occasions, in Pasadena's Black History Parade!

In 2012, the Pasadena

Journal recognized Delano Robinson, as one of the "Women of Achievement in Pasadena."

She leaves many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, siblings, family & friends - to cherish her memory!

Helen Williams-The passing of a 104-year-old Wonder

BY EARL HEATH

Helen Beatrice Cox Williams was born on May 1, 1917 was called home after 104 years on July 31, 2021. Born in Sailes, a small settlement just outside of Gibsland, Louisiana. Her parents, William Chet Cox and Gertrude Eva Cathcart Cox, raised Helen and her seven brothers and sisters - Susie, John Preston, Jewel, Doretha, Arthur Milton, Lorene and William Allen - on the family farm. They made sure she established a relationship with God at a young age through Jerusalem Old Sparta Baptist Church. Her early education took place in the one room schoolhouse at Saint Rest Baptist Church and she went on to graduate from Crawford High School in nearby Arcadia.

In May of this year, after reaching her 104th birthday, she was recognized

nationally by several major publications and internationally by Al Roker of NBC's "The Today Show" for reaching such a milestone.

While in high school Helen met Hardy "Jack" Williams and they were married in 1939 in Ruston, Louisiana. In 1940, she followed him to Whittier, California and after a few years they moved to Los Angeles. Over the next decade, the couple was blessed with four children - Sally, Hardy, Donald and Jimmy. In order to support their growing family, Helen used her innate business sense, along with Jack's strong work ethic, to benefit from financial opportunities. Together they purchased several rental properties, ran the family-owned Williams market, and later started Compton Refrigeration.

Saint Paul Baptist Church, under the lead-

ership of Reverend John L. Branham, became the house of worship for Helen and her family. As active members of the congregation, the Williams household regularly attended Sunday service, taught adult Sunday school, and sang in the choir. Helen emphasized faith in God and the importance of education which helped propel all her children to graduate from college. She was able to fulfill her own deferred dream when she earned her AA degree from Southwest Jr. College. Then, at the age of 63, she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Immaculate Heart University in 1980.

Helen worked for the Los Angeles Unified School District as an educational assistant on several campuses including 59th Street Elementary, 74th Street Elementary and Miles Avenue Elementary.

During her time at Marlton School for the Deaf she became fluent in sign language. After her retirement Helen remained active through community and personal endeavors. In the early 1990's she testified before the National Commission on Reparations which was part of the evidence submitted to the United Nations Human Rights Subcommittee on Minority Rights. He participated in the Archive Storycorps Project and her interview is catalogued in the American Folklore Center at the Library of Congress. In 2011, she self-published her book of poetry, "From Birth to Longevity," a collection of works focused on family, faith, community and commitment to learning.

Helen Beatrice Cox Williams is survived by her sons Hardy, Donald and Jimmy; daughter-in-laws Maxine, Carolyn, Shirley,



and Barbara; grandchildren Kelvin, Noel, Khary, Jared, Mia and Imani; great-grandchildren Khylla, Jaylen and Ahsaan; nephews Stevie, Warren and Eric; great-grandnephew and niece Michael and Kelly; Kimberly Harris and family; and a host of cousins, extended family and close friends.

A viewing will take place on WED. SEPT, 8th -11:30 a.m.- 4:00 P.M. at ANGULUS FUNERAL HOME -3875 CRENSHAW BLVD.90016. The service will be Thurs SEPT 9th, 2021 - 10:00 a.m. at Inglewood Park Cemetery - 720 E. Florence Ave. 90301.

GREATER EBENEZER
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

"Equipping the Saints, Engaging the World, Enjoying the Lord"

Virtual Worship Service!
Sunday at 10AM on Facebook, YouTube and audio live stream @ gembcla.org | Website: gembcla.org

Giving Options: Zelle and PayPal giving@gembcla.org, Givelfly at Greater Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church or Mail to: Stewardship, 5300 Denker Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90062
Phone: (323) 759-4996 (leave message and staff will respond)

5300 S. Denker Ave. Los Angeles, CA (323) 759-4996 • gembcla.org

Brookins-Kirkland Community
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Virtual Worship Service - Sunday at 9AM
Call the Church Office at (323) 296-5610 for the conference number and code

Website: bcamechurchla.org
Giving Options: Online at www.bcamechurchla.org, TitheJy at Brookins-Kirkland Community AME Church, or Mail to: 3719 W. Slauson Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90043
Phone: (323) 296-5610 (leave message and staff will respond)

WEST ANGELES
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

westangeleschurch.org | 3800 S. Crenshaw Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90016 (323) 733-8300

RT. REV. CHARLES E. BLAKE

VIRTUAL WORSHIP SERVICE
Sundays at 8:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 7:00 PM at westa.tv
Bible Study on Wednesdays at 7 PM
Website: westa.org

Giving Options: Online at westa.org, Text WestA to 41444 or mail to: Tithes and Offerings, 3045 Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90016

"A CHURCH ON THE MOVE FOR GOD"

TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH

2040 W. JEFFERSON BLVD.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90018
PHONE: (323) 735-0044 FAX: (323) 735-0219
Email: trinitybaptist@sbceglobal.net
Website: trinitybaptistchurchofla.org

Virtual Worship Service
YouTube at tv.trinitybaptist.cloud, sermon podcasts on website

Giving Options: PayPal or mail to:
2040 W. Jefferson Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90018
Phone: (323) 735-0044 (leave message and staff will respond)

REV. ALVIN TUNSTILL, JR. ~ PASTOR

Grant African Methodist Episcopal Church

Virtual Worship Service
Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Call: (605) 475-6333, Access Code 34516##
Website: grantamechurch.org

Giving Options: Online at www.grantamechurch.org or Mail to: 10435 S. Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90002
Phone: (323) 564-1151

faithdome.org | 323-758-3777

CRENSHAW CHRISTIAN CENTER FAITH DOME

Live Worship Service - Sunday at 10:30AM and Tuesday at 11AM and 7:30PM at faithdome.org, Facebook, Roku, YouTube and the EIF app (download in Apple Store and Google Play). Website: faithdome.org

Giving Options: Text to 28950, type EIFMO and amount you wish to give (ex., EIFMO 50) or mail to: P.O. Box 90000, Los Angeles, CA 90009
Phone: (323) 758-3777 (leave message and staff will respond)

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LOS ANGELES SENTINEL SPORTS

D-1

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

Student Athlete of the Week: Drake London

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Writer

Drake London of USC is projected to be one of the top junior wide receivers in the nation. Last season, he was named on the Phil Steele All-Pac-12 first team and the All-Pac-12 second team.

