



Dr. Veronica Appleton – see page B-1



Chukwudi Iwuji - see page D-2

Why Drive When You Can Ride Metro’s K Line to 19th Annual Taste Of Soul

LA Metro Is An Official 2024 Taste of Soul Sponsor

BY DANIELLA MASTERTSON
Contributing Writer

Pasadena is famous for the Rose Parade and Hollywood for the Christmas Parade, while the coastal region hosts the Festival of

Boats. However, the Crenshaw Corridor proudly hosts the largest annual street festival every October in the heart of South Los Angeles.

Last year, more than 500,000 attendees filled the



Metro CEO Stephanie Wiggins, left, joins other riders at the opening of the K Line.



Take Metro’s K line to Taste of Soul to avoid the hassle of driving.

FILE PHOTO

iconic Crenshaw Boulevard – the historic mecca for Black culture and business – to enjoy family fun at the Taste of Soul Family Festival. This year, TOS is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., along Crenshaw

Bvd., from Obama Blvd. to Stocker Ave.

With so many people traveling to the festival with a purpose, attendees can expect to face heavy traffic and limited nearby parking. Fortunately, the Los Angeles County Met-

ropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is the official transportation partner for the 19th Annual Taste of Soul Family Festival.

Metro is encouraging eventgoers to skip the hassle of driving by taking the

K Line to the Leimert Park or MLK/Crenshaw Stations or E Line (Expo) to Expo/Crenshaw Station. Each station is a short walk to the festival. The K and Expo Line trains will run **{See METRO RETURNS AS TOS SPONSOR on A-11}**

Prosperity Market Wraps Up 4th Annual Black Business Scavenger Hunt

BY JOANIE HARMON
Contributing Writer

Prosperity Market is, as its website states, “not your average farmers market.” Created in 2021 by Kara Still and Carmen Dianne, the pop-up events bring a curated selection of produce, pantry items, and prepared foods across Los Angeles, with a focus on supporting Black farmers, food producers, and chefs from across the state and the nation.

On Sunday, Sept. 1, Prosperity Market celebrated the end of August as National Black Business Month with a pop-up market at Hilltop Coffee + Kitchen on Slauson Avenue in View Park, featuring more than 50 local vendors and farmers, including Compton Vegan, My



Carmen Dianne (at left) and Kara Still co-founded Prosperity Market and envision expanding to other cities with mobile farmers-markets-on-wheels.

Daddy’s Recipes, Ace Naturals, and Chef Brandi Biggles.

In addition, shoppers enjoyed promotions of the

award-winning Hulu series, “Reasonable Doubt,” Gin & Juice by Dre and Snoop, and 1010 Wine in Inglewood.

KJLH’s Tammi Mac made an appearance, along with presentations and activities by area merchants.

The event also featured



PHOTO BY JOANIE HARMON

Celia and Donald Sherman of Fresno have expanded their farm’s reach across California by taking part in Prosperity Market.

the wrap-up of Prosperity Market’s 4th Annual Black Business Scavenger Hunt, with more than 100 Black-owned businesses participating across L.A., and a first look at the market’s 48-foot trailer, to be officially launched in early

2025. The solar-powered and electric vehicle will contain a farmers-market-on-wheels as well as kitchen space, where food entrepreneurs can create an elevated food truck

{See PROSPERITY MARKET on A-11}

Advocates Express Outrage and Disappointment as Reparations Bills Stall in State Legislature



PHOTO BY ANTONIO RAY HARVEY, CALIFORNIA BLACK MEDIA

Reparations advocates wait and chant in the hallway of the rotunda at the Capitol on the last night of the legislative session (Aug. 31), anticipating a vote on the reparations bills SB 1403 and SB 1331.

BY ANTONIO RAY HARVEY
California Black Media

Scores of advocates from across California protested at the State Capitol Saturday after the Legislature failed to bring two critical reparations bills to the floor for a full vote on Aug. 31, the final day of the legislative session.

Chanting “What do we want? Reparations! When do we want it? Now!” The advocates expressed their outrage and disappointment that Senate Bill (SB) 1403 and Senate Bill (SB) 1331

— both authored by Sen. Steven Bradford (D-Inglewood) — had stalled.

Despite advancing smoothly through much of the legislative process this year, the session concluded without a vote on both bills, leaving the future of reparations in California hanging in the balance.

“This is becoming our own people disaster. It’s our own people holding this up,” said Chris Lodgson, a reparations advocate from the Coalition for a Just and Equitable California (CJEC), blaming members

of the California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC).

Lodgson said the Legislature’s decision to pass another bill, Assembly Bill (AB) 1840, on Aug. 28, only heightened his frustration.

AB 1840, authored by Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula (D-Fresno), would allow eligible undocumented immigrants to purchase homes with state-backed financing through the California Dream for All Shared Appreciation Loan program.

{See REPARATIONS LEGISLATION on A-11}

Kamlager-Dove Delivers \$1M in Grants to South L.A. Organizations Tackling Community Violence

BY LILA BROWN
Contributing Writer

Congresswoman Sydney Kamlager-Dove (CA-37) is back in South Los Angeles delivering back-to-back grants for her community totaling \$1 million, which was presented to 2nd Call and The Experience Christian Ministries (ECM) on August 30.

These two organizations are dedicated to addressing community violence in South L.A. through innovative intervention programs. The grants are part of a larger effort by Kamlager-Dove, who successfully secured \$12.4 million in FY24 community project funding for 15 organizations.

The presentations followed a roundtable discussion that included leader-

the California Department of Justice (CA DOJ). The focus of the discussion was to identify gaps in collaboration with the CA DOJ and explore ways to advocate for additional federal resources and policies.

“Keeping Angelenos safe is a top priority of mine in Congress, and supporting the efforts of community partners who do the groundwork to uplift our at-risk youth and community members is central to that goal,” the congresswoman said.

“Throughout my career, I have been proud to work with incredible organizations like 2nd Call and ECM that provide healing and violence interruption services to promote safety in our neighborhoods. Both organizations are truly deserving of this funding,



Congresswoman Sydney Kamlager-Dove, 2nd from left, with Rev. Anthony “Shep” Crawford, Dr. Shalonda K. Crawford, Rev. Joe Paul and other supporters during the presentation.

nia’s 37th District.”

The Rev. Anthony “Shep” Crawford, pastor

community Development Corporation, expressed his gratitude, stating, “This critical funding allows us to leverage the influence and strength of the African-American church to bring healing, reconciliation, and peace to our community. We are grateful to Congresswoman Kamlager-Dove for her continued investment in South L.A. and in Black churches that have served this community for decades.”

“The funding given from U.S. Congresswoman Kamlager-Dove to 2nd Call will help to ensure the legacy of peace that 2nd Call has been facilitating in each of the communities that have engaged with our healing efforts,” said Skipp Townsend, co-founder, CEO and executive director of 2nd Call, emphasizing the impact of the grant.

“The Community Healing Collaborative is about bringing nonprofit, public, and faith-based organizations together to address generational trauma in South LA,” said Jessica

Ellis, executive director of Centinela Youth Services, highlighting collaboration.

“We believe our collaborative represents a fresh multidisciplinary approach to healing, community-building, and—above all else—community-based public safety.”

The Rev. Joe Paul, lead of Promise Enterprises LLC, also praised the congresswoman’s continued commitment to the community, adding, “Congresswoman Kamlager-Dove continues to be a champion for the South LA community. Her investment in community healing will yield dividends for generations to come. We are deeply appreciative of her advocacy for her district and her willingness to invest in this innovative approach to community-led and community-driven public safety.”

ECM’s initiative seeks to address gang and community violence by training faith leaders and former gang members in violence interruption. Neighborhood churches will be

transformed into safety and service hubs for the communities in CA-37, hosting healing sessions for those affected by violence—both victims and perpetrators. The model is grounded in evidence-based practices that empower community members to take an active role in interrupting violence in their neighborhoods.

2nd Call’s Youth Empowerment and Development Project aims to increase and sustain trauma-informed, developmentally sensitive, and culturally relevant services for violence reduction, focusing on youth in the 37th District impacted by poverty, sexual assault, domestic violence, and other traumas.

The initiative will build an organizational infrastructure and safe haven for high-risk populations in Los Angeles, providing opportunities for them to address everyday trauma, receive mentoring, and learn to become advocates within their communities.



Members of 2nd Call received the grant to aid the organization’s innovative intervention programs.

ship and program participants from 2nd Call and ECM, local faith leaders, and representatives from

and I look forward to seeing how they will use these investments to continue changing lives in Califor-

of Experience Christian Ministries in the Florence-Firestone area and executive director of ECM Com-

The Housing Crisis Is A Climate Crisis

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bit.ly/yimbyclimate

The Snoball Shop’s Last Day on Slauson Ave.



Customers line up around The Snoball Shop on its last day in operation.

BY SHELBY STEPHENS
Contributing Writer

After 18 years on Slauson Ave. in South L.A., the Snoball Shop has decided to close its doors Saturday, Aug. 31. Although it has been a staple in the Windsor Hills community for almost two decades, the New Orleans inspired eatery will no longer be serving shaved ice and beloved funnel cakes on Overhill Dr. The shop announced its closing on Wednesday, August 21, and since has received an overflow of online support and in-person visits. Store manager and co-owner Jason Johnson shared with the Los Angeles Sentinel this is not a goodbye, but rather a see you later.

“As of right now, although we’re closing, it feels great to see so many

people I haven’t seen in awhile come by and support us in our last days. Everyone is supporting and it feels good to see people happy, even though they’re sad because we’re closing but they’re happy to see the business booming on its way out,” Johnson said.

“I want people to know we’re still available for events and available for bookings via email or through the Snoball website. Continue to do what you’ve been doing, and that’s supporting us.”

The closing has garnered a lot of attention online and as the line continues to wrap around the property, Johnson mentioned the inconsistencies in foot traffic along with vandalism, are the two main reasons the shop will no longer be open. As their

time on Slauson comes to an end, customers can still get their Snoball fix at this year’s 19th Annual Taste of Soul Family Festival on Saturday, Oct. 19.

“We’ll definitely be at the Taste of Soul this year. We love doing the Taste of Soul, that’s one the biggest things we participate in and last year we did so well that we can’t wait for this year. I want people to come out and support us on our last day on Slauson and have a good time. Don’t come as a customer, come as family. We’re saying goodbye to Slauson not to the Snoball Shop, we are Snoballs. Snoballs is forever,” added Johnson.

Book the Snoball Shop for private events at NewOrleansSno@gmail.com and catch them at the Taste of Soul on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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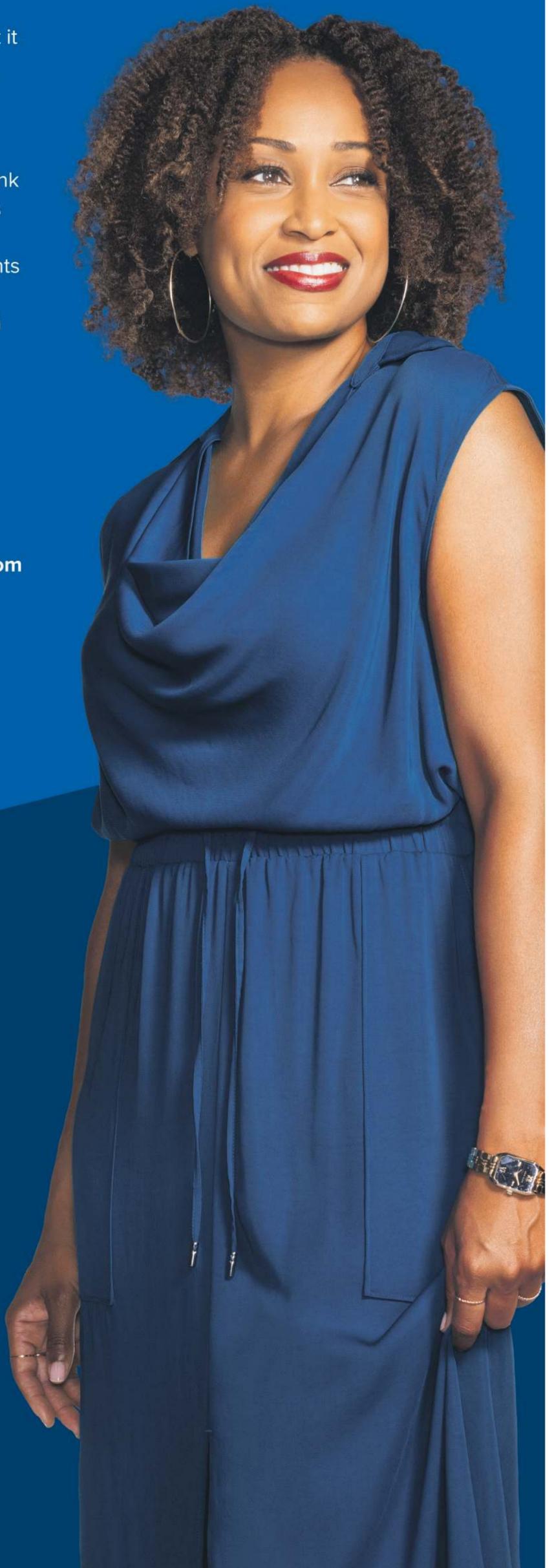


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Healing is a Majorr Smith Requirement

By MYKO LYRIC
Contributing Writer

Majorr Smith is the creator of both Healing Haise and Choosetarian, two movements that bring about healing through sound baths and holistic health teachings in Los Angeles and worldwide. The inspiration behind these initiatives was her own complicated background, which taught her that everyone, in their own way, wants and needs to heal.

“My father and my mother were never together. My father was never a part of the picture at all, and I don’t have a relationship with my biological mother. I come from a household where taking a deep breath was seen as having an attitude, literally, deep breathing,” Majorr revealed in an exclusive interview.

Unbeknownst to her, she’d later go down a path toward yoga and meditation where breath would become a central aspect of maintaining her mental health.

In between her upbringing and her enlightenment, she studied at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University and coordinated events at Soho House’s NYC Meatpacking District location – including curating music line-ups of Black artists who, in turn, brought more Black members to Soho House – and worked as a DJ.

“When I was DJing for Justine Skye, (a company named) Fruits N’ Rootz would send (Justine) packages of tropical fruit and sea moss and she let me go through it. I started to



Majorr Smith leads a sound bath meditation through Healing Haise.

teach myself about herbs and using plants as medicine, and healing from the inside out,” she explained. As Majorr traversed further down this path, she

found singing bowls, which offer sound therapy and the relief and/or elimination of stress and toxins from the body. Compounded by receiving her holistic health coach certification from the Institute for Integrative Nutrition (2020), Majorr developed a specific and deep understanding of her role in improving the lives of communities around the world.

“Any resource I have, I extend to my tribe if it’s going to elevate them in any way. That’s just fully indicative of my role in this society,” Majorr explained.

Healing Haise is a significant method of this purpose. Through pop-up events, Majorr leads sound baths and meditations often supplemented by aromatherapy.

“Healing Haise is a culmination of what I went through during my years in [my childhood]. We have to go through murky waters, and it can get really dark before we reach bliss. In those dark times, we’re able to do it together as a unit. That’s what the movement of Healing Haise is cultivating.”

Majorr’s second movement, Choosetarian, is a direct response to the many different diets and lifestyles that can often overwhelm someone on their path toward learning what health looks like for themselves.

“Vegans, vegetarians, pescatarians – these are labels and you’re confined and defined under this label. But there’s not a one-size fits all approach to health. Pay attention to

how your body feels after you eat. Choose the things that make you feel good,” Majorr suggested.

Through a complex childhood and an affirming adulthood, Majorr understood the impact that healing modalities can have on various underserved communities.

“I was a part of [the Black community] in a low vibrational way. But now that I know what anxiety is, what depression is, I have an understanding. I am able to reach back and say, ‘hey, there’s actually something for that’ and it’s not always (a pharmaceutical drug),” she advised.

“As we evolve, as a collective, it is absolutely important that we are exposed to different ways of navigating life and healing.”



Majorr speaks to her audience during a Healing Haise event.



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

³ **Additional information about the America's Home Grant program:** The America's Home Grant program is a lender credit. Program funds can only be used for nonrecurring closing costs including title insurance, recording fees, and in certain situations, discount points that can be used to lower the interest rate. The grant cannot be applied toward down payment, prepaid items or recurring costs, such as property taxes and insurance. Borrowers cannot receive program funds as cash back.

⁴ Maximum income and loan amount limits apply. Fixed-rate mortgages (purchases or no cash out refinances), primary residences only. Certain property types are ineligible. Maximum loan-to-value ("LTV") is 97%, and maximum combined LTV is 105%. For LTV > 95%, any secondary financing must be from an approved Community Second Program. Homebuyer education may be required. Other restrictions apply.

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California Black Legislative Updates - Labor, Employment, and Workplace

BY ANNDRETTA LYLE, PHD
Contributing Writer

Compensation

In a very exciting move toward closing pay gaps that would bring more pay equity to women, Assemblymember Tina McKinnor authored AB-2335: Public Employment: Compensation And Classification. The bill would advance possibilities for labor equity - particularly for women. This bill



FILE PHOTO
Asm. Tina McKinnor

would require public employers to track statistics around worker identities and report pay gaps with plans to renegotiate compensation "to close any gaps found" both retroactively and moving forward. The bill would also require that public employees get paid at rates comparable to what they would be making in the private sector for the same work.

In another bill that could have benefits for underpaid workers, and in this instance

a field overrepresented by women, Assemblymember Corey Jackson introduced AB-2185: Employment Agencies: Domestic Workers. That bill regulates the way that employment agencies place and compensate in-home domestic workers. The new law would "require that payments for domestic services in such a case be made only directly to the domestic worker." Jackson also started the process for new equity legislation with AB-437: State Government: Equity. However, the focus of that bill was a bit vague and has been moved to "inactive" status. It is possible that Jackson will reintroduce legislation with more specific solutions in a future session.

Retirement

Clarifying changes constitute AB-1997: Teachers' Retirement Law by McKinnor. This bill removes ambiguity around terms and definitions so that "annualized pay rate" simply means "salary" and "creditable compensation" simply means "cash payments from an employer." The bill also removes certain limits around how much money one can earn for retirement.

With AB-2183: Public Employees' Retirement Benefits: Final Compensation, Assemblymember Reginald Jones-Sawyer also proposed changes for public employee retirement lan-

guage. The change would allow employees who have served in multiple public service capacities to benefit from their respective retirement benefits without being penalized for professional



FILE PHOTO
Asm. Reggie Jones-Sawyer

dexterity.

That bill compliments Jones-Sawyer's proposed constitutional amendment, ACA-22: Legislature: Retirement, which states, "Retirement credit earned by that person through service in another state or local government agency may qualify for credit in the state retirement plan."

Workforce and Recruitment

Facilitating the recruitment of public employees in K-12 education, Assemblymember Kevin McCarty introduced AB-2088: K-14 Classified Employees: Part-Time Or Full-Time Vacancies: Public Postings. The bill would require that all school districts "publicly post part-time or full-time

job vacancies for K-14 classified employees."

Also in the area of education labor, Assemblymember Mia Bonta authored AB-1273: Classified Employees: Classified Employee Staffing Ratio Workgroup. This law, already signed and chaptered, will promote labor fairness for workers in the categories "food service, maintenance and operations, office and technical services, paraeducators, special services, including law enforcement, and transportation services."