For the first time in his athletic career, London is focusing on one sport. During his freshman year, London was a dual-sport athlete, playing basketball and football for the Trojans. In December 2020, he decided to part ways with the men's basketball team.

"Obviously basketball is a part of my background, it's a part of me," London said. "Of course I miss it, but I got to make a decision and I made a decision

to play football."

Although he saw limited minutes on the hardwood during his freshman year, London made significant strides on the gridiron. He was named Pac-12 Freshman of the Week in November of the 2019-2020 season and ultimately secured 39 catches for 567 yards and five touchdowns that year.

The nuances of playing basketball helped London, coaches tell him to "cross somebody up" when doing releases.

"Jump balls, spacing and just little things like that have helped my football game a lot," London said.

Since this past spring, London has improved several of his skills, including his route running and

strength. "I'm just worried about

Last season, London had 33 receptions for 502

yards. London is a communications major; his favorite class was a physical education class that included practicing yoga.

"I got a little break, I was in classes all the time," he said. "So we got to go to the gym and relax on the yoga mat and stretch."

London has gleaned from the likes of former Trojans Michael Pittman, Aman-Ra St. Brown, and Tyler Vaughns. In traditional Trojan fashion, he continues to network with them so he can improve his game.

"I talk to all them but I hit up Tyler Vaughns today like 'Hey, what should I do on this route? How should I move my body?' because

the way he could contort his body, I've never seen this before in my life," London said.

He took note of their leadership skills and used it to lead the current wide receiver corps with the hope to maintain high chemistry.

As a senior at Moorpark High School, London was a 2018 Prep Star All-American, All-Camino League Co-Wide Receiver of the Year and All-CIF Division III honors. That year, he made 51 catches for 1032 yards and scored 11 touchdowns.

In basketball, London was scoring 29.2 points, 11.9 rebounds, and 3.8 assists per game. His efforts gave him All-CIF Division IV honors during his senior season.



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL

USC junior wide receiver, Drake London is a communications major.

getting to the championship and getting a little bit of redemption," London said.

yards, resulting in three touchdowns. During the Pac-12 championship game against Oregon, he

Dorsey's Stafon Johnson Returns as Head Football Coach

BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS
Staff Writer

"There's no place like home," said Stafon Johnson just before his first game as head football coach for the Dorsey High Dons vs. the Santa Monica Vikings. Johnson was a phenom at the running back position for the Dons 2004-2006, earning a full scholarship to USC and playing for the Trojans throughout his college career.

As a Tiny Might player in Pop Warner, Johnson was lauded as one of the best backs in the conference as a nine-year-old for the LA Sheriffs. He continued the great legacy of Dorsey running backs (Lamont Warren, Beno Bryant, and Karim Abdul-Jabbar just to



PHOTO BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

Dorsey Football Head Coach Stafon Johnson

Johnson felt that same love when he walked onto the Jackie Robinson Stadium field with his coaches and players. He said he felt a burst of energy from the people who have always

Dorsey administrators believed in me. I want the kids to feel that, have that experience, to have L.A. behind you. I tried running from this for years; yet, I had to realize who else will



PHOTO BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

Dorsey High football players and coaches.

to David Williams, a former Dorsey track and football coach, and former head coach for Carson Colts, where his team won the city championship in 1993. "When Stafon called and asked for my help, I immediately said yes. As a first-time head coach, he needs mentoring and experienced assistants. Being a varsity head coach is a demanding job, and resurrecting our program has been especially challenging during this pandemic. Stafon is bright and energetic, and all of us share his vision of returning Dorsey to its championship tradition. We want the entire Crenshaw community to take pride in the team we're putting on the field every Friday night. We're teaching our young men to proudly represent something bigger than themselves, and we're helping them to become exemplary young men both on and off the field," said Williams.

On the sidelines, Johnson said he felt a surreal, epic moment of comfort and happiness. "I didn't want to leave; I knew that the kids could make history." According to Johnson, beating Santa Monica 14-0 made it the first team win in the months of August and September since 2016.

He joked, "I kept thinking, 'I can't lose my debut.'" When asked what his goals are for the season, he responded, "Our goal is the buy in, change the view and culture one game at a time."

Dorsey next plays at Narbonne High on Thursday, September 2, at 7 p.m.



PHOTO BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

Head coach, Stafon Johnson (middle) talks to Dorsey players at halftime while offensive coordinator, Dave Williams prepares.

name a few). "I gave my all for the City of L.A. since I was a child and the city always poured their love right back," he said.

been there for him, his supportive parents, family, friends, and the Los Angeles community as a whole. "I'm grateful that the

understand and know the pulse of the city and how to make an impact?"

As a first-time head coach, Johnson reached out



PHOTO BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

Number 6 for the Dorsey Dons catches a TD for the first score against Santa Monica High.



PHOTO BY E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

The Dorsey High football team look forward to a bright season.

Noel Foucher & Burton Burns Top St. Augustine High School Hall of Fame Classes of 20 & 21

SENTINEL STAFF REPORT

Famed St. Augustine High School in New Orleans, Louisiana completed its Class of 2020 and 2021 Hall of Fame Induction voting on Thursday, August 26, 2021. The Class of 2020 voting was delayed because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, so the school held its voting for both 2020 and 2021 this year.

At the top of the two induction classes was New Orleans legendary high school running back, Burton Burns and four sports legend, Noel Foucher, who starred not only on the football field at cornerback, but also as a standout point guard for the championship Purple Knights basketball team, it's baseball team and also was one of the top sprinters on the school's track team.

The Class of 2020 inductees were Burton

Burns, Oyd Craddock, Andrew B. Davis, Bernard Griffith, Tyrone Payne, and Fr. Joseph C. Verrett, S.S.J.



Burton Burns

The Class of 2021 inductees were Noel Foucher, Dwight McKenna, Dr. Percy Pierre, Bro. Lawrence E. Price, S.S.J., Dr. Kenneth St. Charles, and Dr. Eliot Willard.

Although St. Augustine now welcomes students of all races, it remains a lead-

ing secondary school for Black young men in Louisiana, and has long been nationally recognized

in educational circles for outstanding success in preparing its students for higher education. Time magazine wrote in 1965:

"The boys are better trained than most Southern high school students of either race," says Harold Owens of Andover, one of

the half-dozen leading prep schools that have accepted St. Aug students for intensive summer courses. Adds Charles McCarthy, director of a cooperative effort by the Ivy League schools to spot bright, underprivileged students: "St. Augustine produces high-quality candidates who don't disappoint the colleges once they're admitted." Peter Briggs, a freshman admissions officer at Harvard, finds St. Aug boys "interesting, constructive guys."

St. Augustine High School led the way in battling segregation in New Orleans. The successful legal challenges mounted by the school (and lawyer A.P. Tureaud), resulted in the desegregation of high school athletics in Louisiana; so that by the end of the 1960s, St. Augustine teams could play against teams from White schools.

"While I am honored to be inducted into the St. Augustine Hall of Fame, right now, my focus is on



Noel Foucher

the lives and families devastated by Hurricane Ida in the New Orleans area. I still have a large contingent of family and friends whose lives have been affected from this Hurricane and my prayers and thoughts are now with them. Hopefully, we will

be able to come together in the near future to celebrate this honor, but right now, all I can do is pray for

everyone in New Orleans and throughout the Gulf Coast, as once again, they try and put their lives back together from this horrible disaster," stated Noel Foucher, who received notice of his induction a week before Hurricane Ida hit the New Orleans area.

Basketball Star Crystal Robinson Shares Life Lessons in 'Finding Myself'

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Writer

Retired WNBA star Crystal Robinson rose above several challenges

in Italy, her journalist friend read her work and encouraged her to write the book. The myriad of events that are taking place in the world inspired her to publish

positive in all of the negative because the negative is always gonna happen."

As she excelled as a professional athlete, Robinson realized how the hard times that she went through prepared her for the rigors of being in the WNBA. During her eight years in the league, Robinson averaged 10.2 points, 2.7 rebounds, and 1.1 steals per game. She spent most of her career playing for the New York Liberty.

Robinson also shared her experiences competing overseas and how she learned how to speak Italian fluently.

"I learned fast that it's a miserable existence if you just go over there and act like an American and expect everybody to wait on you," she said. "If you want to really be productive and thrive in Europe, you have to at least make efforts to learn the culture and they'll respect you."

During her third grade year, Robinson realized that she was homosexual; she also developed a strong relationship with God at that



COURTESY PHOTO

Former WNBA player and coach Crystal Robinson garnered popularity in her hometown of Atoka, OK for playing basketball and baseball.

during her youth to become a prominent professional athlete and coach. She chronicled the trials, triumphs, and lessons of her

"Finding Myself." "Where the world is at today, I see how people really are evaluating their lives and spending time with



COURTESY PHOTO

Robinson played for several countries overseas including Italy, Korea, and Russia.

childhood in her autobiography "Finding Myself."

In "Finding Myself," Robinson explained how she endured racism and sexual assault, struggled to accept her homosexuality, and handled the loss of a close friend. Through the stories, she learned the importance of forgiveness, humility, and courage.

Her relationship with God, love for basketball and strong bond with her cousin Marvin were sources of joy and strength. Robinson started writing the book while playing pro basketball

themselves," Robinson said. "I think that this book is a little guide on that, so I really wanted to put it out there to help people."

One of the problems in her life was accepting the actions of her parents, who both suffered from alcohol abuse. As an adult, she gained some hindsight on that circumstance and found the positive outcomes from them.

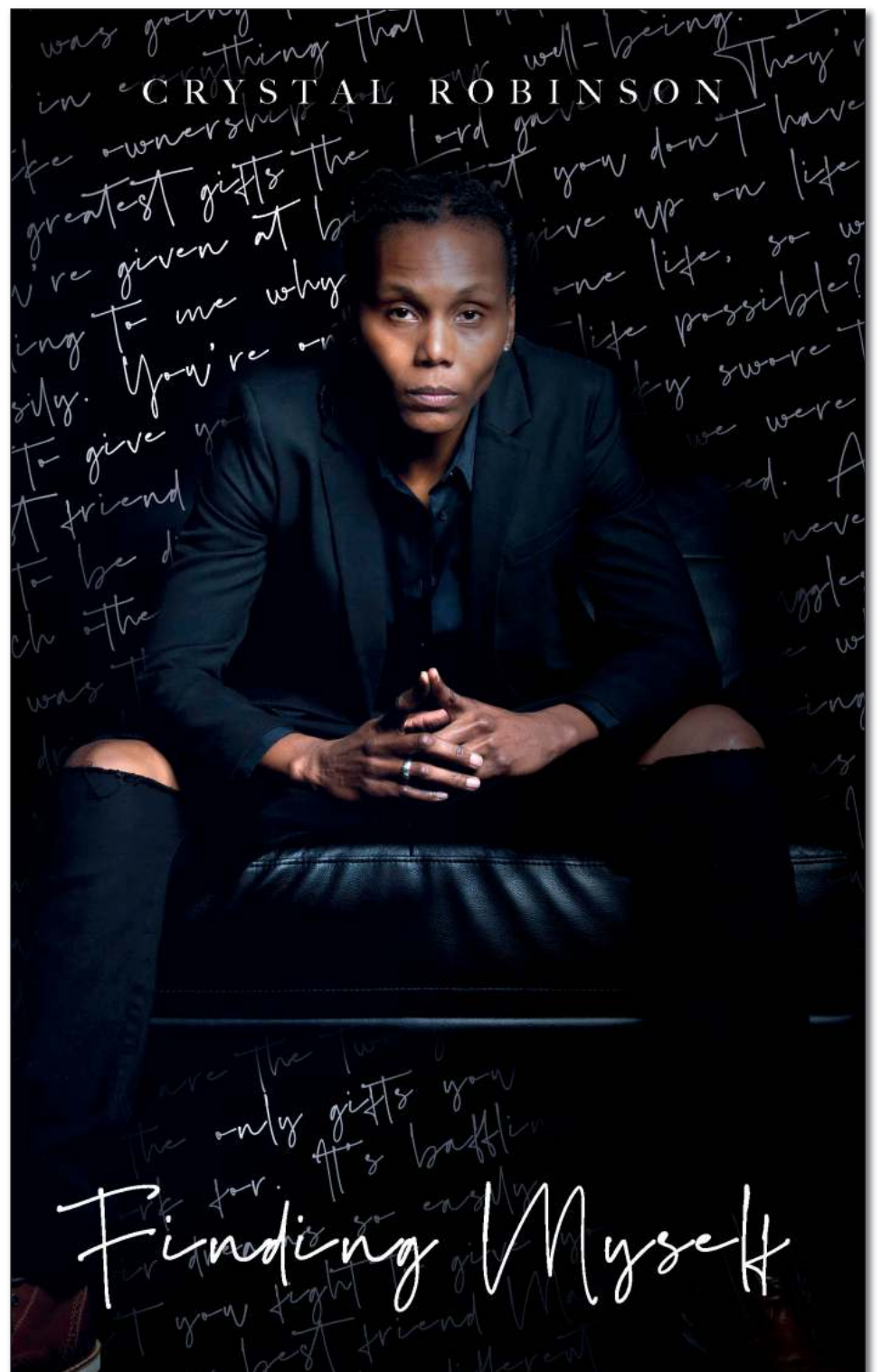
"That came from years of learning emotional intelligence," Robinson said. "I progressed to become a person who tried to find the

time. She never felt a need to change even though she



COURTESY PHOTO

Robinson is the first Black woman to be inducted in the Oklahoma Hall of Fame



COURTESY PHOTO

The cover of the "Finding Myself" Autobiography

lived in Oklahoma, a Bible belt state.