The law requires the examination of ratios of workers at each site based on enrollment and other relevant factors so that the worker assignments effectively match the need at each school. Keeping jobs in California was the priority for Assemblymember Akilah Weber with AB-1381: Employment Protections: Call Centers. For any state agency the bill would mandate that "at least 90% of the call center work is conducted in California."

While the bill was set for a second hearing, that hearing was canceled. Hopefully we will see another iteration of this effort in the future.

Worker Rights

Toward the privacy of employees and applicants for employment, SB-700, SB-1345 and AB-3066

allow for greater protection concerning personal histories. Already signed into law is SB-700: Employment Discrimination: Cannabis Use authored by State Senator Steven Bradford. SB-700 made it "unlawful for an employer to request information from an applicant for employment relating to the applicant's prior use of cannabis."

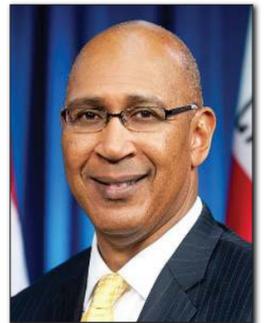
In a related effort, State Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas authored SB-1345: Employment Discrimination: Criminal History Information. The bill would make it unlawful to require a prospective employee to waive their right to a criminal background check as a condition for employment and also mandate that employers request permission in writing from an applicant before obtaining criminal history.

Assemblymember Christopher Holden proposed AB-3066: Workers' Compensation: Privacy, which would limit who can access records for individuals who have been involved in workers' compensation claims.

Announcing the intent to propose a future solution, Smallwood-Cuevas authored SB-1457: Chain Employer: Displacement Notice. It seems that a future bill would "require chain employers to provide

advance notice to employees in the event of job displacement due to business closures or relocations."

With AB-1 we are reminded that legislators are also workers who deserve



FILE PHOTO
Asm. Christopher Holden

fair labor practices. Authored by McKinnor and already signed into law, AB-1: Collective Bargaining: Legislature "allows legislative employees in California to engage in collective bargaining."

SB-864: Workforce Development: Workplace Rights Curriculum is a bill by Smallwood-Cuevas. It requires the education of worker rights to new members of the workforce as it expands. To compliment that requirement, Smallwood-Cuevas also introduced SB-1030: California Workplace Outreach Project, which would establish a vehicle "to create education and outreach materials" in partnership with qualified organizations.

Political Playback: News You Might Have Missed – Sept. 5

BY BO TEFU AND ANTONIO RAY HARVEY
California Black Media

California Passes Bill Banning Discrimination Based on Hair Styles, Texture

On Aug. 27, the State Legislature passed Assembly Bill (AB) 1815, a law that bans hair-based discrimination related to race, making its way to Gov. Gavin Newsom's desk for a final signature.



SHUTTERSTOCK
AB 1815 would include protections on hairstyles such as locks, braids, and twists.

This bill seeks to expand the state's civil rights laws to include protections based on hairstyles and hair texture such as locks, braids, and twists, and protective hairstyles that are popular among Black people. California was one of the first states to enact laws that protect people from discrimination in schools and employment under the CROWN Act in 2019. According to the Economic Policy Institute, Black women's hairstyles are 2.5 times more likely to be perceived as unprofessional as compared to those of White women.

The CROWN Workplace Research Study revealed last year that 66% of Black women change their hair for a job interview -- most of them from curly to straight to appear more professional.

AB 1815 is one of 14 reparations bills introduced by the California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC). The bills were based on recommendations in the final report published by the California Reparations Task Force in 2023.

The task force recommended more than 100 policy proposals that promote racial justice and justify

reparations.

Assemblymember Akilah Weber (D-La Mesa), the newly elected chair of the CLBC, authored AB 1815.

"We have changed a harm that has been given to people for generations that stated that beauty only occurs if you look a certain way if your hair is only a certain way," said Weber.

"This particular bill repairs that harm."

Weber acknowledged that AB 1815 was one of the

exception is if "there is a credible and imminent threat to the safety or security" of the woman. The legislation requires that pregnant women receive daily portions of clean bottled water and meals that meet nutrition guidelines under the Special

Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children. Another bill requires pregnant women to be referred to a social worker within one week of entering prison to talk about options for parenting classes. Additionally, the bills would require postpartum mothers to stay at a medical facility as recommended by a medical provider.

State lawmakers also proposed a bill that would reduce the number of empty state prison beds by 2030. The bill was introduced as a cost-effective measure that aims to cut costs and save the state money during a tough budget year. The bill is pushing for the state to close down more prisons to push back on mass incarceration that disproportionately affects Black people.

Currently, the state has approximately 15,000 empty prison beds costing the state millions annually to maintain the beds. The proposed bills would gradually reduce the number to 2,500 beds in the next six years, paving the way to close state prisons in the future.

California Assembly Passes Sex Trafficking Bill

A bill Sen. Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield) authored addressing sex trafficking and aiming to increase penalties for those who purchase children for sex made it out of the Assembly with a 73-0 vote one day before the final day of the Legislative session.

Senate Bill (SB) 1414, titled "Crimes: Solicitation of a minor," would apply to defendants who are 18 years of age or older at the time of the offense. Senators Anna Caballero (D-Merced) and Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park) are co-authors of the bill.



COURTESY PHOTO
Sen. Shannon Grove

"By increasing penalties for those who solicit or purchase children for sex, we are sending a clear message: California's children are no longer for sale," Grove stated. "While I am disappointed in the forced amendments that excluded some minors, I am pleased with this step forward. We know there is still work to be done and I will continue to fight to protect all children."

According to SB 1414's language, if the person solicited for sex was under 16 years of age, or if the person solicited was under 18 years of age at the time of the offense and the person solicited was a victim of human trafficking, the offense would be punishable as a "wobbler," meaning prosecutors can either charge the suspect with a misdemeanor or a felony.

Gov. Gavin Newsom has until Sept. 30 to sign the bill into law or veto it.

California Legislature Clears Cyberbullying Bill

On Aug. 29, the California Assembly voted to pass a bill that would require social media platforms to respond to reports of cyberbullying by either removing the content in question or explaining why it is aligned with their platform's policies, the bill passed on the Assembly floor with a 71-0 vote.

Titled Cyberbullying Reporting and Accountability, SB 1504, authored by Sen. Henry Stern (D-Calabasas), advanced to Gov. Gavin Newsom desk for his signature or veto.

"Cyberbullying is a deadly and growing crisis. Social media companies must do their part to respond to cyberbullying threats, like

the fight pages that led up to Shaylee Mejia's death," Stern said in a statement to California Black Media.

Mejia, 16, died from blunt force trauma to the head, according to a Los Angeles County medical examiner who ruled her death an accident, citing that she fell down a flight of stairs. The family believes her death was caused by a fight at school that was captured on video.

SB 1504 is designed to have social media platforms such as Instagram, TikTok, Facebook, and others "respond compassionately and predictably" to reports of cyberbullying, Stern said in April.

According to the California Department of Justice (DOJ), Black and Hispanic teens are more likely than their White counterparts to be targets of cyberbullying. In addition, Black teens are about twice as likely as Hispanic or White teens to express that their race or ethnicity made them a target of online mistreatment, according to a 2002 survey by the Pew Research Center.

If signed into law, SB 1504 will not require the Attorney General on behalf of all Californians to bring enforcement actions. Instead, it allows any person who reports cyberbullying and does not receive a timely response to enforce their own rights.

"Schools, students' and parents' complaints about cyberbullying often fall on deaf ears with the social media giants. This bill takes the power back," Stern stated.

U.S. DOT Awards California Nearly \$150M for EV Charging and Fueling Infrastructure

The United States Department of Transportation has awarded \$149.7 million to California to build its zero-emission vehicle charging and fueling infrastructure, Sen. Alex Padilla (D-Calif.) announced last week.

"Decarbonizing the transportation and goods movement sectors is essential for fighting the climate

crisis and protecting public health in communities along busy corridors," said Padilla.

The funding includes \$100 million for medium and heavy-duty zero emissions vehicles. The funding is being managed by the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grant Program under the Federal Highway Administration (FHA).

The federal agency was created by the bipartisan infrastructure law to fund development projects. The state's Department of Transportation will receive \$102.4 million for its West Coast Truck Charging and Fueling Corridor Project. The charging and fueling stations will be developed for zero-emissions medium and heavy-duty vehicles along 2,500 miles of key freight corridors in California, Oregon, and Washington. The project aims to transport goods between major ports and freight centers and agricultural regions along the West Coast.

Several Democratic leaders urged U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg to support the zero-emissions project. The Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grant Program also aims to deploy electric vehicle charging and fueling infrastructure in publicly accessible locations to help underserved and disadvantaged communities.

"To successfully meet California's critical climate goals, we need to scale up our charging and fueling infrastructure up and down the state through transformative projects like the West Coast Truck Charging and Fueling Corridor Project," Padilla added.

Additional government agencies and organizations in California were awarded up to \$15 million to invest in sustainable transportation infrastructure. They include the Fort Independence Indian Community, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District, and the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians.

Stewart Receives 2024 Small Business Partner Award at AMAC Catalyst Awards

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

At its 2024 Catalyst Awards in Nashville, Tenn. in August, the Airport Minority Advisory Council (AMAC) honored Apryl Stewart, president & CEO of Skyview Concessions, with its prestigious Small Business Partner Award.

The Airport Minority Advisory Council (AMAC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the inclusion of minorities and women in employment and contracting opportunities throughout the aviation and aerospace industries.

AMAC's Catalyst Awards recognizes the significant and remarkable strides and accomplishments of its members, who uphold the organization's mission of advancing equity and inclusion in contracting opportunities for

minorities and women in the aviation industry.

Skyview Concessions is a leading airport dining and retail company, committed to delivering exceptional service while promoting diversity and inclusion within the industry. The 2024 AMAC Small Business Partner Award recognizes Stewart's outstanding contributions, her demonstrated and unwavering commitment to AMAC's mission and her leadership's invaluable impact in the airport retail and dining sector.

As a Black woman small business owner, Stewart has exemplified resilience and innovation. As the head of Skyview Concessions, her dedication to promoting diversity and inclusion, perfectly embodies the spirit of this award. This recognition is not just a personal achieve-

ment but a testament to the ongoing progress made by Black women small business owners across the country, despite recent attempts to undermine support and resources for businesses owned by Black women.

The announcement of this award comes as part of the 39th Annual AMAC Airport Business Diversity Conference, themed "Soaring to New Horizons." This year's conference served as a vital platform for aviation industry experts, business leaders, policymakers, and advocates to collaborate, explore innovative strategies, and push for greater diversity and inclusion across the industry.

"Soaring to New Horizons" symbolizes our collective journey towards new heights of success, guided by diverse perspec-



COURTESY PHOTO

Apryl Stewart

tives and shared goals. This year's conference, attended by over 1,300 businesses, aviation professionals, and government officials from around the country, continues to be the premier event for fostering education,

advocacy, and networking opportunities within the aviation and aerospace industries.

Apryl Stewart's recognition at this esteemed event underscores the vital role that small businesses,

particularly those owned by Black women, play in driving progress and innovation within the industry.

For more information, visit <https://www.amac-org.com/> and <https://skyview-concessions.com/>

U.S. DOT Awards California Nearly \$150M for EV Charging and Fueling Infrastructure

CALIFORNIA BLACK MEDIA

The United States Department of Transportation has awarded \$149.7 million to California to build its zero-emission vehicle charging and fueling infrastructure, Sen. Alex Padilla (D-Calif.) announced last week.

"Decarbonizing the transportation and goods movement sectors is essential for fighting the climate crisis and protecting public health in communities along busy corri-

dors," said Padilla.

The funding includes \$100 million for medium and heavy-duty zero emissions vehicles. The funding is being managed by the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grant Program under the Federal Highway Administration (FHA).

The federal agency was created by the bipartisan infrastructure law to fund development projects. The state's Department of Transportation will receive \$102.4 mil-



FILE PHOTO

Sen. Alex Padilla

lion for its West Coast Truck Charging and Fueling Corridor Project. The

charging and fueling stations will be developed for zero-emissions medium and heavy-duty vehicles along 2,500 miles of key freight corridors in California, Oregon, and Washington. The project aims to transport goods between major ports and freight centers and agricultural regions along the West Coast.

Several Democratic leaders urged U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg to support the zero-emissions project.

The Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grant Program also aims to deploy electric vehicle charging and fueling infrastructure in publicly accessible locations to help underserved and disadvantaged communities.

"To successfully meet California's critical climate goals, we need to scale up our charging and fueling infrastructure up and down the state through transformative projects like the West Coast Truck Charging and

Fueling Corridor Project," Padilla added.

Additional government agencies and organizations in California were awarded up to \$15 million to invest in sustainable transportation infrastructure. They include the Fort Independence Indian Community, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District, and the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians.

Bill Would Provide Easier Access to Jobs for State's Nurses

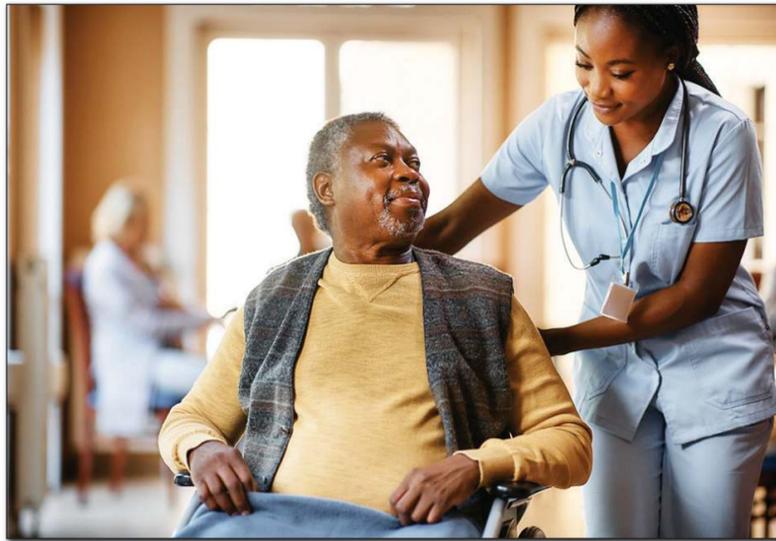
BY BO TEFU

California Black Media

Nurses across California may soon have easier access to more career opportunities, if Gov. Gavin Newsom signs a new bill into law.

With a 76-0 vote on Aug. 26, the State Assembly voted to approve Senate Bill (SB) 1015, legislation that would provide an annual report to the Legislature on clinical nursing placement management and coordination.

The bill authored by Sen. Dave Cortese (D-San Jose) aims to address the nursing shortage in the state's workforce. Under SB 1015, the State would ensure clinical placement opportunities for California's future nurses, including nurses attending community colleges, state universities, and other public institutions. The California Nurses Association (CNA), the largest union of registered nurses in the state,



SHUTTERSTOCK

Senate Bill 1015 aims to address the nursing shortage in the state's workforce.

sponsored SB 1015 to support nursing students seeking placement in the workforce.

Sen. Cortese said that SB 1015 ensures that the state meets the growing demand in the nursing field.

"As California's population ages and becomes

increasingly more diverse, we will need a qualified and experienced nursing workforce to meet the unique demands and varied needs of all patients. That is why we must have appropriate nurse staffing levels which have proven to reduce mortality rates, reduce hospital length of

stays, and reduce the num-

ber of preventable events such as falls and infections," said Cortese.

According to the Board of Registered Nursing, 92 out of 152 publicly funded nursing programs were denied access to clinic placements. The program officials reported that the inability to secure clinical placements is one of the main reasons for not enrolling more students.

Cathy Kennedy, a Registered Nurse and president of the CNA, said that SB 1015 helps nursing students receive a clinical education and placement amid the nationwide staffing crisis, despite their socioeconomic background.

"Clinical education is an essential part of any nurse's education, yet aspiring nurses, especially students in public programs, are being denied access to clinical placements," said Kennedy.

"We applaud the California Senate for passing S.B. 1015. It is common-sense reform that will increase transparency and increase oversight from the Board of Registered Nursing," she added.

If approved, SB 1015 would mandate new levels of transparency for clinical placements and help develop placement standards that ensure equitable access to opportunities in the workforce.

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Long Beach Transit Needs your Comments!
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Goal For FY 2025-2027

In accordance with Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 26, recipients of U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) funds are required to establish Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) programs. 49 CFR §26.45 requires the recipients of federal funds, including Long Beach Transit, to set an overall goal for DBE Participation in USDOT assisted contracts. As part of the goal-setting process, Long Beach Transit (LBT) is publishing this announcement to inform the public of the proposed overall goal for the federal fiscal years 2025-2027.

The proposed Overall DBE Goal for Federal Fiscal Years 2025-2027 is fifteen percent (15%), and the goal is four percent (4%) race-conscious and eleven percent (11%) race-neutral.

LBT will be receiving public comments on the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Goal and Goal Setting Methodology proposal. Please submit any comments by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2024, via:

- Phone at 562.591.2301 (Mon – Fri from 6:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. and Sat – Sun from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)
- Email at comments@lbtransit.com
- Or in person during our public meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2024, at 5:00 p.m., at LBT Corporate Office, Rosa Parks Board Chamber, 4801 Airport Plaza Dr, Long Beach, CA 90815.

Additional information can be found on LBT's website at www.ridelbt.com/doing-business.

LONG BEACH TRANSIT

Alliance College-Ready Public Charter School Network Celebrates 20 Years

By LILA BROWN
Contributing Writer

As Alliance College-Ready Public Schools celebrates its 20th anniversary, it continues to be a pillar of academic excellence and community support, especially for Black families in Los Angeles. This year's theme, "Strong Foundation, Stronger Future," aptly reflects the network's enduring impact on students and families in some of the city's most underserved communities.

Founded in 2004 by educators and civil rights leaders, Alliance's network of 26 high-performing middle and high schools across Los Angeles County has consistently provided exceptional educational opportunities. These schools



Dea Tramble, principal at Alliance William & Carol Ouchi High School, is dedicated to increasing African American enrollment.

network's progress and its deep roots in the community.

"I think we're probably

importance of community representation in leadership, noting that "80% of our principals are people of

outcomes. Alliance Ouchi High School, for example, achieved a 100% graduation rate last year, surpassing the overall graduation rates in the network. Alliance high school students are 10-15% more proficient in English Language Arts (ELA) and 5-10% more proficient in Math compared to their peers in the Los Angeles Unified School District

commitment to educating the whole student while also engaging and uplifting entire families.

For students like Starr Taylor, a scholar at Alliance Piera Barbaglia Shaheen Health Services Academy, the difference has been life changing.

"I started in public schools, then moved to another charter district, but it wasn't until I came to Alliance that my world changed. I have a voice here. I feel important, validated, and like I can do things," she shared. Starr's experience highlights the empowering environment that Alliance creates, allowing students to explore careers beyond traditional paths and providing them with the tools and confidence to succeed.

"I've been able to take college classes, connect with mentors, and even explore careers I never knew were possible. The support I've received has given me confidence and direction—I now know what I want to do with my future, and I'm not discour-

lege readiness is another cornerstone of its success. With 96% of Alliance scholars receiving college acceptance letters, the network aims to ensure that at least 75% of its graduates complete a four-year degree.