"When I accepted myself, I really didn't care what other people thought and my family loved me," Robinson said. "I broke a lot of barriers in this area where

I live at."

Coming to terms with her sexuality was a challenge for Robinson, but it helped her to become deeply empathetic towards students who were ostracized and bullied by their peers. She

even confronted bullies to the point where they left students alone.

"Since the book has been out, my inbox has been crazy with stories from people who are telling me things about meeting me," Robinson said.

There is a section of the book that is called "The Legacy of Crystal Robinson" where people influenced by Robinson explain how she impacted their lives and the game of basketball. "Finding Myself" also features poems written by Robinson.

Her contributions to basketball got Robinson placed in the NAIA Hall of Fame, Jim Thorpe Oklahoma Hall of Fame and the Southeastern Athletic Hall of Fame.

Kappa Alpha Psi Defeats Alpha Phi Alpha to Claim Frat Games Championship

Divine Nine come together to promote unity, community & the HBCU experience

By DANNY J. BAKEWELL, JR.
Executive Editor

On Sunday, August 29 at Darby Park in Inglewood, the Noble Men of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. defeated the men of Alpha

the Los Angeles community, representing various colleges and universities from across the U.S.

This year's games kicked off July 11, and continued for seven additional weeks, culminating in a

gathering added their own level of excitement with weekly themes, including a mix of Sorority Days, HBCU Days, Family Days and much more. In addition to the competition and weekly themes, all of the organi-

school supplies to needy students.

This year, with an eye

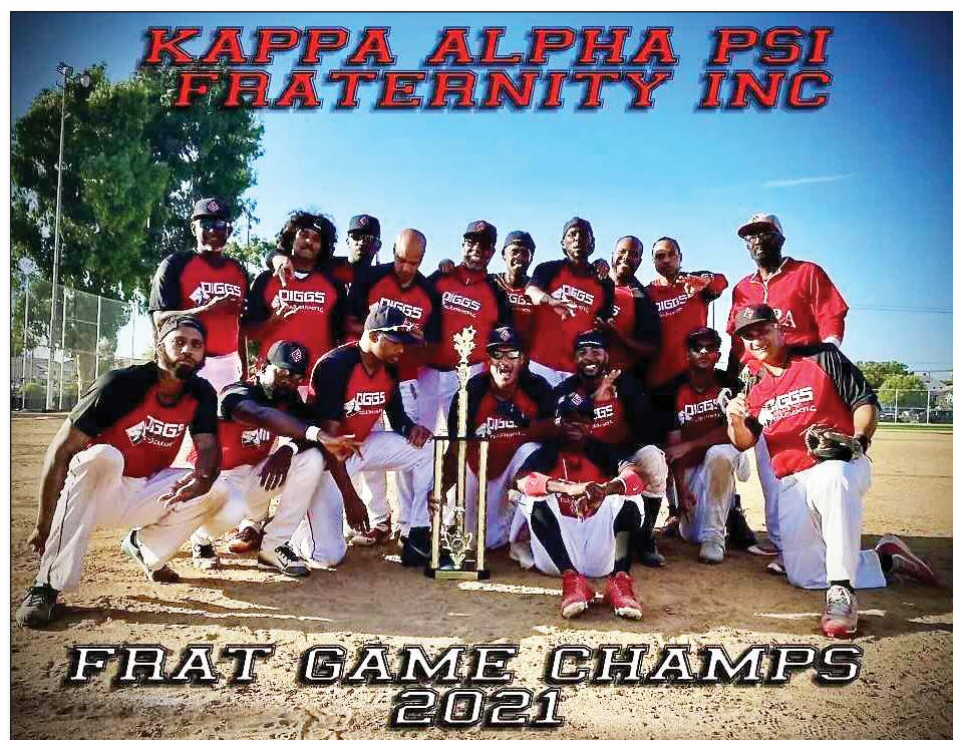


PHOTO KRYSLE ARCHER

Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. to claim the 2021 Frat Games softball championship. The "Nupes" defeated the top-seated Men of Alpha 12-10 to win the championship, breaking the previous two-year winning streak held by the Men of Phi Beta Sigma.

The Frat Games, which are held annually, is more than just a sporting competition; it is an annual event where members of all of the Divine Nine fraternities and sororities come together to form volunteer sports teams and unite, to engage in friendly competition, and share in a time of fraternalism, fellowship and of course, competitive banter. The teams are comprised of members of each fraternal organization who reside in

highly-competitive and well-attended Championship Weekend. The championship weekend brought out members of all of the National Pan Hellenic Council fraternities and sororities, students and graduates from a variety of HBCU's and



PHOTO JEVONE MOORE (FULL IMAGE 360)

featured Greek organization cookout, along with the highly-anticipated game.

In addition to the events and energy of the Championship Weekend's events, each of the previous weeks

zations used these gathering to promote community service and provide vital resources to the youth of our communities. Annually, the games have included a backpack drive, where each fraternity and sorority ask their members, as well as any

guest in attendance, to bring and donate backpacks loaded with school supplies to the games. These donations are collected and annually donated to a local elementary school to provide



PHOTO JEVONE MOORE (FULL IMAGE 360)

towards pandemic recovery, free rapid COVID-19 testing was provided. All attendees were encouraged to wear masks and to get vaccinated. Along with free testing and vaccinations, fans were provided free "Forever Friends" hand sanitizer which was distributed on behalf of LA County Probation.

Like any good picnic or other Black event there was moving music throughout the games, which was provided by Cameron Jackson (Controlling All Music) and Gerald "Flash" Reneau (The Party General).