Dr. Griffith emphasized the importance of intentional programming for Black students: "We've added programs like the Black Family Scholar Graduation Dinner, HBCU tours, and retreats for African American young men and women. We want our scholars to see themselves in these spaces because if they can see it, they can be it."

Alliance College-Ready Public Schools has not only established a strong foundation over the past 20 years but is also building a stronger future for its students. For Black families in Los Angeles seeking a school where their children can thrive academically, feel valued, and be prepared for college and beyond, Alliance offers a proven and powerful choice.



Principal Tramble displays the bulletin board showing that students have been accepted at several universities.

have become a beacon of hope for many families seeking quality education within their own neighborhoods.

Pablo Villavicencio, CEO of Alliance College-Ready Public Schools, shared his perspective on the

having the strongest start since I've been here. I've been with Alliance for seven years, and it's been really wonderful to see the work we've put in place for the last several years come to fruition," Villavicencio said. He emphasized the

color, many from the very communities we serve. This was a vision set out by our founder, Judy Ivie Burton, and it's truly inspiring to see it realized."

Alliance's commitment to educational excellence is evident in its impressive



Many students attend the Alliance College-Ready Public Schools.

(LAUSD) and other local schools.

Despite many students entering Alliance schools several grade levels behind in ELA and Math, the network's scholars consistently outperform those at neighboring schools. Dr. Debra Y. Griffith, chief equity programs officer, underscored this achievement: "Last year, our Black and African American scholars outgrew, in terms of academics, at a faster pace than any other group. This shows that when we put our resources and intentions into partnerships with our communities, we see significant outcomes."

One of the most compelling reasons for Black families to consider Alliance is its unwavering commitment to addressing systemic inequities through education. Craig Winchell, director of Instruction and APUSH at Alliance Patti & Peter Neuwirth Leadership Academy, eloquently highlighted the importance of this mission.

"The issue currently is that they've tried to nationalize educational policy in a way that does an absolute disservice to communities of color, who are experiencing the exact oppression that policy is attempting to litigate out of the classroom. I'm super fortunate to work in a charter community that believes in a pro-Black, anti-racist view not just in history education but across all areas of education," he said.

Winchell further emphasized that anti-racist practices are integral to the entire educational experience at Alliance, not just in history classes.

"You can employ anti-racist practices in your school discipline, in your school culture, in your English class, in your math classes. It's everybody's job to work to redress centuries of oppression," he said. This holistic approach underscores Alliance's

aged or lost. I feel empowered to achieve my goals."

Principal Dea Tramble of Alliance William & Carol Ouchi High School has seen firsthand the benefits of the charter school system. Having been with the school for 14 years, she reflected on her journey.

"I've only been a principal at a charter school, but the autonomy here allows me to tailor instruction and resources to meet the specific needs of our students and families. Our

Charter schools, like those in the Alliance College-Ready Public Schools network, are publicly funded but operate independently of the traditional school district structure such as the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). While LAUSD schools follow a standardized curriculum set by the district, charter schools have the flexibility to design their own educational programs and are often able to implement



The qualities emphasized by Alliance are painted on the staircase at Ouchi High School.

parents choose us because they know we care deeply about their children and provide a safe, supportive environment where no one slips through the cracks," she said.

Stressing her commitment to increasing African American enrollment, Tramble explained, "When I first came to Ouchi, some questioned if it was a good fit for Black families because of its history as a predominantly Latinx school.

"But I've always promoted the school to African American families, and this year, we have the highest number of Black students we've ever had. I'm excited to continue this work and show our community that we are a great school for all students."

Alliance's focus on col-

innovative teaching methods and tailor their curriculum to meet the specific needs of their students. This autonomy allows charter schools to create unique learning environments that can better serve diverse student populations, particularly in underserved communities.

However, charter schools are still held accountable for academic results and must meet specific performance goals to maintain their charters. This combination of public funding, independent operation, and accountability often attracts families seeking alternatives to traditional public schools, especially those looking for specialized programs or smaller school settings where students receive more personalized attention.

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Love is in Your Corner with Luv N' Popcorn

BY SHELBY STEPHENS
Contributing Writer

Love is in your CORNER with Luv N' Popcorn at this year's Taste of Soul Family Festival. Michael Survert and Shalonda Mitchell-Survert will be serving their signature, all-natural, gourmet popcorn recipes with the Crenshaw community on Saturday, October 19. After bonding over kettle corn while they were dating, the Surverts decided to go into business to share their love of popcorn with Southern California.

"One week we went through about five or six bags of Ralph's kettle corn and when it was time to make a grocery run, she said 'don't forget the kettle corn.' The following week it was another five to six bags and I realized Ralph's was making too much money off of us and this kettle corn. I need to make my own kettle corn," recalled Michael.

"We did a fair amount of research and during that time Shalonda was preparing to go to medical school. We thought of this business venture as an opportunity to fund her academic journey to achieve her dream of



Luv N' Popcorn

COURTESY PHOTO

becoming an OBGYN and really serve the Black community through maternal health," he said.

"We are also the founders of a non-profit organization called 'Becoming Excellent.' We teach financial literacy through our business Luv N' Popcorn. We donate some of those proceeds to other non-profits that share the same mission," shared Michael.

Their motto "Luv is in your CORNER" is a play on words for real popcorn lovers like themselves. The Surverts have been in business since 2020, and

they will be celebrating four years as popcorn entrepreneurs and enthusiasts. The idea was developed in 2019, during the pandemic and received an immense amount of support from Los Angeles to Lancaster.

When asked about the highlights of the popcorn business, Shalonda Mitchell-Survert said, "Every October, we participate and sell popcorn at a pumpkin patch in our local area and the community loves to see us there. They always come out and support and to me that is one of the biggest highlights."

Michael added, "My background is in social work and I like the idea of community. We get to build community through our popcorn. We offer a fresh product that is made to order, none of our popcorn is ever stored like some of our competitors. We use the finest ingredients and what's great about our popcorn is that we don't use any butter.

"We have butterless popcorn, which presents a health aspect as we consider Black health. We know about food deserts and food insecurity, so we want to help eliminate that and offer a fresh product that's tasty and memorable. It gives us the opportunity to really show our love for community, to show our activity, and desire to be with community."

Luv N' Popcorn has a wide variety of popcorn with a unique menu of 47 flavors, from original kettle, spicy cheddar, cookies and cream, to their most popular AB mix with cheddar and caramel. Their ode to the Chicago style mix is significant as every kernel has caramel and cheddar with every bite. Luv N' Popcorn has a flavor for

every and any one to accommodate all their customer needs.

"I think people can expect a quality product along with a big smile from

very minimal complaints about our popcorn. This will be our third year at the Taste of Soul, and we can't wait," Michael said.

Order popcorn online



Michael Survert serving popcorn.

COURTESY PHOTO

happy people ready to serve them. There will also be fresh squeezed lemonade made on the spot. Beyond our good service and friendly faces, we have

from Luv N' Popcorn at lunvpopcorn.com and use code 15OFF for 15% off your order. Follow Luv N' Popcorn on Instagram at [@lunv_popcorn](https://www.instagram.com/lunv_popcorn).

Smoked n' Blazed BBQ is Ready to Grill Up Something Tasty at Taste of Soul!

The Taste of Soul vendor is looking forward to meeting TOS Nation from behind the grill.

BY BRIAN W. CARTER
Contributing Writer

Coming to the Taste of Soul (TOS) on Saturday, Oct. 19 is another pitmaster throwing his BBQ in the ring.

Kelvin Brown is the owner and executive pit-

master of Smoked n' Blazed BBQ. Taste of Soul has a love affair with BBQ and has seen many vendors bring their A-game to the grill. Brown is ready to smoke and blaze the competition all in loving fun for BBQ.

"I was born in Comp-

ton, CA and raised all over Los Angeles and L.A. County, but my family is from South Central," said Brown. He attended Narbonne High School, El Camino and West L.A. Community College where he majored in computer technology. Brown shared that he always had a love for being behind the grill.

"I would always man the grill for my grandfather when he would cook us ribs in the summer," said Brown. "It wasn't until I purchased my first smoker in 2022 that I realized my passion for BBQ."

He continued, "I would always watch BBQ shows and YouTube videos until I built up the courage to try smoking BBQ for myself. I would spend hours-on-hours practicing my craft until I felt like it was good enough to share."

He got positive feedback from family and the community about his skills with the grill, but it wasn't until a Juneteenth



COURTESY PHOTO

That BBQ looks like a whole lot of yum!

event that he realized he had something here.

"I was a part of the Bryant Temple AME Church Juneteenth event, where I got my first break," said Brown. "I'm not sure what really sets me

apart, I just know I want to be a part of the L.A. and California BBQ renaissance that's currently happening and want to add my contributions to this BBQ industry."

The public will get a

chance to taste his contributions as Brown will be bringing Texas style smoked BBQ to this year's Taste of Soul.

Brown has been a part of TOS Nation having attended the festival in the past. Now he gets to experience it in a whole new way.

"Me and my family always attend the Taste of Soul every year," said Brown. "It was only right for me to participate as a vendor and finally get a chance to experience the TOS from the other side and not as a patron."

Do you want some good BBQ? Are you ready to smoke and blaze those taste buds? Then make sure to attend the 19th Annual Taste of Soul Family Festival on Saturday, October 19, on Crenshaw Blvd. Smoked n' Blazed BBQ will be there waiting for you.

For information on vendors, stages and more, please visit www.tasteofsoulla.com.



COURTESY PHOTO

Smoked n' Blazed BBQ is bringing Texas style smoked bbq to Taste of Soul.

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Ethnic Media Conference Unites Against Race-Based Hate in California

By LILA BROWN
Contributing writer

The 2024 Ethnic Media Conference, Expo, and Awards, held from August 27-28 in Sacramento, was a testament to the vital role of ethnic media in shaping narratives and fostering community connections across California.

Organized by California Black Media and Ethnic Media Services, this event brought together journalists from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds to celebrate the power of ethnic media and its unique contributions to the state's journalism landscape.

This year's conference was more than just a celebration of outstanding journalism; it was a call to action against the rising tide of hate crimes that continue to plague communities across California.

With more than 300 entries, 40 finalists, and 22 winners, the awards ceremony at the Sheraton Grand highlighted the exceptional work of ethnic media outlets that often go unrecognized by the mainstream. The event underscored the indispensable role that these outlets play in giving voice to the voiceless and addressing issues that are too often overlooked.

The conference kicked off with an opening lunch focused on bridging divides and connecting communities. Regina Brown Wilson, executive director of California Black Media, welcomed attendees with a powerful message about the importance of unity and collaboration in these challenging times.

California State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond delivered a keynote address emphasizing the critical role ethnic media must play in covering the upcoming 2024 elections and the issues at stake for marginalized communities.

A central highlight of the conference was the Stop the Hate panel, which brought together key figures behind the Stop the Hate initiative—a campaign dedicated to combating hate crimes and fostering solidarity among California's diverse communities.

Moderated by Professor Jose Luis Benavides of Cal State Northridge, the panel featured influential voices such as Khydeejia Alam, Commissioner of the Commission on Asian Pacific Islander American Affairs (CCAPIAA), and Manjusha Kulkarni, founder of Stop AAPI Hate. These leaders discussed the vital



Attorney General Rob Bonta participates in a fireside chat with Larry Lee, publisher of the Sacramento Observer.

collaboration between ethnic media and community-based organizations (CBOs) in sustaining the initiative and making meaningful strides toward a more inclusive and equitable California.

An additional dedicated panel highlighted the alarming rise in hate crimes across various communities, with Attorney General Rob Bonta emphasizing the ongoing challenges faced by African Americans, LGBTQ+ individuals, and other marginalized groups. Bonta's fireside chat with Larry Lee, publisher of the Sacramento Observer Newspaper, delved into the impact of the Stop the Hate initiatives and the importance of spreading love and unity in response to the hate

that persists in many communities.

Bonta expressed that while a decrease in hate crimes is a positive development, it is not enough. "We need to look at different segments and different groups, and some are having different experiences," he said. Bonta highlighted the continuous struggle faced by African Americans, who consistently experience the highest number of hate crimes year after year.

He called for a collective effort from everyday people, nonprofits, advocates, activists, community leaders, and government officials to combat hate and build a future where everyone in California feels they belong.

"Our goal is to have no hate crimes in California," he reiterated. "Everyone belongs here, and no one should be targeted, attacked, or harmed because of who they are, where they're from, or how they pray. We need to ensure that every individual feels safe and valued, and that requires a collective effort from all of us—government, nonprofits, and community leaders alike."

Eliana Kaimowitz, the newly appointed director of the Office of Equity at the California Department of Social Services, also spoke at the conference, sharing her vision for ensuring equitable access to services across the state. She emphasized the importance of community engagement

and the role of ethnic media in building trust with communities that may be wary of law enforcement or government agencies.

Kaimowitz underscored the significance of collaboration across multiracial, multiethnic, and multireligious groups in designing programs that address hate crimes and promote safety. She acknowledged the challenges faced by nonprofit organizations in accessing state funding but stressed the opportunities that arise from building strong community foundations and fostering cross-cultural understanding.

The 2024 Ethnic Media Conference, Expo, and Awards served as a powerful reminder of the critical role that ethnic media plays in California's social fabric.

This resource was supported in whole or in part by funding provided by the State of California, administered by the California State Library via California Black Media as part of the Stop the Hate program. The program is supported by partnership with the California Department of Social Services and the California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs. To report a hate incident or hate crime and get support, go to <https://www.cavshate.org/>

More Than 250 News Professionals Attend Ethnic Media Awards and Conference

By ANTONIO RAY HARVEY
CALIFORNIA BLACK MEDIA

More than 250 news professionals representing nearly 150 media outlets attended the annual Ethnic Media Conference, Expo, and Awards held at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Sacramento on Aug. 27 and 28.

Hosted by Ethnic Media Services (EMS) and California Black Media (CBM), the awards ceremony recognized journalists for their outstanding reporting in different topic areas, including health, politics and culture.

The conference sessions leading up to that event included panel discussions featuring state officials, government agencies, lobbying firms, advocacy organizations and more. It also provided networking opportunities for news media owners and professionals from the Black, Native American, Latino, Asian, Pacific Islander, Eastern European, North African, Caribbean



Dr. John Warren publisher of San Diego Voice and Viewpoint, led a discussion on propositions on the November ballot.

and LGBTQ press.

"Last year, the inaugural convening in the state capital focused on 'meeting the decision-makers,'" said Regina Wilson, executive director of CBM.

"This year, the emphasis is on strengthening those connections. Key decision-makers have expressed their appreciation for our return,

recognizing that at a time of deep budget cuts, our community ties and communication skills are more essential than ever for building new, more equitable messaging," Wilson added.

State leaders who attended the event included Attorney General Rob Bonta, State Treasurer Fiona Ma, and Tony Thurmond, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

In addition to state government officials, business leaders, communications firms, nonprofits, and philanthropic organizations also participated in the conference organized to highlight the crucial role ethnic media play in California's diverse communities.

"California is home to the largest concentration of multilingual news outlets serving immigrant and ethnic communities in the U.S.," said Sandy Close, director of EMS.

"This breakthrough public-private partnership to

support local journalism brings welcome recognition of the ethnic media sector's indispensable role in connecting these diverse com-



California State Treasurer Fiona Ma engages in a fireside chat with Lisa Collins, publisher of L.A. Focus.

munities to each other and to the wider public realm."

Thurmond discussed the ethnic media's role in reporting on education in the state and why articles from ethnic media outlets have an advantage in reaching targeted audiences in underserved communities.

Thurmond, who is running for the governor of California in 2026, spoke at the

opening luncheon where CBM and EMS presented Communications Champion Awards to key stakeholders representing organizations

across the state's communications infrastructure. "We can't get the right information out about education without the ethnic media in our state," Thurmond said. "We need to get people to understand that if a student is not reading at a third-grade level in the third grade we will lose them, and they could end up in the prison pipeline."

The conference's workshops, plenaries and breakout sessions focused on concerns such as health care, artificial intelligence, public education, climate change, misinformation, hate crimes, equity in government procurement, and more.

Google provided training workshops on some of its digital news tools and panelists discussed the impact of AI on the future of journalism.

"Our unique strength lies in our deep connection to the audiences we serve," Wilson said. "We are high touch as well as high-tech media, embedded in our communities and committed to delivering impactful, culturally relevant content."

The conference ended with the Ethnic Media

Awards. Winners were recognized for their reporting in nine different categories. Over 300 entries were submitted that included 12 dif-

ferent languages. This year's conference coincided with the announcement of the historic \$172 million public-private partnership in California aimed at supporting journalism. That agreement brings together state government and high-tech companies led by Google to support local newsrooms.

The deal, supporters say, serves as a national model for strengthening the traditional role of journalism in providing checks and balances in government and business affairs. At a reception held the first day of the conference, CBM and EMS honored Assemblymember Buffy Wicks (D-Oakland) with the "Legislator of the Year" award. The organizations also thanked Wicks for brokering the deal with Google and for her ongoing support for news media.

"We've worked long and hard to gain this recognition as a multilingual, multiracial, multimedia sector," said Wilson. "We extend our deepest thanks to our sponsors, speakers, media partners, and all our attendees for supporting this collective effort."



California Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond.

PROSPERITY MARKET

{Continued from A-1}

experience.

Dianne, a Hollywood makeup artist whose work was stalled during the pandemic, said that Prosperity Market was created to offset the downturn that Black businesses were

experiencing.

"We had a lot of time to observe what was happening," she said. "We saw all the businesses — especially the Black-owned businesses — that were closing, and we felt we had a solution to

support ownership and to circulate the dollar. We wanted to start with food, because that's the most essential thing there is."

Still, a fashion designer, said that Prosperity Market's goal to serve both underserved areas and areas without a diverse shopping environment, includes plans for growth beyond the L.A. area.

"We get to expand the reach of our vendors, grow their customer base, and serve communities that don't necessarily have plentiful options," Still said. "That's always been the goal: to have trailers in different cities, because it supports the local economy and the local food system."

Donald Sherman, owner of Sherman Produce Market in Fresno, said that Prosperity Market has given his business an introduction to an audience beyond the Central Valley.

"I appreciate the fact that they reached out, I reached out," said Sherman, who has brought his produce to other Prosperity

Market pop-ups. "It gives me a good idea about what the area ... and the people need: clean fresh produce ... pesticide-free, the same things that we want."

Celia Sherman, who with her husband operates their own store in Fresno, said that Prosperity Market has been an opportunity for the small number of California's Black farmers to provide much-needed healthy choices for diverse communities.

"You can feel that people really appreciate what we bring," she said. "It's the payoff, when you see people enjoy what you grow."

Prosperity Market's focus on improving the physical and economic health of communities includes sharing global traditions. Shaëlle Etienne, owner of BANANE, is a political refugee who was born in Haiti and creates innovative and plant-based versions of Haitian dishes from a commercial kitchen in Van Nuys.

"I wanted to come up



PHOTO BY JOANIE HARMON

Shaëlle Etienne, owner of BANANE, is a political refugee who was born in Haiti and joined Prosperity Market to share plant-based, traditional Haitian treats and cuisine.