The frat games were first established in 1963, and has been a regular staple in the Inglewood community for nearly 60 years. This annual event brings together current undergrad students, college graduates, trade professionals, executives, business owners, parents, teens and children. On a weekly basis, the frat games averaged over 200 attendees, including students and members of several community youth organizations. "Part of the beauty of this year's event was having all of these young people in attendance. Before and after the games, they got a chance to see fraternities and sororities step; they got a chance to ask questions about the HBCU college and



PHOTO KRYSLE ARCHER

For the first time in frat game history, a grandfather and grandson duo played on the same team. Daniel Tabor and his grandson, Gilbert Williams-Lyons teamed up to deliver the Kappas a Championship.

fraternity experience. I think this is one of the largest gatherings of Black college educated men and women at a public event, where our young people get a chance to

Gilbert Williams-Lyons, who recently became a Kappa Man, as well as a graduate of Norfolk State. This was the first time a grandfather and grandson were teammates in Frat Games history.

Kappa Alpha Psi suffered two losses during the regular season; once to the reigning champions, the Men of Phi Beta Sigma and the other loss to the Men of Alpha Phi Alpha. But the



PHOTO JEVONE MOORE (FULL IMAGE 360)

really understand what the Black College Experience is all about," stated Daniel Tabor – Coach and member of the Kappa Alpha Psi's championship team.



PHOTO JEVONE MOORE (FULL IMAGE 360)

This year's games were especially memorable as well as historic for Daniel Tabor and his wife, Krishna Tabor. Tabor had the opportunity to play in the frat games with his grandson,



PHOTO JEVONE MOORE (FULL IMAGE 360)

Kappa Men were able to come back from these earlier defeats and beat both of these teams in the playoffs to claim the coveted Frat Games trophy and reign as the 2021 Frat Game Champions.

For details, highlights, stories and photos, be sure to follow @TheFratGames on Facebook and Instagram or via #TheFratGames official hashtag.



PHOTO JEVONE MOORE (FULL IMAGE 360)



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D-4

THE L WORD: GENERATION Q's Afro-Latino's Jillian Mercado is disabled and so what?

BY LAPACAZO SANDOVAL, Contributing Writer

Jillian Mercado is a proud, disabled Afro-Latina (Dominican) actress who is

and TV. This season she steps into a new, romantic relationship and she's grateful that she's able to bring to life a fully developed character with a rich career and

2010), completing internships at Veranda and Allure magazines. Deeply involved in that world, she volunteered at the famed Fashion Week for years, which ultimately allowed her to cover events for society photographer Patrick McMullan's PMc Magazine.

Fashion beckoned and Mercado answered and in 2014, she was featured in her first campaign for designer denim brand Diesel. That successful campaign caught the attention of

people like myself.

LAS: That's so sad. Why do you think that is?

JM: I don't think that they know how to write about us which is valid, and I think the key message is about giving opportunities and giving people like myself a voice.

LAS: Yes, I agree.

JM: And the writers on the show have been very comfortable and open and have allowed me to be as authentic as I am in real life and to bring that to this char-

life for you?" — and [here, again] I was able to help make my character as authentic as possible because of the simple fact, that we all agree that there wasn't [enough positive] representation as there

I'm dating and traveling and doing everything that a 'quote - unquote - normal person does' except that I ride around in my chair. I think that this industry has an obsession to try and make us feel less than.



PHOTO CREDIT: LIZ MORRIS/SHOWTIME

Jillian Mercado as Maribel in THE L WORD: GENERATION Q "Late to the Party."

determined to put her best foot forward playing immigration attorney, Maribel Suarez in Showtime's THE L WORD: GENERATION Q which is a sequel to the groundbreaking series THE L WORD (2004 to 2009), which focused mainly on a close-knit group of bisexual and lesbian women.

This season of THE L WORD: GENERATION Q kicks off in the aftermath of Sophie's (Rosanny Zayas)

thriving love life.

It's fair to say that Jillian Mercado (born April 30, 1987) is a role model and a hope for thousands of creative artists who are disabled. It's clear from her accomplishments that she doesn't take "no" for an answer often. Along with her work as an actress, Mercado is a prominent figure in the fashion world and constantly challenging archaic ideas of beauty. True to her



PHOTO CREDIT: LIZ MORRIS/SHOWTIME

(L-R): Leo Sheng as Micah Lee and Jillian Mercado as Maribel in THE L WORD: GENERATION Q "Lean On Me."

IMG Models President Ivan Bart and landed her a modeling contract with IMG in 2015. In 2016, she was one of three models who appeared in a campaign for Beyoncé's official website which promoted merchandise for the singer's single and the Formation world tour. To date, she has been featured in numerous campaigns and editorials spreads and is represented by CAA Worldwide.

Here is what Jillian Mercado had to share about being on THE L WORD: GENERATION Q as a proud Afro-Latina, Queer disabled woman.

LOS ANGELES SENTINEL: You are Afro-Latina, correct? Dominican?

JILLIAN MERCADO: Yes.

LAS: I live in a Spanish-speaking, Dominican household and my Spanish is horrible but it works.

JM: (laughing) I am sure it does.

LAS: CONGRATULATIONS on your expanded storyline this season. I think there is some kissy-kissy, love smooching coming your way. Am I wrong?

JM: (laughing) We are on the L Word honey. We Are. On. The. L. Word.

LAS: Yasss, but I think that you are going to be the one to break a heart or two.

JM: I love it. I. Love. It. The storyline can go so many different ways. You know that Dominicans bring the drama in.

LAS: Do you guys even call it drama, isn't it more like, it's like Monday?

JM: (laughing) No. We call it waking up. I feel like we are the spice of life, you have to put some spice in it.

LAS: I agree. You have to spice it up. It's THE L WORD: GENERATION Q. Let's talk about being a disabled actress.

JM: Let's do that.

LAS: The creators of the show don't harp or focus on the fact she's disabled.

JM: She's written as a humanized person and it's beautiful. A lot of people in the entertainment industry are fearful of humanizing



PHOTO CREDIT: LIZ MORRIS/SHOWTIME

(L-R): Leo Sheng as Micah and Jillian Mercado as Maribel in THE L WORD: GENERATION Q "Luck be a Lady."

should be with authentic stories, with people who live the life of having a physical disability like myself.

LAS: That's so vital. To be a role model, in a way.

JM: I am an advocate in the community, so it was important for me to show that on television because I have such a great opportunity to really rewrite the book of what it is to live a life like myself and to portray that on television. In my personal life, I don't discuss my medical history.

LAS: Yikes!

JM: We [disabled actors] are always dying or always the help and wrapped around these really sad stories, and that's not the life that I live. And so, it's such a blessing and a useful opportunity that I have with being a part of THE L WORD: GENERATION Q.

To watch and share the trailer, go to: <https://youtu.be/LAL3MZrqAZs>.

For more information, go to www.SHO.com.



PHOTO CREDIT: LIZ MORRIS/SHOWTIME

(L-R): Rosanny Zayas as Sophie and Jillian Mercado as Maribel in THE L WORD: GENERATION Q "Love Shack."

decision at the airport as she, Dani (Arienne Mandi), and Finley (Jacqueline Toboni) are all left to pick up the pieces. Meanwhile, Bette's (Jennifer Beals) personal and professional pursuits force her to reexamine her roots — something Angie (Jordan Hull) also questions and explores in her own way. In the wake of her divorce, Shane (Katherine Moennig) throws herself into finding new ways to keep the bar thriving, while Alice (Leisha Hailey) is surprised when writing her first book steers her whole life in a new direction. Micah (Leo Sheng) is pushed to reckon with his identity as he navigates big changes in his career and love life, while Gigi's (Sepideh Moafi) journey to move on from Nat (guest star Stephanie Alllynne) and Alice takes an unexpected turn.

Growing up with muscular dystrophy, Mercado notes that people with disabilities are rarely realistically portrayed in movies

zodiac sign (Taurus), she is keen to fight the lack of representation for people with disabilities in the fashion,



PHOTO CREDIT: LIZ MORRIS/SHOWTIME

Jillian Mercado as Maribel in THE L WORD: GENERATION Q "Luck be a Lady."

entertainment industry, and beyond.

A New Yorker, Mercado's love for fashion originated from her mother, a dressmaker, and she studied fashion merchandising at New York's Fashion Institute of Technology (2006 to



PHOTO CREDIT: LIZ MORRIS/SHOWTIME

(L-R): Jillian Mercado as Maribel and Leo Sheng as Micah in THE L WORD: GENERATION Q "Luck be a Lady."

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Run, Karen, Run: Why Rep. Karen Bass Should Be L.A.'s First Woman Mayor



Will voters in Los Angeles show up in real life with the same level of energy they give to Black women on social media? FILE PHOTO

{continued from Pg. A-1}

elected leaders deal with the problem.

The possible entrance of Bass, who has been one of the few politicians I can say didn't do a Jekyll and Hyde after being sworn into office, has been the most welcomed news since President Biden announced he's sending Mayor Eric Garcetti to India.

Who we elected is who we got with Bass -- a compassionate, thoughtful and bold leader on important issues.

Bass, like most female candidates who run for office, would definitely bring a different and I believe more thoughtful perspective and approach to L.A.'s longstanding and chronic issues, including our city's chaotic unhoused crisis.

In the past few elections, Angelenos have made it clear that they want

leadership at all levels who will provide services to the unhoused, such as housing, mental health treatment, drug treatment and job training to help get them permanently off the streets and back on their feet. No longer is the criminalization of the homeless an acceptable solution to our city's crisis.

But as exciting as a Mayor Bass would be, it's a long way from bended knee to the altar -- and she hasn't even officially declared she's going to run.

Councilwoman Jan Perry who ran for mayor in 2013, says today she is less concerned about whether or not voters vote for a woman because she is female.

"Plenty of women have run for mayor who were viable candidates but couldn't compete because they couldn't raise the money needed to get their message to voters," said Perry.

"We live in an expen-

sive media market where we are deeply affected by candidates who are on television versus candidates who just put out a lot of mail. I learned that firsthand in 2012. Television works. Media works. Social media works too."

Given how the coronavirus pandemic has impacted voting nationwide, to Perry's point, candidates who can afford traditional and digital media in the upcoming mayoral election

Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey.

As progressive, liberal and "hip" as Angelenos like to consider themselves, that hasn't always been reflected in our choice of elected officials and nowhere is that more apparent than in the city hall, where in our city's nearly two-hundred-year history we have never ever not once elected a woman as mayor.

But there's hope.

According to the 2018

year we finally join many other parts of the civilized world in electing a woman to lead our city.

And let's be clear. Bass isn't just any woman, she's a Black woman. Angelenos haven't elected a Black woman in 20 years since they elected Jan Perry to the city council.

At the last Census count, Whites and Latinos still made up the majority of the population in Los Angeles, followed by Asians, with Blacks coming in just under 9%.

Will voters in Los Angeles show up in real life

until 2018, says she's been asked to run for city controller in 2022. If both women were to run and win their respective races, it would be a first for a city that hasn't elected a Black woman since 2001.

The field for mayoral candidates is still far from being defined as both Council President Nury Martinez and recently elected councilmember Kevin de Leon are rumored to be seriously considering mayoral bids.

For now, a Karen Bass for L.A. Mayor campaign is far from definite but certainly exciting in a city



From left, Congresswoman Karen Bass and the Honorable Diane Watson NICK UT/AP PHOTO

will have a better chance of reaching prospective voters.

Perry estimates that in 2021, to run for mayor candidates will need to raise north of \$5 million, money that has traditionally been much easier for male candidates to raise than female.

The fact is: men still have an easier path to the top while women have to do more to prove our worth.

But raising the money is half the battle, the other half is getting the votes. In 2021, it isn't enough to be the candidate with the largest war chest -- just ask former Los

Women in Leadership Pew Research Poll, "the public sees female leaders as having an advantage. In both business and politics, majorities say women are better than men when it comes to being compassionate and empathetic, and substantial shares say women are better at working out compromises and standing up for what they believe in. Similarly, more adults say female political leaders do a better job serving as role models for children and maintaining a tone of civility and respect."

Maybe 2022 will be the



According to the 2018 Women in Leadership Pew Research Poll, the public sees female leaders as having an advantage. SHUTTERSTOCK

with the same level of energy they give to Black women on social media? Because a Bass candidacy would definitely put to test L.A.'s self-proclaimed love of Black women.

In addition to Bass, Perry, who served as General Manager of the Los Angeles Economic & Workforce Development Department

where voters are looking for someone to lead with compassion and audacity on the homelessness crisis.

I say run Karen, run.

About the Author
Jasmyne Cannick is a Democratic political strategist who has worked at all levels of government.

Hurricane Ida Impacts Gulf Coast Relatives of L.A.-area Residents



A resident of the Spring Meadow subdivision drives a four wheeler out of flood waters followed by rescue personnel after Hurricane Ida moved through Monday, Aug. 30, 2021, in LaPlace, La. AP PHOTO/STEVE HELBER



People are evacuated from floodwaters in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida in LaPlace, La., Monday, Aug. 30, 2021. AP PHOTO/GERALD HERBERT



Jerilyn Collins returns to her destroyed home with the assistance of a Louisiana National Guard high-water vehicle to retrieve medicine for herself and her father, and a few possessions, after she evacuated from rising floodwater in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida in LaPlace, La., Monday, Aug. 30, 2021. AP PHOTO/GERALD HERBERT

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erable.