PHOTO BY JOANIE HARMON

Prosperity Market's new electric and solar-powered 48-foot trailer will contain a farmers-market-on-wheels and kitchen space for food entrepreneurs.

with a way to support my country in a sustainable way, because I see how my mom sends money back all the time," said Etienne. "I also wanted U.S. Americans to experience Haitian culture... why not make it ... food that is mindful, food that has purpose."

As a small business owner, Etienne said she

appreciates the commitment Prosperity Market has to its vendors.

"Entrepreneurship can be a little discouraging sometimes," she said. "Even just morally, it feels good to be part of a community that you know is sending you resources. Everybody is encouraged here to shop and to support us."

METRO RETURNS AS TOS SPONSOR

{Continued from A-1}

every 12 minutes on Saturday, Oct. 19.

In addition, Metro encourages festival participants to relax and recharge at their "lounge" at Crenshaw Boulevard and Coliseum Street. The lounge will provide seating,

mobile chargers, and an opportunity to learn more about some of their stellar programs such as:

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- TAP will be selling commemorative TAP (fare) cards
- Talent Development will have information about job opportunities at Metro

Metro will continue to promote K Line ridership and rail safety awareness, as three K Line stations directly feed into the event: Expo/Crenshaw, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Leimert Park.

Although the \$2.1 bil-

lion K Line is Los Angeles' newest light rail line, it has a rich history of serving Angelenos. The K Line (previously known as the Crenshaw/LAX Line) marks the official return of rail service on Crenshaw Boulevard since the last

Los Angeles Railway Line 5 yellow street cars trundled down the street in 1955 — nearly 70 years ago.

For additional information about the K Line and how to purchase tickets, visit metro.net.

REPARATIONS LEGISLATION

{Continued from A-1}

AB 1840 passed the Assembly on Aug. 28, and is now moving on to the governor for his consideration, prompting some in the Black community to feel overlooked.

"This tells me and Black Californians who are ancestors of slavery, who built this country we are not as important," Lodgson said. "We're not a priority or important as those other programs. That's what is most infuriating and that's what Black legislators are telling their people. That's not going to be accepted."

Tiffany Quarles, a reparations activist and supporter of Bradford's bills, drove from Los Angeles to Sacramento to watch what she thought would be the passage of a historic vote.

"I am not disdained, and I am not discouraged. I came here to fight for Black Americans whose families were enslaved in this country. My family was enslaved in this country. So, I am not giving up. If they think that this is over, they are wrong," said Quarles. "We still demand lineage-based reparations."

Quarles said she believes Democratic leaders decided against advancing the bills because they are worried their decision would hurt V.P. Kamala Harris's chances of winning the presidency.

"They will sacrifice Black America just to get her in, and that's not right," stated Quarles.

According to Bradford, the Governor's Office expressed some concerns over his reparations bills.

"They offered up some amendments that weren't accepted by me. We had no indications of any amendments up until Monday (Aug. 26) of this week," said Bradford.

"We had legislation that made it out of Assembly Appropriations committee without one single amendment — not a single amendment was offered up. We moved these bills with the

understanding that we had the votes to take it up on the Assembly floor," Bradford explained. "It was just some simple amendment that pretty much would have gutted SB 1403 and made it an additional study."

Bradford, who served on the Reparations Task Force, said California researched reparations for two years and delivered a 1,100-page report to the legislature. Therefore, there is no need to conduct an additional study.

The CLBC issued a statement on the final day of the legislative session confirming that SB 1403 would not be brought to a vote this session and would be reintroduced next session.

"The California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC) remains steadfast in our commitment to advancing the CLBC 2024 Reparations Priority Legislative Package," the statement read. "The CLBC has chosen to concentrate our collective energy on the legislative priorities that the entire caucus has voted on and those that positively impact Black Californians."

The CLBC reaffirmed its commitment to its 2024 reparations priority legislative package, despite SB 1403 and SB 1331 not being part of the original package.

The CLBC statement emphasized the complexity of the legislative process and its ongoing dedication to advancing reparative justice for Black Californians.

SB 1403 aimed to establish the California American Freedmen Affairs Agency to recommend measures for compensating Black Californians who are descendants of enslaved people. SB 1331 proposed the creation of the Fund for Reparations and Reparative Justice in the State Treasury to fund policies approved by the Legislature and Governor that address the harm done to descendants of enslaved African American persons who experienced chattel slavery or free Black people living in the U.S. before the

end of the 19th century.

Another bill in the CLBC's legislative package, SB 1050, authored by Bradford and introduced for the vote by Assemblymember Tina McKinnor (D-Inglewood), calls for the establishment of a process for California to review and investigate public complaints from individuals who claim their property was taken without just compensation as a result of racially motivated eminent domain. The legislation would also establish a process for providing compensation to the rightful owner. That bill passed with a 56-0 vote on Aug. 29, marking a significant victory for those advocating for reparative justice.

"We understand that the legislative process is complex and does not always unfold as initially envisioned. However, we remain committed to our long-term goals and recognize that this is a multi-year effort," the CLBC statement continued.

According to the CLBC, the work of advancing reparations and achieving justice for Black Californians is "far from complete."

"We will not be distracted from our mission. We will stay focused on the work at hand, united in our purpose, and dedicated to the cause of reparations and equity for all. The CLBC will continue to lead with integrity and purpose, ensuring that our legislative efforts are impactful and meaningful for the communities we serve," the statement concluded.

Los Angeles Attorney, Kamilah Moore, who served as chair of the Reparations Task Force, called the turn of events "unconscionable."

"The bills sailed through various committees and people expected them to be introduced to the floor for a vote," Moore said. "What happened was unexpected. It's causing a lot of confusion and different emotions from the community."

"I think it was unconscionable that no legislator

had the courage to get up and introduce the bills, particularly the California Leg-

islative Black Caucus. The CLBC is such an esteemed institution. They had the

chance, and still have a chance, to do something historic."

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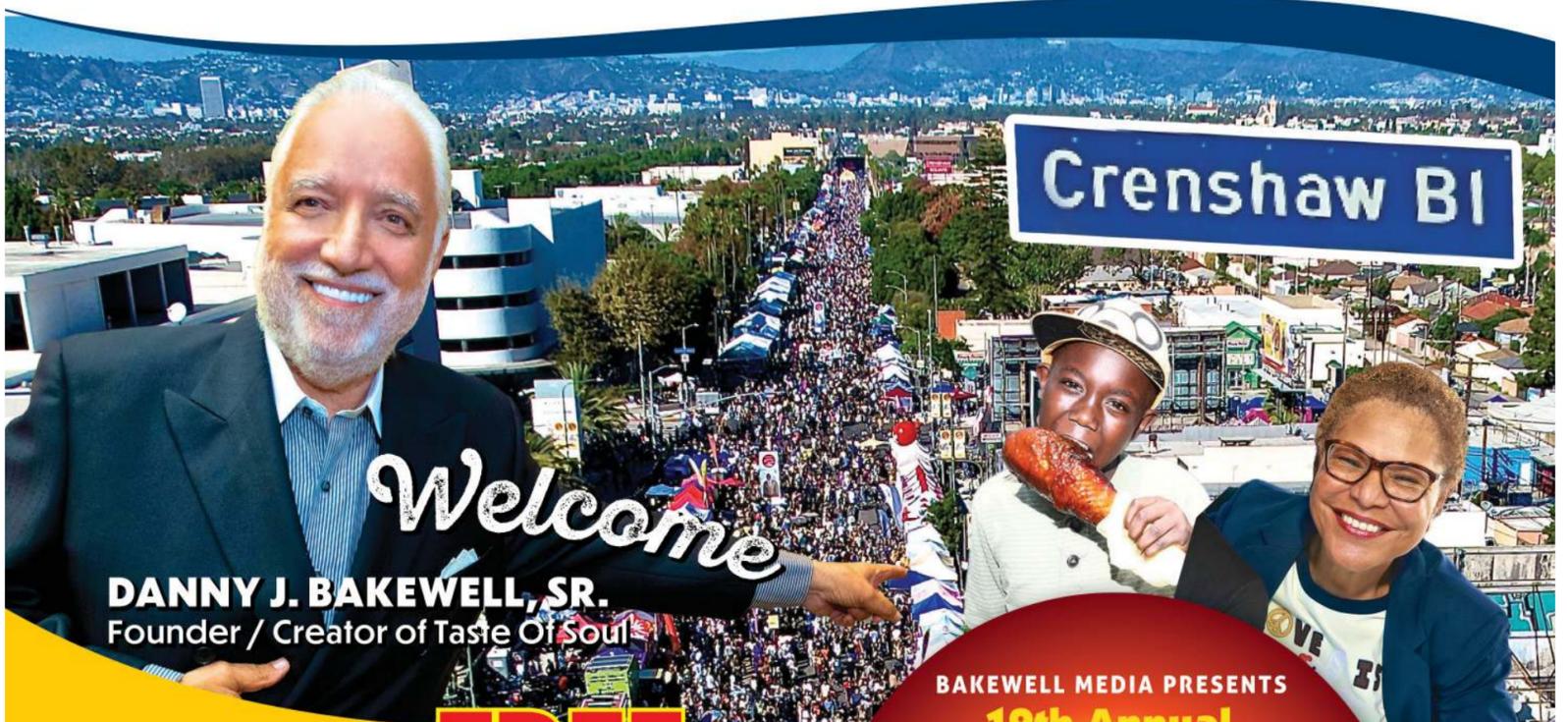
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Dr. Veronica Applegate Asks the Question... 'Mama Why?'

BY KEITH L. UNDERWOOD
Contributing Writer

Dr. Veronica Applegate is a diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) expert. She is also the self-published author of two books - "Journey to Appleville" and "Tu-Tu Goes to School."

Applegate's latest project is "Mama Why." It is about a young man named Malcolm, who becomes an advocate for change after two of his friends become fatal victims of gun violence.

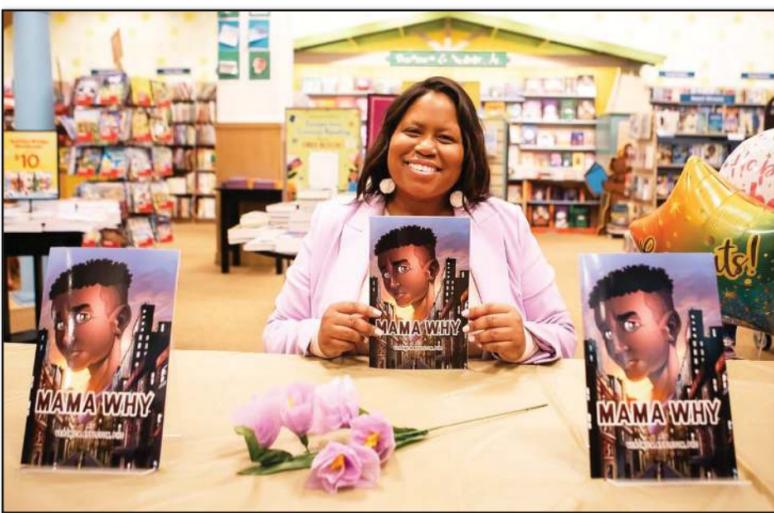
Applegate hopes her books equip children with vital tools for life. She also aims to promote the acceptance of different cultures and people to kids.

"My passion for diversity, and inclusion, and a strong addendum on equity is from seeing inequities in my own career, and wanting to create a solution, and create some sense of change," said Applegate.

"It inspired me to write more about certain topics related to children," continued Applegate, "and how they can be more champions in their own communities."

Applegate said her "call to action" is to show diverse and inclusive characters in her books, so children can see more representation in these works at home and school.

Applegate believes her work, and the work of others like her, can broaden a child's worldview of what they see. She said every



Dr. Veronica Applegate at a book signing for "Mama Why."

child is born with a level of curiosity, and that most of them understand some of the more complex topics of the books.

"When we say gun violence, when we say cyberbullying, when we say bullying in school - when we

say how are you feeling emotionally, how are you feeling physically, and socially - children are aware," said Applegate.

"If a child being equipped with the books and with the curriculum to help in creating more

knowledge -- more awareness, and just more overall acceptance of differences - I think that's the overall piece from children who are not getting it [DEI information]," said Applegate.

Applegate said this is

especially true in states where diversity curriculums and tools are being removed from schools due to laws in those states.

"Many of us who are 30-plus years old - we talk about our ancestors often, that we are our ancestors' wildest dreams," said Applegate.

Applegate continued, "They still are their ancestors' wildest dreams because they get to accomplish their goals, they get to accomplish their dreams - they get to read without anyone telling them that they can't. They get to write without anyone telling them that they can't."

For more information on Dr. Veronica Applegate's book "Mama Why," visit www.mamawhy.com.

California Coalition Hosts 'Birth Justice & Joy'

BY CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Managing Editor

An enthusiastic crowd gathered on Thursday, Aug. 29 to attend "Birth Justice & Joy" hosted by the California Coalition for Black Birth Justice at the Grass Room in downtown Los Angeles.

"The evening brought together an inspiring assembly of birth equity leaders, advocates, and partners to celebrate and advance our collective mission of Black birth justice across California," said a spokesperson.

According to the organizers, the Birth Justice & Joy event spotlighted the Coalition's theme, which is "Unifying the Vision for Systemic Change." The program featured experts discussing racial inequities in perinatal outcomes for Black birthing families. Attendees also enjoyed



Attendees pose for group photo at the Birth Justice & Joy event.

refreshment, live music and networking opportunities.

Participants included

LaQuisha Bryant from the office of Assemblymember Tina McKinnor, Tara Ficek



From left are Dr. Melissa Franklin, Adjoa Jones, Dr. Sayida Peprah-Wilson, and Janette Robinson-Flint.



Attending the event are, from left, Natalie Champion, Dana Sherrod, and Candice Charles.

of First 5 Los Angeles, Nomisa Khalfani of Essential Access Health, Tara Westman of the California Endowment, Janette Robinson-Flint of Black Women for Wellness, and Dr. Melissa Franklin from the L.A. County Department of Public Health.

"Their participation underscored the event's significance and the broad support for the mission to drive systemic change and improve perinatal outcomes for Black families in California," added a spokesperson.

Simon Burris: Africana Diaspora Black History Month II Crossword

ICONIC BLACK AUTHORS

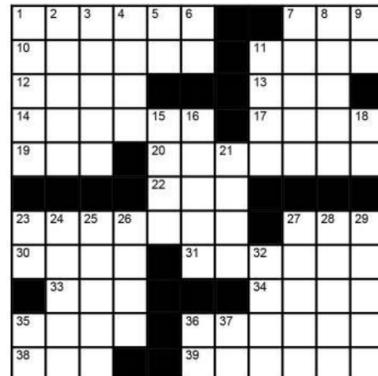
www.simonburris700.com

Across

- 1. **Historian William E.B. ___
7. *Richard Wright classic "Native ___"
10. In the habit of: (2 wds.)
11. Wanderer
12. Pal
13. Perfect report card
14. * ___ Gorman, President Biden's inaugural poet
17. Girl's name
19. A sibling
20. Fall back
22. Syria's neighbor (abbr.)
23. *"Still I Rise" poet
27. U ___ : Beehive State
30. Zoo attraction
31. Singer Clark
33. *Rosa Parks' home state (abbr.)
34. TV's One Life To Live, for short
35. Location of Anchorage (abbr.)
36. "As far as the eye ___" (2 wds.)
38. ___ Moines, Iowa
39. It's for the birds

Down

- 1. *"The Three Musketeers" creator
2. America/Michigan (abbrs.)
3. Fraternity letters
4. R ___ T (a mouse)
5. *James Baldwin's "Go Tell ___ on the Mountain"
6. "For God ___ loved the world..." (John 3:16)
7. "Sugar is sweet and ___ you" (2 wds.)
8. *Author Barack or Michelle



- 9. *Trevor ___ ah: South African comedian & author of "Born a Crime"
11. Locks
15. Dolton Rock, IL (city) initials
16. *Ancient storyteller
18. ___ large
21. *"___ to our God,": Negro National Anthem
23. Duo preceding C
24. *Writer Zora ___ Hurston
25. *Oprah Winfrey's parties, perhaps
26. Times past
27. **Black Wall Street massacre locale (1921)
28. Tweak
29. **"Roots" writer
32. **"Beloved" Morrison
35. Commercial
36. WA, OR, ___, NV
37. Short street

(ANSWERS ON D-2)

Former NFL All-Pro Hosts Free Football Camp



Project Transition Champions of Change Football Skills Camp.

E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS/LA SENTINEL

By E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS
 Staff Writer

Former NFL all-pro Marcellus Wiley hosted his Project Transition's Champions of Change NFL Skills Camp at Crespi High School on Saturday, Aug. 31.

The free camp, instructed by former NFL players, was open to youth of all ages and positions. The mission of the event was to teach football techniques

and instill the values of teamwork, discipline, focus, and other life-lessons on the gridiron.

At age eight, Wiley started his football career in the challenging environment of inner-city Los Angeles. As a standout high school player, he accepted a football scholarship from Columbia University, and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree.

Against the odds, Wiley eventually went on to play defensive end for 10 seasons in the National Football League with the Buffalo Bills, San Diego Chargers, Dallas Cowboys, and Jacksonville Jaguars. The retired 10-year veteran amassed many honors and was selected to the Pro

Bowl in 2001.

Wiley remembers the challenges that coaches helped him to overcome. "That's where I am right now. I want them to just have the skills to not only play football but learn the game of life," said Wiley.

"So, it's very important that even if you don't make



E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS/LA SENTINEL

Former NFL player, Marcellus Wiley at his free youth football camp.



E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS/LA SENTINEL

Camp participants receive gift bags.



E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS/LA SENTINEL

Skills camp participant, LJ Randle.

it to the highest level, no matter how far football takes you, take those skills and translate them somewhere else. It's about winning in the game of life and not just sports."

The participants were provided with gift bags and photo opportunities. "It was a great experience, especially for me going for free. I learned more about

football and met professional football players. A big thanks to Coach Wiley for signing my football and to the coaches for encouraging me on the field," said L.J. Randle, age 12.

Wiley currently hosts the "More To It" podcast, as part of the Dan Patrick Podcast Network. He formerly co-hosted "Sports Nation."

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RELIGION

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B-3

Bishop Smith Reveals Power of Prayer in 'Morning Medicine'

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Religion Editor

Aiming to empower people to connect to God through prayer, Bishop Byron L. Smith Sr. has released "Morning Medicine," a book of powerful meditations addressing life's various circumstances.

Smith, who is the pastor of Gethsemane Christian Love Missionary Baptist Church in South L.A. and founder of Lifting the Veil Ministries, is also a mental health clinician, adjunct professor at Antioch University, and longtime community advocate dedicated to aiding and uplifting others.

"This book is really about encouraging people to become resilient in the face of modern challenges," the bishop said. "It's guides you on becoming centered and to navigate the twists and turns of life by just praying."