Interestingly, the cyclone landed on the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, which hit on August 29, 2005, but imparted much more devastation. Katrina wrecked New Orleans' levee system, flooded 80% of the city and caused the deaths of more than 1,800 people.

With that memory in mind combined with shocking images broadcast by news media, people in greater L.A. frantically reached out to family members in the affected states seeking the status of loved ones.

Among those pursuing information was Long Beach resident Ivan Tircuit, who has an aunt and several cousins in the New Orleans area.

"I'm waiting to hear from my cousin, Alvin Tircuit Jr., who lives in the 7th Ward (in New Orleans) on Hope Street between Saint Anthony and Pauger," Ivan said on August 31. "I haven't been able to have a really, intelligible conversation with him since about 9:45 p.m., New Orleans time, on Sunday, August

29, because of the disruption to cell phone service in the area.

"The last time we talked about the nature of the storm, he told me that the wind was really bad. So, I think that he might have been worried about roof damage. But he was holding out hope that improvements to the levee system would prevent Katrina-like flooding."

While hoping that his other cousins were surviving in the midst of the siz-



Ivan Tircuit COURTESY PHOTO

zling, muggy environment, Ivan still conveyed gratitude that his Aunt Gloria Tircuit, an octogenarian, had traveled to the South Carolina home of his cousin, Cathy Henderson, before Hurricane Ida struck. Another relative, Peter Tircuit, and his wife, Kendra, escaped to Georgia, settling

near Ivan's cousin, Jason Tircuit, a resident of the state.

Also evacuating before the storm was his niece, Sanaï Frierson, a student and cheerleader at Louisiana State University. Explaining the challenges Frierson faced, Ivan said she initially



Members of the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's office rescue people from floodwaters in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida in New Orleans, La., Monday, Aug. 30, 2021. AP PHOTO/GERALD HERBERT

tried to drive to Austin, Texas, but the roads were "at a standstill with traffic." Fortunately, she adjusted her route to Destin, Florida where she safely arrived.

"The damage to her area of Baton Rouge, Louisiana was enough for her coach to cancel cheerleading activities for now, so my niece is flying back to California until they resume. We all have our fingers crossed

hoping that our family who are still in New Orleans don't suffer too much and that things get back to normal as soon as possible," he added.

Sentinel Executive Publisher Danny Bakewell, Sr., and Chief Operating Officer Pamela Bakewell, who hail



Members of the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's office rescue people from floodwaters in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida in New Orleans, La., Monday, Aug. 30, 2021. AP PHOTO/GERALD HERBERT

from New Orleans, finally connected to receive an update on their family. One of their relatives in New Orleans wrote a text message on August 30 to Sentinel Executive Editor Danny Bakewell, Jr., outlining the state of various kinfolks.

"We're good down here! I know you are worried because you haven't heard from us, but that's only because we don't have phone

reception. ATT service is down, and that's what we all have. I can only text or call when my phone is on a Wi-Fi connection," said his Aunt Charly.

She credited her neighbor's generator with allowing her to link up with Wi-Fi, but noted, "When I leave here, I won't be able to communicate." Charly also reported the good news that the properties of their New Orleans' relatives suffered from none-to-minimal damage.

"Aside from no communication and no electricity, we're good! It's not hot, so that's a blessing. Stop worrying, we're good, and we'll give you guys a call when our phones are up and running. Love you," she shared.

As of August 31, the damage to the area included more than 1 million people without power, substantial infrastructure loss, high amounts of plant destruction and widespread flooding. Four deaths were directly tied to Hurricane Ida and another fatality was designated as an indirect result because the person was killed by an alligator while walking through floodwa-

ters caused by Ida.

In light of the serious situation, Bakewell Sr. said in a statement, "I, like many other native New Orleansians, have been closely monitoring the Hurricane Ida situation. I have been in contact with both family and friends who still live in New Orleans. Many of my friends and family did leave the area for safer grounds to ensure that they would not suffer the same devastation that they suffered during and after Hurricane Katrina. I have also been in contact with several local leaders who are working directly with New Orleans Mayor Cantrell to ensure that the residents of the city have the necessary resources and services they so desperately need.

"The Biden/Harris administration has been closely monitoring the situation as well and I applaud their efforts to do everything possible to get the city back to normalcy as quickly as possible. At this point, all we can do is continue to monitor the situation and as things unfold, provide as much help as possible to any affected by the storm," advised Bakewell, Sr.

L.A.'s Black Community Urged to Participate in Redistricting Hearings



Redistricting Commissioner Edward Anderson CORA J. FOSSETT/L.A. SENTINEL

Ama Nyamekye and Natasha Brown explained how to maximize African American involvement in the redistricting process. CORA J. FOSSETT/L.A. SENTINEL

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data from the 2020 census.

Holding hearings allow commissioners to hear directly from citizens about the criteria that comprise individual neighborhoods as well as learn about the interests, concerns and resources that are important to residents of L.A.'s various communities.

To ensure that African American issues are considered, the Black redistricting commissioners – the Rev. Edward Anderson, Charisse Bremond-Weaver and Valerie Lynne Shaw – hosted a Zoom meeting with more than 75 community leaders on August 26 to explain why redistricting matters and the critical reasons Black voices must be part of the process by attending the public hearings.

Anderson, the pastor of McCarty Memorial Christian Church, was appointed to the commission by CD 10 Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas. Bremond-Weaver, president/CEO of the Brotherhood Crusade, was selected by Mayor Eric Garcetti. Shaw, a California Community College System governor and former public works commissioner, was assigned by CD 8 Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson.

"We know there was an undercount [of the Black

population] during the census. In order to rectify the undercount, we need to hear your stories so you don't get erased. Black erasure should not be on our watch. We should reclaim our neighborhoods by lifting them up," declared Anderson.

Concurring with that statement, Bremond-Weaver urged, "Your voice about what is important in the district – from businesses to churches to senior centers to parks to any treasures in the Black community that need to stay in the Black community – needs to be heard. The best way to address that is having your voice documenting what you would like in your community and ensuring that every aspect of our community remains whole."

Shaw noted, "The future of local Black power will be determined in the next four months. We need you, your voice and your concerns to identify your areas of interest and to fight to maintain our role in this great city."

Citing the decline in the city's Black population to 8%, the commissioners recommended that the African Americans unite and participate to maintain resources that enhance those council districts where the majority of Blacks reside.

In the last redistricting effort, 10 years ago, the

commissioners said Blacks lost power when the CD 9 boundaries were redrawn to place downtown L.A. in CD 14. In the same process, USC was moved from CD 8 to CD 9 and the Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza Mall was divided between CD 8 and CD 10.

"It didn't only happen to us. Koreatown was divided into four council districts and Pacoima into three. Being cut up into numerous council districts diminishes the power of a neighborhood," said Shaw.

With an emphasis on preventing a similar occurrence in 2021, Bremond-Weaver presented Ama Nyamekye, project manager for the California Black Census Redistricting Hub, and Natasha Brown, Hub organizing coordinator, to outline how their network of 30 Black groups are maximizing African American involvement in the process.

Nyamekye said the Hub's goal was to ensure that redistricting takes into account issues such as criminal justice reform, affordable housing, equitable development, and a more inclusive economy that includes "Black and Brown folks." Another concentration is on investment in Black technical, data, and civic engagement infrastructure.

"Our charge is to make sure there is a Black map that reflects the voices and will of our Black communities across California and that it is rigorous and driven by data. We're also trying to make sure there is a complete and accurate count of Blacks, particularly given that we have a history of being undercounted and a legal history of being disenfranchised," she stated.

"Our numbers may be 8%, but our voice has always been very loud. The ability to hold democracy accountable is something that's uniquely Black, so we want to make sure we are mobilizing people in our community," said Nyamekye.

Although relatively small, the Black community is highly influential, Brown insisted, as she reviewed how the Hub held sessions with communities of interest (COIs) in the L.A. area. The Hub identified South Central, Leimert Park, Skid Row, Watts and North Hollywood as some of the Los Angeles COIs with notable Black populations. The sessions helped Hub staff to ascertain the strengths, assets, threats and weaknesses affecting African Americans in Los Angeles.

"As we saw from the social justice uprisings and protests this past summer, that took a lot of community

organizing and civic leadership that was spearheaded by the Black community in Los Angeles," she said.

Cultural influence and contributions, communications and narrative building, and activated voting block were other strengths of Black L.A. that Brown cited. Some of the threats, beside the undercount, include erasure due to gentrification, homelessness and mass incarceration, acute impact of COVID-19, and the digital divide.

"Lacking strong Internet access really affects the way our community is able to participate," said Brown.

A portion of the meeting highlighted the Districter mapping tool located on the redistricting commission's website. The user-friendly tool allows residents to draw a map of the boundaries of one or more proposed council districts and submit it to the commission as public testimony. Paul Mitchell of Redistricting Partners led a brief tutorial on the various abilities of the software program.

After a Q & A period, Robert Battles, L.A. City Council Redistricting Commission associate director of community outreach, announced the schedule of upcoming public hearings, which are all held online via Zoom. CD 9 will be the

focus of the Sept. 2 meeting at 6 p.m., and CD 8 will be discussed at the Sept. 8 meeting at 6 p.m. On Sept. 11 at 10 a.m., a citywide public hearing will be held.

Residents can attend any meeting to give testimony about their neighborhood. To participate, visit lacrc2021@lacity.org. The website also features links to the L.A. County Redistricting Commission, the LAUSD Redistricting Commission and the State of California Redistricting Commission.

"We need you to come forth, testify, bear witness and stand up for our community. Testify about your power, representation, and your community. Come out to the hearings. We want to hear where you worship, what your community is like, where do you shop and what are your district's boundaries," urged Anderson during concluding remarks.

"We invite you to join us - me, Charisse and Valerie - in this effort to make sure that Black L.A. is represented so that 10 years from now, we can look back and say, 'We did the right thing. We made a Los Angeles that was equitable, just, and that took Black power seriously.' We hope you will do that with us."

Public Health Modifies Guidelines for Youth Sports in L.A. County

Weekly testing is being recommended for youth 12 and older depending on circumstances.

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pants in youth sports. These are some of the guidelines that will apply to teams and sport activities based in Los Angeles County:

*Indoor Moderate or High Risk Sports for children of all ages, staff, coaches and volunteers. A weekly negative test result is required for all participants who are not fully vaccinated, including children who are playing, staff, coaches, and volunteers; weekly school testing fulfills this obligation.

*Outdoor Moderate or High Risk Sports for youth 12 and older, staff, coaches and volunteers. A weekly negative test result is required for all participants 12 and older who are not fully vaccinated, including children who are playing, staff, coaches, and volunteers; weekly school testing fulfills this obligation.

*No screening testing required for children under 12 playing Outdoor Sports; weekly school testing ful-



The Watts Bears promotes the importance of academics and community outreach along with offering football AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL

fills this recommendation.

*Fully vaccinated youth participating in outdoor sports are not required to test weekly unless there is a positive case among players, coaches and/or staff. If there is a positive case, all players, coaches, staff and volunteers (regardless of vaccination status) are required to have a weekly negative test result for two weeks from exposure to the case and must test negative prior to competitions.

You can find more information about sports guidelines in L.A. County at: <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/>

"We are grateful to the schools, districts, youth sport programs and parents who have worked so hard in ensuring the safety of students, teachers, athletes, and the many staff," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health.

She continued, "It is

very important for anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 to isolate from others and that masks are worn properly in all indoor settings, which includes spectators, coaches, and employees of youth sports regardless of vaccination status.

"The best protection for all student athletes 12 years and over, and for all coaches and team staff is to get vaccinated."

As of Monday, August 30, Public Health reported six new deaths and stated 2,339 new cases of COVID-19. There were 1,687 patients hospitalized with COVID-19 with 16% of nearly 8,110,000 individu-

als testing positive with symptoms.

Public Health identified 1,405,387 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County and a total of 25,251 deaths. Cases across the Southland: Los Angeles County shows 1,332,033 cases, Long Beach with 60,683 cases and Pasadena with 12,671 cases.

According to race and ethnicity, COVID-19 statistics show: American Indian/Alaska Native with 2,249; Asian with 63,390; Black with 61,884; Hispanic/Latino with 691,429; Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander with 4,917; White with 158,341; those of other race and ethnicity with 113,500 and 236,323 under investigation. Dr. Daviss stated masks stay an essential part in fighting COVID-19 as well as social distancing when necessary and hygiene.

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

visit: www.VaccinateLACounty.com

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

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

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

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

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> Spanish <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index-sp.html>

*World Health Organization <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>

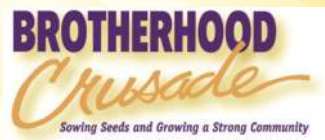
*LA County residents can also call 2-1-1



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Yours In Brotherhood,
Danny J. Bakewell, Sr.

Danny J. Bakewell, Sr.
Chairman & Executive Publisher
The Los Angeles Sentinel & LA Watts Times
Bakewell Media
Founder & Creator of Taste of Soul