"Morning Medicine" is actually a 52-week journal containing prayers on several topics such as thankfulness, peace, healing and patience. The book evolved from Smith's Facebook page of the same name where he shared peti-

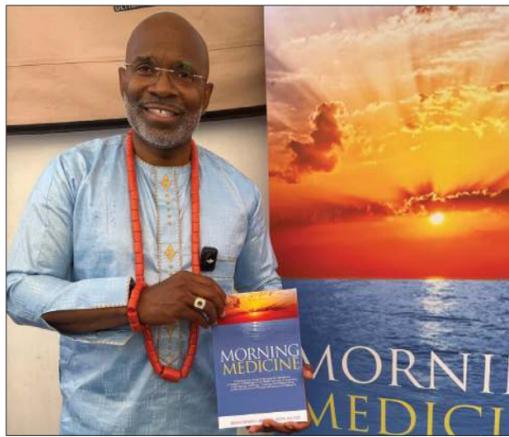
tions to God every week.

"I had all these prayers written down and God told me to put it on Facebook so people knew me for spreading prayer every Monday. I had no idea it would become a book. I was just writing prayers and asking the Lord how to become better and continue to do His will, which for me is pastoring and preaching," he recalled.

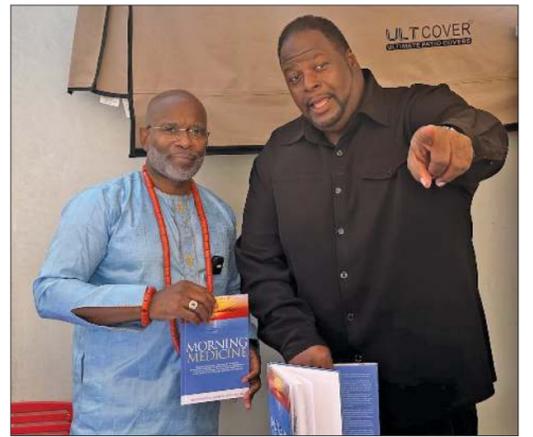
"It's my prayer that with this book, no matter what people are going through, they could pick one of these prayers, and it will speak to their situation.

"Whether you are dealing with sickness, death of a loved one, or going through rough, unpredictable times, 'Morning Medicine' will give you a sense of calm, comfort and insight into the importance of prayer," insisted Smith, who wrote the series of meditations during a difficult time in his own life.

While experiencing a range of transitions in his profession, he consistently turned to God in prayer to maintain his sanity and determination to overcome the adversity. As a husband, father and his family's main breadwin-



Bishop Byron L. Smith Sr. with "Morning Medicine."



Bishop Smith and Carson Councilmember Cedric Hicks

ner, he knew that it was critical that he stay in close communication with God through prayer.

"In spite of everything that I've gone through, I've learned to just keep trusting God and treating people right and right will come back to you," the bishop said.

"As the Scripture says, if you ask anything in my Father's name, He'll give it to you so that goes right back to prayer, which is what 'Morning Medicine' is all about."

On Aug. 31, Bishop Smith held a book-signing for "Morning Medicine" at Dulan's on Crenshaw. The gathering, which attracted more than 200 people, featured live music and the opportunity for guests to enjoy the restaurant's famous soul food.

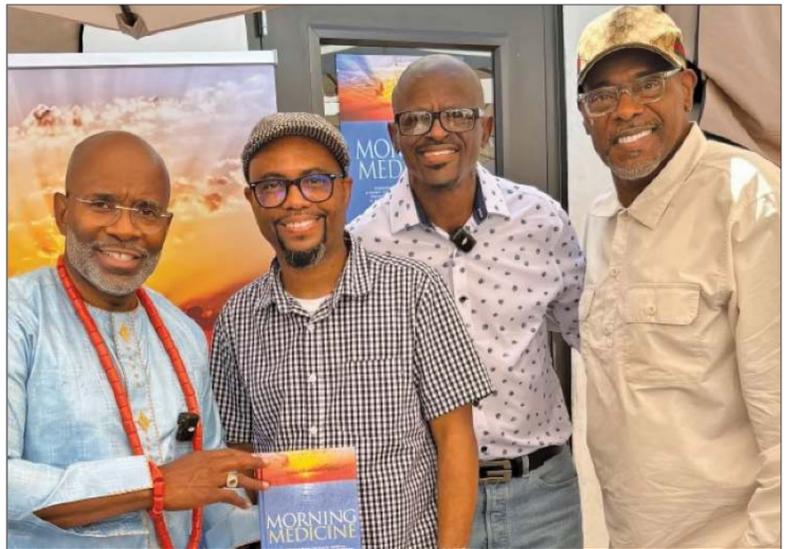
Long lines of people waited for Smith to inscribe a personal message on their copy of "Morning Medicine," which he patiently and pleasantly did for about two hours.

Encouraging people to check out "Morning Medicine," the bishop said, "It's more than just a book. It's your daily invitation to a more joyful and meaningful life."

"Morning Medicine" is available at www.lifting3veils.com and amazon.com.



Family and friends congratulate the bishop. From left are Kennedy Price, Byron Smith II, Bishop Smith, First Lady Jill Smith, Patricia A. Walker, and Imani S. Smith.



Attending the "Morning Medicine" book-signing were, from left, Bishop Smith, Bishop James Ross, Bishop Earl Norwood, and Bishop Harrington McFrazier.

BISHOP WASHINGTON CELEBRATES 55TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY



Bishop Sylvester and First Lady Earlee Washington

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Religion Editor

More than five decades of Christian and pastoral service will be marked by Bishop Sylvester and Mrs. Earlee Washington at the 55th Anniversary Celebration sponsored by the congregation of the historic Pleasant Hill Baptist Church.

The observance begins with a musical on Sunday, September 15 at 3:30 p.m., in the church's sanctuary located at 2009 West Martin Luther King Blvd., in Los Angeles.

On Sunday, September 22, at 3:30 p.m., an appreciation service will take place at Pleasant Hill. The guest preacher will be the Rev. Dr. Donald R. Robinson, pastor of the Community Missionary Baptist Church of Redlands, California and first vice president of the Baptist Ministers Conference of Los Angeles and Southern California.

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

tributions, Thanksgiving meals and Christmas toy drives.

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

Bishop Washington was consecrated and elevated to episcopal service in 2017. Also, he received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Providence Baptist Seminary and completed graduate studies at Fuller Theological Seminary and the Ecumenical Center for Black Church Studies.

According to Anniversary Chair Betty Baker, the public is invited to attend the celebration.

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

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• DR. MAULANA KARENGA •

Kamala, Palestine and Nana Fannie Lou Hamer: Questioning, Confronting and Achieving This Country

Righteously refusing to be silenced and defiantly demanding a seat at the table, Nana Fannie Lou Hamer speaking and lobbying for justice at the Democratic National Convention in 1964, reaffirmed that to achieve a just and good society, we must “question America,” confront its contradictions and radically change and achieve this country in the interest of freedom, justice and equality and other shared goods for the peoples of this country and ultimately the world.

She knew and taught, as our ancient and ongoing ethical tradition teaches, that freedom is indivisible, that democracy of the few and favored is a contradiction in terms and a deceptive, dishonest and impossible practice, and that justice cannot be or mean “just us,” the so-called right race, religion, class, gender, etc.

Here it is important that we not use Nana Hamer and our other honored ancestors as a convenient reference, but rather as a constant resource, as a model to emulate and a mirror by which we rightly and regularly measure ourselves.

Mrs. Hamer, fearless freedom fighter and co-founder of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP), had come to the Democratic National Convention in 1964 to demand that the MFDP’s delegates who accompanied her be seated in the convention, rather than the all-White Mississippi Democratic Party delegates who were pillars and protectors of segregation, an American apartheid. Refusing the compromise which kept the segregationists in power, she and her delegation walked away from the charade of pomp and puffery, this democracy of rank hypocrisy and racist exclusion.

But she gave testimony that was broadcast on national television, and it

is here that she raised the issues of questioning, confronting and changing America in the interest of a shared good for all. Exposing the continuing context of daily savage racist violence, exclusion and oppression, she asked, “Is this America, the land of the free and the home of the brave where . . . our lives be threatened daily because we want to live as decent human beings?”

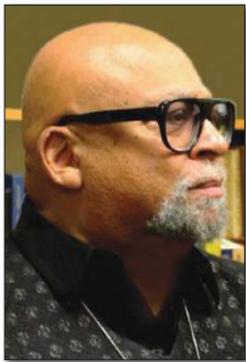
The DNC of 2024, by every measure of media manipulation and management, looked like a site of unquestionable unity, pervasive joy and radical inclusivity. But there can be no joy without justice and no unity without inclusiveness. Indeed, even with all the apparent unity, joy and inclusiveness, there were some people, voices and issues not there, not engaged, crudely rejected as unsuitable and unworthy of presence or place at the site of celebration and self-presentation of the chosen presidential candidates.

We speak here especially about the Palestinians and the genocide being committed by Israel against them, but also of the poor and less powerful, the new Jim/Jane Crow, militarism, empire, and unfreedom and injustice on many levels to be confronted and corrected.

Here we must question this concept of a new America promised and projected. How do we claim unity, joy and inclusiveness by suppressing on the floor and refusing to provide space for the presence and self-representation of the Palestinian people on stage? With Nana Fannie Lou Hamer we ask is this the new America where one of the most important and urgent issues of our time and for the world: the ending of the Israeli genocide against the Palestinian people, and the Palestinian presence, voice and cause of freedom are prohibited

and refused their rightful place at the DNC?

Yes, the name Palestine was mentioned, the gruesome suffering of the people and support for a cease-



DR. MAULANA KARENGA

fire and the right of Palestinians to statehood, security and self-determination. But like the segregation of Nana Hamer and the MFDP delegation, there was no place for the Palestinians on stage at the center of the claims of an inclusive America so that they and their representatives could speak the truth of their own narrative, one which clearly is as worthy of being told as any other, and certainly more worthy than the lies of commission, omission and message manipulation so freely offered by others.

Another point Nana Fannie Lou Hamer made that is highly relevant here is that we must not only question, confront and radically change America, but we must stop lying about things. This includes lying about what America has done and is doing to us, others and the world. For example, calling Israel’s savagery and genocide “self-defense.” We, of

course, can tell how vapid, vacuous and invalid the claim is by the lack of any definition or delineation offered of what in this mass killing qualifies as self-defense.

Surely, we cannot claim the killing of tens of thousands of innocent civilians and wounding 100,000 plus, 70% of whom are children and women, as self-defense. Nor can one claim self-defense in the destruction of churches, mosques, schools, universities, hospitals, heritage sites, water and food systems, humanitarian aid supplies and aid workers, doctors and health workers, journalists, writers and poets, babies in incubators and patients in bed, in a word, making everyone and everything a target in a frenzy of terroristic destruction and vengeful and racist bloodlust.

Also, Biden and company pretend they are for a ceasefire, working day and night and yet are still sending billions in weapons and other war materials and support to Israel to continue its mass killing and expand its killing fields in Palestine. This is the height of Orwellian doublespeak and unspeakable dishonesty.

Likewise, for Netanyahu and his rightwing government, there is, as Israelis daily declare, no real desire to secure the return of the Israeli hostages and no talk about or even consideration of the Palestinian hostages, cruelly culled from the whole of Palestine in practices reminiscent of the science fiction Wraiths, tortured, beaten, hung up with

chains and sexually assaulted – children, women and men. Clearly, if they wanted the Israeli hostages, they would have retrieved them by now like they did with the first hostages, by negotiation, 105 released in a prisoner exchange and four released by Hamas unilaterally.

Finally, we are told it’s all about winning, defeating Donald Trump. But there must be questions about what winning is and winning for what and by whom and how to achieve a shared victory. Yes, it is clear that our people and progressives in this country want Kamala to win over Trump. But will she open a new path of freedom, justice, equality and radical inclusivity for everyone? And will it be a victory for Palestine and us and the vulnerable of this country and the world? Or will it be as before, with only a change in faces while policies stay in place?

For it’s not just about winning, but how we win and what we win. Indeed, as our fathers and mothers taught us, “What would it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his own soul?” That is to say, lose one’s ethical essence, one’s defining essence as an African and human being? Here the Odu Ifa teaches us to consider our honor, our dignity in every struggle we wage. It says, “May the struggle we wage always add to our honor,” i.e., to our honor-enriching, dignity-affirming sense of ourselves.

And this too, Nana Fannie Lou Hamer teaches us, we must not narrow

our notion of freedom, neither in terms of who is included nor what is included nor confuse it with seeking a comfortable place in oppression. Freedom to her and us as a people has always been to struggle to be ourselves and free ourselves, to be ourselves without punishment, penalty, prohibition, exclusion or oppression. And it is to free ourselves from all forms of domination, deprivation and degradation, and to free ourselves to live, love, learn, relate rightly, to develop, flourish and come into the fullness of ourselves.

Nana Hamer’s faith was in an inclusive freedom born of righteous and relentless struggle. Thus, she tells us in her firmness of faith, “One day I know the struggle will (bring) change and it will be change not only for the people of the US (all the people) but (also for) people all over the world.”

This is the new and promising path and possibility we want, and work and struggle so hard to achieve in these difficult, demanding, deceptive and dangerous times.

Dr. Maulana Karenga, Professor and Chair of Africana Studies, California State University-Long Beach; Executive Director, African American Cultural Center (Us); Creator of Kwanzaa; and author of Kwanzaa: A Celebration of Family, Community and Culture and Introduction to Black Studies, 4th Edition, www.OfficialKwanzaaWebsite.org; www.MaulanaKarenga.org.

• EARL “SKIP” COOPER II, POLITICAL CONSULTANT AND ADVISOR •

The Importance of Young People Registering and Voting

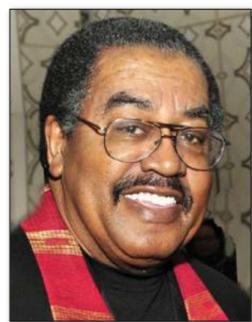
Deciding the future of democracy for this nation is a very important role for young people 18 years and older to not only REGISTER TO VOTE but more importantly VOTE. Young people can have a more inclusive future American democracy with the power to vote on Election Day November 5, 2024. This is not the time to be complacent if they are going to live their future in a more inclusive American democracy

providing equal access to resources and opportunities for all Americans.

The challenge for the younger generation’s future is not tomorrow! but today. The African American VOTE is not only critical to the outcome of the presidential election but also elections in every state for representation in the United States Congress to City Hall, is why it is even more important to REGISTER AND VOTE.

I cannot emphasize enough that every VOTE counts, especially in key swing states. And understand the significance that every VOTE counts, that’s why the young VOTE can shift the political landscape making history for the younger generation’s future that is so important.

This is not the time for African Americans, young and old, to complain about what elected officials are not



FILE PHOTO
Earl “Skip” Cooper II

doing. But the power of the VOTE is your voice that can make elected officials accountable during these critical times as America moves forward.

Don’t wait to REGISTER TO VOTE, REGISTER TODAY. VOTE!

Earl “Skip” Cooper II has been a political consultant and advisor to elected officials for over 50 years as well as taught Black Political Reality at Cal State L.A. in the early 1980s.



SCREENGRAB

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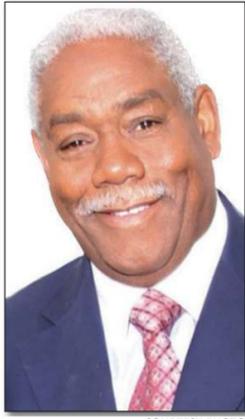
• TONY WAFFORD •

A Mo Better Union

You know what's deep to me? The way we (most people) just repeat stuff without even thinking about what's being said. Take for instance the "More Perfect Union" people.

Please, don't get me wrong I truly believe for the most part, most of them are well intended people, some are utopian dreamers of what America is and all the while, hoping it will get better. Some just don't want to face up to the ugly side of America and by extension, themselves.

So, if you pretend that both aren't as bad as we know it to be, just maybe miraculously it'll get better. I once heard a guy say,



Tony Wafford

that one of the greatest sicknesses in the world is to believe something just because you want it to be true.

So, when I hear people (good people) say what we

need to do is to make this country "A More Perfect Union," I just smile, and I shake my head and wonder have they looked up the definition of the word perfect?

And I've got to be honest it really throws me off when I hear Black people say, "A More Perfect Union." Now I don't know about you, but when I think of the word "Perfect" the one thing I can say that NEVER comes to mind is America.

Allow me to get the record straight having been born here in America and having lived here for the past 68 years. It's been a blessing for me and my family for the most part, and I would be lying if I

said anything different.

I would also be dishonest if I didn't say being Black in America has come with tremendous heartbreak, pain, suffering and challenges for most Black people not to mention what our ancestors went through. And we all know what our Native American brothers and sisters would say about this so called more perfect union.

Here's where I digress just for a minute. I can hear many of you saying, "Tony Wafford, if America is so bad you can leave it." Let me address you love-it-or-leave-it childish patriots. I don't have to love it, nor do I have to leave it.

My ancestors built it, so I have a stake in their unfinished business here in America. I also have a right and an obligation in honor of their sacrifice to straighten it out and make it better for my children and future generations!

Have you ever looked up the definition of the word PERFECT? As an adjective it means, matching in every detail, the definition of an ideal type of something: excellent or complete beyond practical or theoretical improvement: exactly fitting the need in a certain situation or for a certain purpose: entirely without any flaws, defects, or shortcomings. Now tell me, which category does America fit

best.... I'll wait?

I believe with every fiber of my being that this election will be a referendum, if America can ever get close to being a Better Union. This election is (to me) even more important than when Obama ran for president. It's more than just male verses female, Black verses White, older verses younger, admiration for wealth verses concern for all.

I would say for me regardless of your political affiliation, what's really on the ballot is our humanity and our moral compass. America may not be a More Perfect Union, but we can make it Mo Better, and we all know — Mo Better, makes it Mo Better.

• JAY KING, CEO OF THE CALIFORNIA BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE •

Black Workers Depend on Same-Day Pay. Why is Gov't Trying to Restrict It?

It's no secret that too many Americans are living paycheck to paycheck. What appears to be a secret is that an industry that is casting lifelines to those in need is being blocked by state and federal regulators.

The industry in question is Earned Wage Access (EWA). EWA is an innovative fintech solution that empowers workers and helps them pay bills on time by accessing wages they've already earned. A 2021 study found that EWA services often prevent consumers from missing bill payments and slipping further into debt.

Despite the many benefits and the fact that businesses all across the country, including Paychex, now offer EWA to employees, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) recently issued guidance that could effectively wipe out this tool and, in the process, let struggling families, already in jeopardy, drown even

deeper in debt.

The numbers tell the story. According to a recent study, 66% of Americans report living paycheck to paycheck, while 40% report being unable to afford a \$400 emergency expense. They face hardship paying bills, covering financial emergencies, and otherwise making ends meet. These aren't just workers with minimum-wage jobs either; half of those U.S. consumers facing hardship earn more than \$100,000 per year.

This dynamic is especially pernicious in the Black community. According to recent figures, Black Californians currently have the lowest household income of any major racial or ethnic group in the state. Research also indicates that nearly a third of Black families are late paying their debts and 42% use credit cards just for basic living expenses while half do so to send their kids to college.

EWA is ready to support these individuals, yet the CFPB seems to think these services are just loans masquerading as something new. Not only is this wrong, but the agency's interpretive guidance reverses their previous guidance and contradicts the established language and interpretation of the Truth in Lending Act (TILA). It also directly conflicts with multiple states' regulations on EWA.

Giving people access to their wages is not lending and EWA services do not have the hallmarks of loans -- there are no mandatory fees, no interest, no impact on credit ratings, and no debt collection. Regulators should support responsible innovation to meet needs -- not try to maintain the status quo.

This change could have a devastating impact on the very people it purports to protect. By categorizing EWA as loans, the CFPB would impose unnecessary



Jay King

regulations that stifle innovation and could drive consumers back toward high-cost payday lenders.

As I mentioned, the numbers tell the story, and EWA has an impressive track record. A recent study from Citizens Bank found

that seven in 10 middle-market companies currently offer EWAs to employees, with more planning to do so in years to come. As it happens, few states better illustrate the value, and excellent ROI, of EWAs than California. Californi-

ans employed by Walgreens, Home Depot, FedEx Office and other businesses have accessed more than \$1.67 billion in wages through EWA. Equally promising, more than half of consumers who tap into EWA can now afford a \$400 emergency.

EWA services have always proven to serve the greater good, particularly in supporting underserved communities like the Black community, which is disproportionately affected by financial instability. The CFPB should take advantage of this opportunity to make sure they continue to do so, rather than creating obstacles that could undermine their effectiveness.

I urge the CFPB to rethink this misguided guidance. The agency must prioritize fairness and innovation to protect both consumers and the businesses that employ them.

Jay King is CEO of the California Black Chamber of Commerce.

Eric Harris is the associate executive director of External Affairs at Disability Rights California.

• ERIC HARRIS, ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AT DISABILITY RIGHTS CALIFORNIA •

Why Californians Must Reject Proposition 36 This November

In November, voters have a crucial opportunity to reject Proposition 36, a misguided effort backed by major law enforcement associations and some players in the corporate retail lobby that will make our communities less safe.

Although the authors of the proposition have euphemistically labeled it "The Homelessness, Drug Addiction, and Theft Reduction Act," Prop 36 will increase punishments for people experiencing homelessness and substance use disorders without providing any funding for treatment or housing. Prop 36, like policies similar to it in the past that have harmed Black people, will affect a disproportionate number of Black disabled people.

Over the past decade, Californians have voted to reduce our prison population. To achieve that goal, in 2014, we passed Proposition 47, which reclassified many low-level non-violent offenses, such as drug possession and property crimes, from felonies to misdemeanors. This was an important step to reform our criminal legal system, leading to an overall drop in crime

statewide and decreased rates of recidivism. In contrast, Prop 36 would impose longer sentences and harsher punishments



Governor Gavin Newsom signing 10 new bills, groundbreaking legislation aimed at combating retail crime in California.

for theft and drug-related offenses. Rather than investing in meaningful solutions, Prop 36 relies on expensive band-aids such as "treatment-mandated felonies" for repeated drug possession and sends people to prison for shoplifting instead of investing in people who are simply struggling to

survive.

Nationwide, people with disabilities are disproportionately represented in our prison system at

staggering rates, with over 40% of people in state prisons having a disability, compared to only 15% of people in the general population. In California, 1 in 3 people in prison have a diagnosed mental illness. This overrepresentation reflects decades of policies that prioritize incarceration over housing

affordability and community-based alternatives, especially in Black and Brown communities, and among people experiencing

ing homelessness. By increasing the number of people experiencing incarceration, Prop 36 will exacerbate the number of Californians with disabilities in our prison system, while also disabling new people who enter the system. Beyond being overrepresented, people with disabilities

experience inhumane treatment in prison and jail where they are often denied proper accommodations, medical care, and services. Further, prison and jail conditions often exacerbate people's existing conditions, meaning people are at risk for leaving incarceration with disabilities they did not have when they entered the system.

Moreover, while special interests have framed Prop 36 as an attempt to address drug use, its mandated treatment model will lead to more people with disabilities facing incarceration, while their substance use disorders remain untreated. Experts agree that mandating drug treatment for individuals convicted of a drug-related offense does not effectively reduce drug use. Further, Prop 36 does not offer any funding for substance use treatment of any kind, let alone evidence-based practices. This will perpetuate the existing system in which people with substance use disorders end up incarcerated, instead of having access to community-based treatment.

Prop 36 will also wors-

en the socioeconomic conditions at the root of the problems it claims to address. A felony conviction makes it far more difficult to find employment and stable housing post-incarceration, which has a compounding impact for people with disabilities who already are more likely to be facing housing insecurity and unemployment. People experiencing unstable housing and employment are also more likely to develop a disability such as a substance use disorder. Prop 36 therefore would perpetuate the existing vicious cycle that keeps people with disabilities and those who are experiencing homelessness in and out of prisons.

Californians should oppose any measures that double down on punishment and incarceration. Instead of Prop 36, we need policies that invest in community-driven solutions for healthier communities and affordable living, especially for those most affected by the criminal justice system.

Eric Harris is the associate executive director of External Affairs at Disability Rights California.

Coach Wendy

Life Strategist / Consultant
Author / Speaker

The Unfinished Promise of America

There are a lot of unfinished or unfulfilled promises we experience during our lifetime, but one promise we all hope to achieve is that America will live up to the hopes and dreams of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence for all mankind. Although this country belonged to the Native Americans before anyone ever crossed the ocean to so call discover it, immigrants have been coming here for generations hoping for a bet-

ter life for themselves and their families.

My maternal ancestors arrived here from the shores of Germany during the late 1800s and the early 1900s, and my paternal family came here in chains as enslaved people. Before I go any further, I believe Native American people have been treated unfairly in their own homeland and they continue to be pushed to the sidelines regarding the promise of America. No matter what the



past may have brought, together, we can fight for a better tomorrow and help realize unfulfilled promises that will make America the country it is meant to be.

There are many slogans floating around today that talk about "take America back" or "make America great again." What does that really mean and for who? America is great and will continue to be great because the people that make up our country make it a great nation.

America is made up of people who came to this

country in various ways with the same hope, to have a better life. The ones who were forced here due to slavery also hoped for a better life for their families and the generations that came after them. When someone says we should take America back, is that coming from our Native American brothers and sisters who walked these roads way before anyone of European, Asian, or African descent?

No, these statements usually come from people who wish to take America back to a time when it was "comfortable" for a certain group of people but do not represent what was best for all Americans. I also feel that some people who make these statements do not realize the magnitude of what they are saying.

"The Unfinished Promise of America" is a concept that refers to the idea that the United States, while founded on principles of freedom, equality, and justice, has yet to fully realize these ideals for all its

citizens. This notion acknowledges the nation's achievements and progress but also recognizes the ongoing struggles and challenges that prevent the complete fulfillment of its foundational promises due to racial, economic, social, and gender disparities to name just a few.

If we are going to "get back" to anything let us get back to the basics in which this country was founded such as liberty, justice, and freedom for all its citizens. We also long for and hope for equality for everyone and the right for each person to pursue happiness. Where did practicing basic manners and caring about the betterment of all human beings go? The promise to start practicing kindness might be a great beginning.

America is and will forever be a work in progress, with unfulfilled promises around various inequalities, but it is still the best country in the world and if each of us is willing to take a stand

against injustice in our own corners of the world and show love towards each other we can have hope that one day we will get a little closer to justice for all.

Even if it is not during our lifetime, but hopefully for our children and grandchildren where they can live together harmoniously loving their country and neighbor. During the Civil Rights Movement, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., stated in his, "I Have a Dream" speech that he hoped that one day we could all "sit down at the table of brotherhood."

It is never too late to help fulfill the unfinished promise of America. Let us start today in our own families and neighborhoods. Will you join me?

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

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"Smiling Faces"

Do you remember the song from long ago, called "Smiling Faces Sometimes?" It went something like this, "Smiling faces, smiling faces tell lies...smiling faces they don't tell the truth."

Smiling faces only tell you words to appease you or tickle your fancy and what you salivate to hear, because of lustful desires. Smiling faces, especially smiling "always" constantly seem to be hiding something. It's up to us to open our eyes and ears to what is the truth.

All that glitters is not gold. Isn't there something wrong with this? You know a clown most of the time. When I have seen them, they always have a smiling face

painted on them or a mask. I never remember seeing or having a conversation with a clown. They have a face, but never say anything or at least nothing understandable or significant. Is this what we want? We're in serious times. As the saying goes, every time I look up there's something going on and a lot that's going on, but problems are not solved. Isn't there something wrong with that?

I am amazed about the millions of immigrants to the U.S. borders. Am I against immigrants? No. Am I against people coming into our country without following the citizenship steps? Yes, but I am not against the people individually or col-



lectively.

No, I am not against immigrants! But, what about people pouring in and schools having to be abandoned while the U.S. citizens (thousands are homeless). Isn't there something wrong with this equation?

With makeshift tents lining the streets and disrupting businesses in cities and towns throughout California, homelessness has become one of the most frustrating and seemingly intractable issues in the country's most populous state. An estimated 171,000 people are homeless in California, which amounts to roughly 30% of all the homeless people in the U.S. I don't know who

took that census, but it does not sound reliable.

Homelessness has become an epidemic. I have heard California received something like \$34 billion to fight homelessness. And they don't know where it went or where the money was spent to conquer the problem. Whatever was done, it didn't work and it's not working.

"It's just gotten easier for people to fall into homelessness and harder for people to exit homelessness," said Jeff Olivet, director of the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness.

What about the idea of the solution being to give money to new homeowners including immigrants? I don't have anything against immigrants or any other persons, but we have a problem here that laughing, and pie-in-the-sky solutions won't solve.

I could go on and on. We have a great country, but the U.S. moral standards have deteriorated. I haven't mentioned crime...just to see how our young people (assuming they are young people) are thinking the "way to go" is to steal and

rob others who are striving to keep their businesses open and operative.

Some seek power above all else and they keep laughing. What about those who hardly have enough money to feed and house themselves? And the power seekers keep on laughing.

While Eve was laughing (so to speak) more specifically in a state of comfort, she was laid back. Everything went to hell because she was deceived into thinking she had reached the pinnacle and heights of power.

She soon found out that she was caught off guard because her mind was not focused on the right things, and she wasn't really caring for those around her, so the adversary was able to take advantage. She disarmed herself with her shameful attitude and her husband and the entire universe of mankind.

And what about the ocean of fetuses? What about self-control and abstinence? Our younger generation needs to be taught. We have a responsibility to practice temperance.

I'm so concerned about

so many things. But, laughing and deception are not the answer. And allocating more money and spending more money doesn't solve the problem. Don't fall for the okay-doke. Don't drink the Kool-Aid.

This report concludes that "the state must do more to assess the cost-effectiveness of its homelessness programs," State Auditor Grant Parks wrote in a letter to Gov. Gavin Newsom and lawmakers.

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

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LOS ANGELES SENTINEL CLASSIFIED

<p>10 Rooms for Rent</p> <p>Furnished Room For Rent Shared Kitchen/Bathrm, working person/female preferred. South East LA nice area.\$700 mo plus \$250 Security. C. White 323.318.0304</p> <p>Rooms for Rent Men only...Single rooms for rent in Jefferson Park area...utilities paid...\$700 & \$850 month Derrick Smith...213 479-5653</p> <p>\$975 3 Bedroom House to Share w/ 2 Men (3rd Male Preferred) & Cable & Utills Included / Furnished. Quiet residential neighborhood, close to pub trans. * 1bd apt City 58 available 323.547.1511 / hollisrents.com</p> <p>Single/Shared Room for Rent PICO/CRENSHAW WASHER & DRYER HOOK UP ALMOST FULL, COME SEE WHY! 323-841-2485</p> <p>PRIVATE ROOM FOR RENT PRIVATE ROOM WITH GREAT NATURAL LIGHTING. STREET PARKING. SHARED KITCHEN AND LIVING ROOM. LAUNDRY ROOM ON SITE. WALKING DISTANCE FROM SOFI STADIUM, CINEPOLIS LUXURY MOVIE THEATER, HOLLYWOOD PARK CASINO, YOUTUBE THEATER AND SHOPPING CENTER. ONLY 3M TO LAX. 5M TO BEACH. EASY ACCESS TO 105 FRWY & 405 FRWY. \$895/MONTH UTILITIES INCLUDED Henry / 323-691-4421</p>	<p>50 Apartments - Unfurnished</p> <p>21, 2024 is the application window. Visit LanternTerraceApts.com to apply online. Paper applications can be picked up at 403 S. Mission Drive in San Gabriel CA 91776. Applications must be postmarked by 9/21/24. Leasing office may be reached at 626-842-4102, email LanternTerrace@related.com, or 403 S. Mission Drive in San Gabriel CA. Website is www.LanternTerraceApts.com for floor plans and online applications. Equal Housing Opportunity and ADA/EHO</p> <p>Newly updated 2bd now available. Lvly Nwly rem 2bd/1 bath Hdwd wind a/c heat. pkg w/hkup dep/credit/ref.ck \$2000 1438 1/2 W. 97th Street Leona Stevenson323-574-6556</p> <p>COMING SOON! 1 bd partly furn Carpet, drape lvgrm & brd Lndyrm, full bath. St pkg. Prefer 55+ \$1600 Call for more. Also,unfurn bachelor Nwly install floor, blind, sheer & fridge.All new for you. Full bth, microwave, lndryrm, st pkg. Utillies incl. \$850 both SOFI. Call (310) 677-6686</p> <p>Nice unfurn 1 bd apt Carpet, drape, sheer, wall furance. Full bth, large closet. Lndryroom. St pkg. Near SoFi \$1400 310-677-6686.</p> <p>Front House 2bd 1 bath city Section 8 voucher Washer/dryer hookup, ceiling fans throughout.Garage and off street parking. 90044 Ms. Coleman 323-947-9238</p> <p>Long Beach Beauty!! Completely Remodeled: Large 1 bed and bath apt. for rent at: 29 W. Bort St. Long Beach 90805. New kitchen & Bath, new appliances, laminate floors, recessed lights. \$1350. Call Fred / 310 649-1990</p> <p>Apt for Rent Two bdrm 1 bath unit of 1,000 sq ft of living space located within the Historic West Adams area with a city view nes-</p>	<p>50 Apartments - Unfurnished</p> <p>tled in a peaceful cul-de-sac. Fully renovated unit including wall heaters and remote powered ceiling fans. The building includes a laundry room as well as monitored security cameras. Rent: 3200 Deposit: 3200 SEC 8 Welcomed Contact Ron Smith, manager 909-312-8355</p> <p>Apartment for rent 1 BR 1 Bath fenced, gated, 1 parking space (no exceptions) Ready now, stove & fridge, owner pays water, sewer & trash only. No laundry hook up. All programs accepted. Call or text AC 951-313-8107 1116 W. 102nd St. LA 90044</p> <p>Upper 1 Bed 1 Bath Unfurnished apt, upstairs, 1 bed 1 bath, remodeled, onsite laundry 1750 Southwest L.A. Yvonne 3234222790 Jay 3234221026</p> <p>FULLY SECURED COMPLETELY REMODELED 1BD/ UNIT IN MID-CITY New kitchen, bath, vinyl floors, unit with parking in a clean, Safe, quiet environment. Close to Shopping & transportation \$2,400 month Sec 8 welcome 310-990-5524</p> <p>One Bedroom Apts 1 bd apt at 1859 W Vernon. Updated kitchen & bathroom. Freshly tiled floors & painted. \$2407 street parking only. Sharron 626-922-5222</p> <p>\$2300 Cozy Upstairs 1 Bedroom Apt. w/ Stove, Fridge, Garbage Dis, Ceiling Fans & A/C / Modern Up to Date w/ an open livingroom & kitchen. City 58 Welcomed 323.547.1511 www.hollisrents.com (apps on website)</p> <p>For Rent 1 Bedroom 91st and Budlong, \$1495 a month. Call Darryl 323-633-2079.</p>	<p>50 Apartments - Unfurnished</p> <p>2 Bedroom Apartment 2605 S. La Salle Ave Los Angeles, CA 90018 upstairs Senior Citizens, Section 8 and Veterans welcomed \$2400 Contact Gloria at 213-319-9640</p> <p>1 bedroom 1 bath Nice size / Newly Painted New Carpets 1623 1/2 W 39th Place, Los Angeles Contact Jerome / 213-220-2510</p> <p>Use 1 bd Section 8 for this 2bd 1 ba Duplex. Only \$2,375. New blinds & carpet plus ac. Recently remodeled kit & ba. Tile floor in kit & ba. New windows & doors are soundproof. Extra room for office & storage. Gated yard. CALL CAESAR / 310-704-6784</p> <p>Crenshaw/Slauson 1bedroom/1Bath Updated unit. Laminate Flooring. Nice size!!!! 310-417-8156</p> <p>Apartment for Rent Unfurnished. All appliances included; laundry room on site. Close to pub. trans & shops. Located in West Adams Contact (323) 935-5267</p> <p>2 BDRM., 2 BATH APT. LOWER TRIPLEX REMODELED UNIT GORGEOUS 2 BDRM., LOWER UNIT COMPLETELY REMODELED \$2,650/mo. PARKING INCLUDED (323) 804-7042</p>	<p>100 Houses/Apt to Share</p> <p>\$600/month-Elderly Male Roommate to Share Bedroom To share bed, bath, kitchen. In-home care is needed for errands/doc appts. No smoking Call Ms. Heard 3239558897</p>	<p>730 Real Estate for Sale</p> <p>"Carlton Square Prize" 3 bedroom 3 bath townhouse located in the legendary sought after complex. Will be loved by anyone who views it. It has too many amenities to list here but to name a few it has 2 stories with incredible master bedroom with its own private bath, walk-in & regular closet. A skywalk between bedrooms & family room off the kitchen with nice size backyard and more. It will not last please call me today. Murphy Richardson-agent 310-570-2533 dre #00753317</p> <p>Murietta Beauty This nice 3 bedroom, 2 full bath, with family room is a great starter home. Too many amenities to mention here. Priced for sale in an incredible neighborhood. Please hurry, it will not last! Contact Murphy Richardson Agent Lic #00753317 3105702533- Call anytime</p>
<p>50 Apartments - Unfurnished</p> <p>FIRST FLOOR 1BEDROOM APT One Bedroom Ground Floor Apartment Near Grocery Stores and Bus lines. New Paint. \$1975/mo Section 8 and All Programs Accepted 323-961-1598 Senior Age 62+ Bldg</p> <p>New Affordable Apt Homes Available in Alhambra New rental community at 103 N Chapel Ave in Alhambra Ca. Lantern Terrace will be accepting applications for studio, 1 bedroom, 2 bedroom and 3 bedroom apts. Sept 7-</p>	<p>230 Employment Opportunities</p> <p>Employment Opportunities - DST-121 Seeking a direct support professional. Housemanager, and/or 1 to 1. Working with developmentally disabled adults. Must pass livascan clearance, will train.In Pasadena. Chris Roberson 424-313-4816</p>	<p>370 Announcements</p> <p>READING COACH CERTIFICATES Are you passionate about helping others unlock the joy of reading? Join us as a Reading Coach! We are seeking dedicated individuals with a love for literature and a desire to make a difference. As a Reading Coach, you will work one-on-one with adult learners, guiding them to improve their reading skills and fostering a lifelong love for books. No experience needed, your enthusiasm and commitment to adult learner success is what truly matters. Go to the link below, and fill out the form if interested. Lisa Sprinkles (213)392-59716 https://rb.gov/jon658</p>	<p>390 Personals</p> <p>TRADE UP TRADE YOUR: Wife, Husband, Girlfriend or Boyfriend in for a COUGAR or an ENTREPRENEUR to do BUSINESS and/or PLEASURE! Contact Project Manager: www.cybertrades.org</p>	<p>90 Houses - Unfurnished</p> <p>New Refurbished 1 bedroom Section 8 Non Section 8, Veterans welcome. Call for details, 310-642-1952</p> <p>Sec 8 Welcomed Small 2 bedroom house we will accept a 1br voucher. House can only be used by someone who has little or no furniture. Newly remodeled. Near Main and Florence Call 323 969 9799</p>	<p>760 Real Estate Wanted</p> <p>WE BUY HOUSES/UNITS 3 day close 213-479-5659 Francisco 310-420-9599 Tracy Call or text tracy@hubilu.com</p>



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Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) will submit its Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development by September 27, 2024.

Los Angeles County Development Authority
700 W. Main Street
Alhambra, CA 91801

In addition, the Draft CAPER will also be available at the following locations:

1st District
Anthony Quinn Library, 3965 Cesar E. Chavez Ave., Los Angeles (323) 264-7715
Azusa Library, 729 N. Dalton Ave., Azusa (626) 812-5232

2nd District
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, 17906 S. Avalon Blvd., Carson (310) 327-4830
East Rancho Dominguez Library, 4420 Rose St., East Rancho Dominguez (310) 632-6193

3rd District
Agoura Hills Library, 29901 Ladyface Ct., Agoura Hills (818) 889-2278
Malibu Library, 23519 W. Civic Center Way, Malibu (310) 456-6438

4th District
El Segundo Library, 111 W. Mariposa Ave., El Segundo (310) 524-2722
Gardena Mayme Dear Library, 1731 W. Gardena Blvd., Gardena (310) 323-6363

5th District
Altadena Library, 600 E. Mariposa St., Altadena (626) 798-0833
Duarte Library, 1301 Buena Vista St., Duarte (626) 358-1865

Anyone wishing to comment should submit written comments by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 26, 2024, to the attention of Eric Fong, Reporting Analyst, Community Development Division-Grants Management Unit, at the LACDA address above or via email at eric.fong@lacda.org.

CNSB # 3847413

CIVIL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24PSCP00391
Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES
Petition of: Kailynn C Garcia, Dylan A Bocanegra on behalf of Everly Axelle Bocanegra for Change of Name

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner Kailynn C Garcia, Dylan A Bocanegra filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Everly Axelle Bocanegra to Everly Axelle Garcia-Bocanegra
The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

Notice of Hearing: Date: 10/18/2024, Time: 8:30AM, Dept.: H
The address of the court is 400 Civic Center Plaza 3rd Floor, Pomona, CA 91766
(To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Angeles Sentinel

DATE: 8/26/2024
Allison L. Westfahl Kong/ Judge
Judge of the Superior Court 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/24
CNS-3848656#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)
CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): 23CMCV01198

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): ATASHEYONNA PARKS, an Individual; FAIRY J. WILLIAMS, an Individual; DIANA SHORTS, an Individual; and DOES 1 through 25. YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO) EL DEMANDANTE): IGNACIO ESTRADA OJEDA

NOTICE: You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case.

you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.

NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 o más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso. The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 200 West Compton Blvd. Compton, California 90220

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Joshua E. Kohanin, Esq. FAIR CASES LAW GROUP P.O. Box 5800 Beverly Hills, CA 90209 ALDER LAWN, PC 12800 Riverside Drive, 2nd Floor, Valley Village, California 91607 DATE (Fecha): 07/31/2023 DAVID W. Slayton, Clerk (Secretario), by A. Corona, Deputy (Adjunto) (SEAL) 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/24 CNS-3848564# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24CHCP00337 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: TAMARA IMBER

for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner TAMARA IMBER filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

TAMARA ROSE IMBER to TAMARA ROSE IMBER ARTOLOZAGA

The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

Notice of Hearing: Date: 10/29/2024, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept.: F47. The address of the court is 9425 PENFIELD AVE CHATSWORTH 91311 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: LOS ANGELES SENTINEL
Date: 08/27/2024
MELVIN D. SANDVIG
Judge of the Superior Court 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/24
CNS-3848113#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24STCP02225 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: RAUL GUTIERREZ for Change of Name

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner RAUL GUTIERREZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

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

Notice of Hearing: Date: OCT 04, 2024, Time: 10:00AM, Dept.: 86, Room: 836
The address of the court is 111 NORTH HILL STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: LOS ANGELES SENTINEL
Date: 7/15/24
CURTIS A. KIN, JUDGE
Judge of the Superior Court 8/29, 9/5, 9/12, 9/19/24
CNS-3847551#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24STCP02681 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Petition of: Aeron Perry Brown for Change of Name

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner Aeron Perry Brown filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Aeron Perry Brown to Pluto Perry Brown
The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: OCT 28 2024, Time: 9:30AM, Dept.: 9, Room: 9
The address of the court is 312 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: L. A. Sentinel
Date: AUG 22 2024
ELAINE LU
Judge of the Superior Court 8/29, 9/5, 9/12, 9/19/24
CNS-3846755#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24SMCP00376 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: ROBERTO ORTIZ for Change of Name

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner ROBERTO ORTIZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

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

Notice of Hearing: Date: 9/13/2024, Time: 8:30AM, Dept.: K
The address of the court is 1725 MAIN STREET, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: LOS ANGELES SENTINEL
Date: JULY 17, 2024
LAWRENCE H. CHO
Judge of the Superior Court 8/22, 8/29, 9/5, 9/12/24
CNS-3843939#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24TRCP00318 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: LYDIA LIU LIU for Change of Name

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner LYDIA LIU LIU filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

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

Notice of Hearing: Date: October 4, 2024, Time: 08:30AM, Dept.: M
The address of the court is Torrance Courthouse, 825 Maple Avenue Torrance, CA 90503 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Angeles Sentinel
Date: 08/09/2024
Gary Y. Tanaka
Judge of the Superior Court 8/15, 8/22, 8/29, 9/5/24
CNS-3843113#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

1st AMENDED SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): 23STLC07045

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): Jensen Kumamoto YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO) EL DEMANDANTE): William Monette

NOTICE: You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response

at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.

NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 o más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso. The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Superior Court of California 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Afshin Siman, Esq., Siman Law Firm, 6363 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 118, Los Angeles, CA 90048, 424-229-9778 DATE (Fecha): 06/05/2024 David W. Slayton, Executive Officer/Clerk of Court, Clerk (Secretario), by G. Delgado, Deputy (Adjunto) (SEAL) 8/29, 9/5, 9/12, 9/19/24 CNS-3844226# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24TRCP00318 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: LYDIA LIU LIU for Change of Name

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner LYDIA LIU LIU filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

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

Notice of Hearing: Date: October 4, 2024, Time: 08:30AM, Dept.: M
The address of the court is Torrance Courthouse, 825 Maple Avenue Torrance, CA 90503 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Angeles Sentinel
Date: 08/09/2024
Gary Y. Tanaka
Judge of the Superior Court 8/15, 8/22, 8/29, 9/5/24
CNS-3843113#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

1st AMENDED SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): 23STLC07045

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): Jensen Kumamoto YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO) EL DEMANDANTE): William Monette

NOTICE: You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response

17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code), 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/24 CNS-3849215# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024177383

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: HOOD TUFF, 24867 NORTHERN DANCER DR., MORENO VALLEY, CA 92551 County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): WELDON JEFFRIES, P.O. BOX 9168, MORENO VALLEY, CA 92552 WILLIE SMITH, P.O. BOX 9168, MORENO VALLEY, CA 92552

This business is conducted by a General Partnership The registrant(s) started doing business on 08/2024. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)

S/ WELDON JEFFRIES, GENERAL PARTNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/22/2024. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code), 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/24 CNS-3849215# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024176580

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: ACADEMIC VISIONARY PARTNERS, 419 E. TAMARACK AVE UNIT 22, INGLEWOOD, CA 90301 County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): ANTOINETTE BOWIE-SMITH, 419 E. TAMARACK AVE UNIT 22, INGLEWOOD, CA 90301

GINA LUTCHER, 419 E. TAMARACK AVE UNIT 22, INGLEWOOD, CA 90301 This business is conducted by Co-Partners 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/ GINA LUTCHER, GENERAL PARTNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/21/2024. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code), 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/24 CNS-3849172# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024158394

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: JCM SERVICES, 16262 LONDELIOUS STREET, NORTH HILLS, CA 91343 County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): JUAN CARLOS MARTINEZ, 16262 LONDELIOUS STREET, NORTH HILLS, CA 91343 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/ JUAN CARLOS MARTINEZ, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/14/2024. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code), 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/24 CNS-3849150# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

07/29/2024. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code), 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/24 CNS-3849161# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024181548

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SAL TRUCKING, 6115 S HARVARD BLVD LOS ANGELES, CA 90047, County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): SALVADOR ISRAEL PENA, 6115 S HARVARD BLVD LOS ANGELES, CA 90047 This business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 09/2015 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/ SALVADOR ISRAEL PENA, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on AUG 28, 2024 NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code), 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/24 CNS-3849156# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024178708

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: LUCK BARBER SHOP, 4904 S. VERMONT AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90037, County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): BLANCA UN RAMA, 4904 S. VERMONT AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90037 This business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)

S/ BLANCA UN RAMA, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 8/26/2024 NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form.

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code), 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/24 CNS-3849150# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024182795

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TOSHA'S PROVIDER RIDER SERVICE, 838 1/2 WEST 66TH STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90044, County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): LATOSHA RENE HOUSTON, 838 1/2 WEST 66TH STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90044 This business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913

BRITTANY SIMONE DANIELS: REDEFINING SUCCESS IN HOLLYWOOD ON HER TERMS

BY NATHAN LEE
Contributing Writer



Brittany Simone Daniels
COURTESY PHOTO

Hollywood is a place where dreams can either soar or crash. For Brittany Simone Daniels, an award-winning actress and Dallas native, her journey exemplifies relentless hustle, staying true to her roots, and unwavering dedication to her purpose.

Brittany's journey in Hollywood has been marked by significant achievements that showcase her talent and dedication. In 2023, she won the Best Drama Actor award for her performance in "Mind Yours," a short film she co-directed and co-produced as part of the

County" and "Dancers for Sale," further solidifying her versatility and growing presence in the industry.

For Daniels, the entertainment industry is not just about glitz and glamour. It is about staying true to her roots and her faith. "I often ask myself, 'What does God say about me? Who does He say that I am?'" she reflects.

This grounding has kept her focused, especially during challenging times like the recent industry strike, which highlighted the growing tensions between creatives and studios over fair compensation and creative control, leaving many actors, in a state of uncertainty. However, for Brit-

tany, it was also a period of reflection and resilience, underscoring the importance of mental and spiritual well-being in an industry that can be as unpredictable as it is rewarding.

"People thought things would pick up immediately after the strike, but that hasn't been the case," Brittany notes. "It's been a lesson in learning to let go of expectations and focusing on what God has planned for me."

"Hollywood is tough. It's not what you see on TV—it's a grind, and it can be mentally and emotionally draining," Brittany shares. "There were times when I thought I should be further along, but I've

learned there's no timeline for success in this industry. It's about trusting the process and believing that everything happens in its own time" she continues.

Raised in a close-knit Christian household, her parents instilled principles that have become the foundation of her journey in the entertainment industry: hard work, faith, and perseverance.

Despite the ups and downs, Daniels remains committed to her craft. "I want to do work that not only I can be proud of, but that my family can be proud of too," she says. "I don't want to compromise who I am or what I believe in for the sake of success."

Brittany's journey is not just about personal achievement; it's about representing her community and paving the way for future Black creatives in Hollywood. "I know that I'm not just here for myself," she says. "There's a purpose behind everything I do, and I'm committed to fulfilling it."

As Brittany continues to carve out her path in Hollywood, she serves as a powerful example of what it means to stay true to yourself, your faith, and your community in the face of adversity.

Her story reminds us that success is not defined by the destination but by the journey itself.

Public Notices

PARTNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/14/2024.

NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
8/22, 8/29, 9/5, 9/12/24
CNS-3845372#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024154510
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: ENDURANCE, 3020 E POPPY ST, LONG BEACH, CA 90805 County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): JOSE LUIS RUIZ ALFERES, 3020 E POPPY ST, LONG BEACH, CA 90805
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/ JOSE LUIS RUIZ ALFERES, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/23/2024.

NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
8/22, 8/29, 9/5, 9/12/24
CNS-3845364#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
File No. 2024173533
Current File No.: 2019237215
Date Filed: September 3, 2019
DIVINE DECOR LLC, 2013 W. 109TH STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90047
Registered Owner(s): DIVINE DECOR LLC, 2013 W. 109TH STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90047; CA Business was conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY.
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
S/ DJUNA CLARK, CEO
DIVINE DECOR, LLC
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on AUG 16, 2024.
8/22, 8/29, 9/5, 9/12/24
CNS-3845361#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024174235
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: 1. OFF THE WALL PROPERTY, 2. O.T.W.P., 930 ENTERPRISE AVE 17 INGLEWOOD, CA 90302. County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): FONZEL LAMONT HARRIS, 930 ENTERPRISE AVE 17 INGLEWOOD, CA 90302
This business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name

or names listed above on 08/20/24.
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/ FONZEL LAMONT HARRIS, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on AUG 19, 2024
NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Business 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).
8/22, 8/29, 9/5, 9/12/24
CNS-3845306#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024157425
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: FAT BUNNY, 8025 W SUNSET BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90046 County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): SUNSET RETAILER LLC, 8025 W SUNSET BLVD 8025 W SUNSET BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90046; State of Incorporation: CA
This business is conducted by a limited liability company
The registrant(s) started doing business on 05/20/24.
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/ GEORGE CANNON, SECRETARY
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of

Public Notices

Los Angeles County on 07/26/2024.
NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
8/15, 8/22, 8/29, 9/5/24
CNS-3842469#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024158146
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: BRYAN'S TILE INSTALLATION, 1841 SWEETBRIER ST, PALMDALE, CA 93550 County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): BRYAN ALEXIS FLORES TRUCIOS, 1841 SWEETBRIER ST, PALMDALE, CA 93550
This business is conducted by an Individual
The registrant(s) started doing business on 07/20/24.
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/ BRYAN ALEXIS FLORES TRUCIOS, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/26/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024167882
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: BUSYBEE FUNDRAISING, 15007 E. POPLAR AVENUE, HACIENDA HEIGHTS, CA 91745 County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): LEANDRA YVETTE GOMEZ, 15007 E. POPLAR AVENUE, HACIENDA HEIGHTS, CA 91745
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/ LEANDRA YVETTE GOMEZ, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/09/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024167882
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: BUSYBEE FUNDRAISING, 15007 E. POPLAR AVENUE, HACIENDA HEIGHTS, CA 91745 County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): LEANDRA YVETTE GOMEZ, 15007 E. POPLAR AVENUE, HACIENDA HEIGHTS, CA 91745
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/ LEANDRA YVETTE GOMEZ, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/09/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024164045
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: DADDY DAVE'S, 6732 CRENSHAW BLVD UNIT 4, LOS ANGELES, CA 90043, County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): DAVID WILLIAMS, 4525 DON PABLO PLACE, LOS ANGELES CA 90008, WALTER CLAYTON, 4428 W 60TH STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90043
This business is conducted by: COPARTNERS
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 08/20/24.
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/ DAVID WILLIAMS, GENERAL PARTNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on AUGUST 5, 2024
NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024161625
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MERTZANIS RACING, 3940 WESTSIDE AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90008 County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): DENNIS MERTZANIS, 3940 WESTSIDE AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90008
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/ DENNIS MERTZANIS, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/01/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024164045
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: DADDY DAVE'S, 6732 CRENSHAW BLVD UNIT 4, LOS ANGELES, CA 90043, County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): DAVID WILLIAMS, 4525 DON PABLO PLACE, LOS ANGELES CA 90008, WALTER CLAYTON, 4428 W 60TH STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90043
This business is conducted by: COPARTNERS
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 08/20/24.
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/ DENNIS MERTZANIS, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/01/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024161625
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MERTZANIS RACING, 3940 WESTSIDE AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90008 County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): DENNIS MERTZANIS, 3940 WESTSIDE AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90008
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/ DENNIS MERTZANIS, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/01/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024161625
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MERTZANIS RACING, 3940 WESTSIDE AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90008 County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): DENNIS MERTZANIS, 3940 WESTSIDE AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90008
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/ DENNIS MERTZANIS, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/01/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024161625
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MERTZANIS RACING, 3940 WESTSIDE AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90008 County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): DENNIS MERTZANIS, 3940 WESTSIDE AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90008
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/ DENNIS MERTZANIS, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/01/2024.

Public Notices

Los Angeles County on 07/26/2024.
NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
8/15, 8/22, 8/29, 9/5/24
CNS-3842469#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024160113
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: YABOY MOTORSPORTS, 2323 247TH STREET, LOMITA, CA 90717 County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): DEBBIE C GIVENS, 2323 247TH STREET, LOMITA, CA 90717
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/ DEBBIE C GIVENS, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/30/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024158146
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: BRYAN'S TILE INSTALLATION, 1841 SWEETBRIER ST, PALMDALE, CA 93550 County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): BRYAN ALEXIS FLORES TRUCIOS, 1841 SWEETBRIER ST, PALMDALE, CA 93550
This business is conducted by an Individual
The registrant(s) started doing business on 07/20/24.
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/ BRYAN ALEXIS FLORES TRUCIOS, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/26/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024167882
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: BUSYBEE FUNDRAISING, 15007 E. POPLAR AVENUE, HACIENDA HEIGHTS, CA 91745 County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): LEANDRA YVETTE GOMEZ, 15007 E. POPLAR AVENUE, HACIENDA HEIGHTS, CA 91745
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/ LEANDRA YVETTE GOMEZ, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/09/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024167882
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: BUSYBEE FUNDRAISING, 15007 E. POPLAR AVENUE, HACIENDA HEIGHTS, CA 91745 County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): LEANDRA YVETTE GOMEZ, 15007 E. POPLAR AVENUE, HACIENDA HEIGHTS, CA 91745
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/ LEANDRA YVETTE GOMEZ, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/09/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024161625
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MERTZANIS RACING, 3940 WESTSIDE AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90008 County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): DENNIS MERTZANIS, 3940 WESTSIDE AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90008
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/ DENNIS MERTZANIS, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/01/2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2024164045
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: DADDY DAVE'S, 6732 CRENSHAW BLVD UNIT 4, LOS ANGELES, CA 90043, County of LOS ANGELES
Registered owner(s): DAVID WILLIAMS, 4525 DON PABLO PLACE, LOS ANGELES CA 90008, WALTER CLAYTON, 4428 W 60TH STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90043
This business is conducted by: COPARTNERS
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 08/20/24.
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/ DAVID WILLIAMS, GENERAL PARTNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on AUGUST 5, 2024
NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section

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S/ DENNIS MERTZANIS, OWNER
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S/ DENNIS MERTZANIS, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 08/01/2024.

Public Notices

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).
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This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/26/2024.

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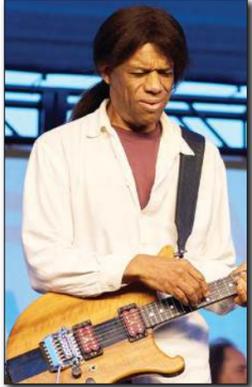


ENTERTAINMENT

Thousands Enjoy Renowned Musicians and Rising Stars at Leimert Park Jazz Festival

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Managing Editor

The Leimert Park Jazz Festival transformed the upper parking deck of the Baldwin Hills – Crenshaw Plaza into an incredible community experience for more than 3,000 people attending the event on Aug. 31.



COURTESY PHOTO
Stanley Jordan electrifies the audience.

With a line-up ranging from legendary artists such as guitarist Stanley Jordan to rising stars like saxophonist Chris Powe, the crowd was musically entertained throughout the day. Other performers were the Billy Childs Trio, Gilbert Castellanos Quintet, Justo Almarino's Afro-Colombian Ensemble, and the Fernando Pullum Community Arts Jazz Band with special guests Nolan Shaheed on trumpet and George

Bohanon on trombone.

Co-hosts Jose Rizo and Ron G kept the audience engaged and amused between sets as they shared jazz facts and cracked funny jokes. Also, guests enjoyed an array of food from various vendors along with libations courtesy of the wine and beer lounge.

The Kid's Zone was another great aspect that reflected the festival's mission to provide activities for all ages. The special area not only offered fun and games for young people, but also featured a tortoise education and adoption segment complete with live animals.



COURTESY PHOTO
The art competition presentation included, from left, Larry Early, judge; Diane Robertson, executive producer; Gail Oliver, finalist; DeMario Morgan, finalist; Steven O'Connor, judge; and Imad Obegi, winner.

In addition, the 5th Annual Art Competition enticed more involvement from the community with local artists contributing original works to the contest. The winner was Imad Obegi for creating "Rhythms of Leimert Park,"

which he called "a vintage-style poster image that captures the liveliness of jazz." The finalists were DeMario Morgan for painting "Soul of Music" and Gail Oliver for her artwork "I Am A Jazz Man Guardian Angel."

Judges for the art competition were Charles Bibbs, internationally acclaimed artist; Steven O'Connor, logo designer and winner of the 2023 art competition; and Khalil Kinsey and Larry Early, chief curator and senior curator, respectfully, of the Kinsey African American Art & History Collection.

Pleased with the out-

come of the event, Diane Robertson, executive producer in association with The World Stage, described it as showcasing "the vibrant culture of Leimert Park and South L.A." as well as authenticating the neighborhood as a tourist attraction.



COURTESY PHOTO
Billy Childs plays a dazzling selection.

"I am also motivated by the chance to promote, revitalize, and nurture the rich tradition of jazz through free and low-cost programs that attract both jazz enthusiasts and newcomers while uplifting and uniting our diverse community," said Robertson, a Leimert Park resident who launched the Sutro Avenue Summer Soirée Block Party that blossomed into the nonprofit Leimert Park Jazz Festival.

"The festival is gaining recognition as a model for high-quality, community-centered, culturally significant programming. It also contributes to the economic vitality of South Los Angeles by attracting visitors, supporting local businesses, and establishing itself as a key destination in the area," she noted.

Robertson also expressed appreciation to the sponsors and supporters of the festival. The list included Baldwin Hill Crenshaw

Plaza, County Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell, L.A. Councilmembers Heather Hutt and Marqueece Harris-Dawson, Wells Fargo, U.S. Bank and Weingart Foundation. Also contributing were Assemblymember Isaac Bryan, Metro, Destination Crenshaw, Victoria Foyt, Diana Buckhantz-Vladimir and Araxia Buckhantz Foundation, BAI, Kawai, Crowns & Hops, KJAZZ, KCRW, and David Bohnett.

As for the future, Robertson said the Leimert Park Jazz Festival will continue to provide low-cost programming throughout the

year. Currently, the nonprofit hosts Sunday Jazz at ORA (formerly Hot & Cool Café) on the fourth Sunday of each month from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

ORA is located 4331 Degnan Blvd., in the historic Leimert Park Village neighborhood of Los Angeles. Sunday Jazz at ORA showcases bands for the first hour and holds an open jam session during the second hour.

Outlining past collaborations, Roberts said, "We partnered with The World Stage in February to present a program on 'The History of Jazz in Leimert Park: Past, Present, Future.' In May, we worked with Dr. Ronald C. McCurdy, a professor in the Jazz Studies Department at USC, to present a program on 'Activism, Social Justice, and Jazz,' with plans for a follow-up on Sunday, Nov. 17."

To learn more or obtain the newsletter, visit LeimertParkJazzFestival.org and stay connected on Instagram and Facebook.



COURTESY PHOTO
Nolan Shaheed performs with the Fernando Pullum Community Arts Jazz Band.

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Chukwudi Iwuji Headlines 'Cyrano de Bergerac' at Pasadena Playhouse



BY KEITH L. UNDERWOOD
Contributing Writer

The Pasadena Playhouse will be presenting its production of the timeless stage play "Cyrano de Bergerac" on Sept. 4. It is scheduled to end its run on Sept. 29, and stars Chukwudi Iwuji in the title role.

Iwuji is widely popular for portraying the dynamic



COURTESY PHOTO
Chukwudi Iwuji as "High Evolutionary" in "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3."

supervillain High Evolutionary in the Marvel film "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3." He also plays Clemson Murn in the Max streaming series "Peacemaker." They are both successful comic book genre franchises.

The online adoration for Iwuji's portrayal of both characters should be of no surprise, especially since he was a classically trained stage actor first.

Nigerian born, Iwuji attended boarding school in England, and it was in England where he first discovered his passion for the theatre. He began performing at the Royal Shakespeare Company and has engaged international audiences ever since.

Iwuji said there is not much difference between theatre in the United Kingdom and theatre in the United States.

"If I were to say there was a big difference -- there is much more of a culture of apprenticeships still in the U.K.," he said.

"For instance," Iwuji continued, "I finished drama school here in the states, and then went back to the U.K.... There's a real culture of bringing young actors in... whereas I find here in the states drama school, there isn't really



COURTESY PHOTO
Chukwudi Iwuji in the Pasadena Playhouse production of "Cyrano de Bergerac."

that much subsidized theatre -- there isn't that much opportunity to apprentice."

Iwuji explained that actors are expected to pay for classes here in the United States, but in England, training is given with the intent of an actor working for the company. He also feels actors in the U.K. are immersed more in classic plays.

The classic tale of Cyrano de Bergerac centers around a man with a large nose who feels he is not good-looking enough to gain the love of his cousin, Roxane. He pens letters that his handsome friend,

Christian, puts his name on to help Christian earn Roxane's love.

Amongst many stage productions, and film and television adaptations of "Cyrano de Bergerac," Iwuji said playwright Martin Crimp's translation of the piece is different because it is "sexy, hilarious, and modern."

"Because we don't want it to be just another Cyrano, we're trying to understand the relationships with these characters," said Iwuji. "And for all the fun and hilarity, and buoyance -- there are some really damaged people who

are all seeking stuff they never get. The three protagonists never get what they want."

Iwuji contended that the Pasadena Playhouse production of "Cyrano de Bergerac" is more human than previous iterations of the work. He said it is a modern production that audiences will connect with.

Regarding his previous work in two successful superhero franchises, Iwuji said he would not have called himself a comic book fan before "Guardians" and "Peacemaker," but he and his siblings did grow up with comics.

"I grew up in Lagos, Nigeria," said Iwuji. "My older siblings -- my brothers had been born in England, so by the time I was born, my family had moved back to Nigeria, but they still had all these subscriptions to comic books."

"If we had those comics, now," Iwuji continued, "the amount of money we would be sitting on -- original editions -- and all that stuff. So, I grew up with Marvel and DC."

Although, Iwuji said he stopped reading comics at adolescence, he was a big fan of the DC and Marvel live-action adaptations

before appearing them, but never imagined himself in them.

"Never once did I think I would be a part of it," said Iwuji. "I just thought I would always be a fan from the outside." Iwuji said the



COURTESY PHOTO
Chukwudi Iwuji in "Peacemaker."

mix of "elegance and danger" in portraying a comic book villain is kin to the nature of being a thespian.

For more information on the Pasadena Playhouse production of "Cyrano de Bergerac" starring Chukwudi Iwuji, visit www.pasadenaplayhouse.org.

Lee Daniels' 'The Deliverance' is Now Streaming on Netflix



"The Deliverance" Clips and Conversations Event host Candice Marie Benbow and featured guests Director Lee Daniels, Dr. Teddy Reeves, and Dr. Nichole R. Phillips of Emory University.

BY SHELBY STEPHENS
Contributing Writer

On Thursday, August 29, the Netflix Roma Theater hosted the Clips and Conversation event that took place ahead of the premiere of Lee Daniels' newest movie "The Deliverance."

Clips and Conversations was a discussion-focused screening intended to explore the religious themes of the film, hosted by multi-genre theologian Candice Marie Benbow with director Lee Daniels, Dr. Teddy Reeves of gODTalk, and Dr. Nichole R. Phillips of Emory University.

The panelists had the chance to voice their opinions surrounding the story. The Deliverance premiered on Netflix Friday, Aug. 30.

The movie is inspired by a true story about a family living in a home in Indiana experiencing strange, demonic occurrences that convince them and the community that the house is a portal to hell. Benbow describes the film as "profound work focused on what it means to be faithful when the world gives you reasons not to be. A cultur-

al production that we will be feasting on for a long time." Clips and Conversations screened the movie trailer along with three additional clips that prompted honest and intuitive discussions around horror, religion, and family, and how they intersect.

Philadelphia native Lee Daniels has worked in entertainment since the mid-80s, and according to his biography on IMDb, he has worked on classic films like "Purple Rain" (1984) and "Under the Cherry Moon" (1986). Under his production company, Lee Daniels Entertainment, their first film "Monster's Ball" (2001) starred Billy Bob Thornton, the late Heath Ledger and Halle Berry, who won an Oscar for Best Actress. In the 2000s, Daniels blessed the entertainment industry with "Glitter" (2001), "Shadowboxer" (2005), "Tennessee" (2008), and then dropped the bomb with "Precious" in 2009.

Daniels is widely known for his Academy Award winning film "Precious: Based on the Novel 'Push' by Sapphire." The film was adapted from the New York Times-best-

selling novel "Push by Sapphire" (a.k.a. Ramona Lofton).

When asked about his motivation behind creating "The Deliverance," Daniels shared, "I make movies for me. I wanted to get closer to Jesus so if I needed this journey, I wondered how many other people need it."

Daniels was the first African American to be nominated for a Director's Guild of America Award for Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Feature Film on behalf of "Precious." The film won both the Grand Jury Prize and Audience Award in the U.S. Dramatic Competition at the 2009 Sundance

Film Festival, only the third film in Festival history to do so.

The film was also nominated for three Golden Globe awards including Best Picture Drama and was nominated for eight and won six NAACP Image Awards in categories including Outstanding Motion Picture and Outstanding Directing in a Motion Picture, Theatrical or Television. The film also garnered a total of five 2010 Independent Spirit Awards, including Best Feature and Best Director.

During Clips and Conversations, Dr. Nichole R. Phillips, who teaches African American Religion and Cultural Society at

Emory University, explained her perspective on support and how this theme is shown in the movie.

"Deliverance is daily, you're being delivered by and/or from something daily. Faith is enough but it is not all. Ebony's character might need to utilize talk therapy," Phillips said.

"It does not mean she is crazy; we all go through this life, this journey, where there are some places in our lives when we go through maladjustments. Talking to family and friends might not be enough. Seeking professional or grief counsel at church could be helpful, as the film presents these options," she noted.

"An example could be Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). AA understands deliverance is daily and coming into a space not feeling isolated and finding those types of support

systems is helpful. Finding areas of support keeps us free."

Each clip from the movie foreshadowed a bigger theme in Black culture as it relates to religion, family, and systematic obstacles. As the conversation began to close, Dr. Reeves shared the same sentiments as Dr. Phillips about the meaning of deliverance and how it shows up in our lives.

"The film shows us the journey of deliverance. We live in a culture that thinks deliverance is instant. Deliverance is every day that I wake up and try again," Reeves explained.

"Historical context is important to understand why Black people are so religious and the film helps decentralize the process but highlights the importance of faith."

"The Deliverance" is now streaming on Netflix.



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Student Athlete of the Week: Christina Gray

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Editor

Junior Christina Gray has no problem helping maintain the Carson Colts women's track and field legacy. She has won City Section championships and competed in the CIF State meet during her first two years at Carson.

"It makes me feel very special that I'm able to help my team," Gray said. "It feels very good to know that our hard work doesn't go unappreciated and we made it this far, two years in a row."

During the 2024 City Section finals, Gray matched the City Section record for the 100m, run-

ning a 11.68s record. The record was set in 1982.

Gray is a two-time City Section Champion in the long jump. She qualified for the Junior Olympics in this event when she was younger.

"I've been doing long jump since I was I think eight," she said. "I saw my other teammates doing long jump and I only did it because it was fun. But then I just happened to be good at it."

Gray has seen her former teammates go on to Division I colleges; she is inspired by them and hopes to follow in their footsteps.

Gray has also helped the 4x100m relay teams



Carson junior Christina Gray is a two-time City Section champion in the long jump.

reach the State championships twice. She mentioned how her teammates

console each other.

"I talk to all my teammates, we pray," Gray said.

"We just talk together. We try to ease each other's nerves but once we get on the track, it all goes away."

According to Gray, being a student athlete means being a role model. The coaches of the track team also push the students to excel in the classroom.

"To be an athlete on any team, the requirements are 2.0 but my coach's requirements to be on the track team is a 3.8 GPA," Gray said. "I know that I have to stay above that in order to stay on the track team."

When it comes to academics, Gray enjoys learning about math and computer science.

"We learn how to code, we create video games every week. We're learning how to create apps," Gray said. "We're learning how to get through the internet ... safety of the internet, a lot of things that have to do with technology in the future."

Outside of academics and athletics, Gray volunteers for Help Mates for Hope. Her mother runs the nonprofit; Gray assists with the various events the organization hosts.

"She helps me be helpful," Gray said. "She does clothing drives, she does school drives for kids. We put together backpacks, hand them out."

Rams Donate to Heads Up Foundation

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Editor

The Los Angeles Rams partnered with the Heads Up Foundation to provide school supplies and backpacks to youth during the Everybody Plays and Learns Back to School

resource fair.

The Heads Up Foundation provides assistance to at-risk youth and young adults by hosting meal distributions, backpack giveaways and toy drives. The organization CEO Subrina Miller was in for an emotional surprise when Rams

associate manager of social justice and football development Noel Grigsby and mascot Rampage presented her with a five thousand dollar check during the resource fair.

"I'm overwhelmed with gratitude," Miller said. "I appreciate being recognized."

Miller is a 2024 pLaymaker, an initiative the Rams created to honor the memory of football icon Kenny Washington. Each year, the Rams choose 13 pLaymakers: people who are inspiring change and fixing disparities in the community. Washington wore the no. 13 jersey during his time playing for the Rams.

"[Miller] is amazing.

She does things not anticipating anything in return," Grigsby said. "I think they're one of those organizations that sees the need in the community and tries to provide a solution."

People who attended the resource fair got a chance to get free meals, haircuts, and services.

"We want the parents not to worry about anything to go back to school," Miller said. "We have socks ... we have pampers for parents and milk. We have all that is needed."

Several organizations were involved in the resource fair, including the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, the Al Barro Foundation, Girl's Club of Los



Heads Up Foundation CEO Subrina Miller (second to right) poses with Rams donation.

Angeles and Planet Fitness. Attendees also enjoyed live music and youth could play in inflatable obstacle courses.

"To be in the midst of people that love to give back, it's a humbling experience," Miller said. "I'm grateful for it and I appreciate all that have come out."

Miller also has a son who worked with the Rams.

"Her son is one of our youth engagement coaches," Grigsby said. "Just like [Miller], he's consistent, he's always coming with a smile on his face."

Both Miller and the Rams acknowledged all the people who volunteered during the resource fair.

"Being the pLaymaker that she is, [Miller] wants to make sure that she celebrated not only herself but everyone," Grigsby said.

"It's an amazing opportunity to come out here in the community ... the Rams organization is here to lend them a helping hand whenever needed."

For more information about the Heads Up Foundation, please visit <https://www.headsupfoundationinc.org/>



Youth were able to get a free backpack.



Several organizations provided services during the resource fair.



Families were able to get resources to kick off the new school year.

Surf Documentary Honored at Uninterrupted Film Festival

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Editor

The second annual Uninterrupted Film Festival allowed fans access to exclusive programming,

elite athletes and insightful panels. It also gave a platform to filmmakers telling unique stories about athletes.

A selection committee consisting of tennis star

Naomi Osaka, Lakers great LeBron James, and seven-time NBA All-Star Joel Embiid picked eight films to screen during the festival. Among the eight, the selection committee presented an award to the documentary "Moving Mountains."

The documentary follows surfer Tre'lan Michael and his deep relationship with the ocean and big wave surfing. "Moving Mountains" director and executive producer Jessa Williams wanted to create a documentary about Michael after developing a romantic relationship with him.

"As I was getting to know him and he was talking to me about his love of surfing and his relationship with the water and how deep that relationship was to him, I was really moved by what he was saying," Williams said. "As we continued dating and getting to know each other, I started to learn more about his backstory."



(L-R) Jessa Williams and Tre'lan Michael at the second annual Uninterrupted Film Festival.

Williams was inspired by his story and thought best to share with others. While she did not have formal training in filmmaking, Williams has over a decade of marketing experience. That enhanced her ability to tell a story and create content. Williams also knows how to relate to others.

"I know and understand innately people and how to listen to their stories, connect with them through listening to them," Williams said. "It was meeting [Michael] and being so inspired by [Michael] that even though I didn't feel like I had all the pieces, I moved forward with figur-

ing out how to get the pieces."

Earning the award was surreal for [Michael]; he called the committee of athletes "titans."

"Somebody that means so much to me on an individual basis meaning [James] even knew that I exist is a trippy experience," Michael said. "If it wasn't for [Williams], it probably wouldn't have happened."

A native of Cleveland, Williams has followed James and Maverick Carter as they developed Uninterrupted. Having "Moving Mountains" selected to be in the film festival felt like an award, according to Williams.

"This is an example of one of those many stories that typically goes untold and that's why we love Uninterrupted," Williams said. "It doesn't take being a professional athlete or a superstar athlete to be able to move people and inspire people through your own life story"

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DR. GEORGE MCKENNA RETIRES {Continued from A-1}

neighborhood in New Orleans and we both are alumni of the famous St. Augustine High School and are forever connected as Purple Knights.

“But George has been so much more to me, my family and our community than simply colleagues or associates. George is and has always been ‘My Brother in the Struggle’ to uplift and enhance the lives of Black people. George has served on the Board of Directors of the Brotherhood Crusade for well over 30 years and he has always been the first person I called when we needed to address or support issues that affected the children of our community,” said Bakewell, who serves as chairman of the board of the Brotherhood Crusade and executive publisher of the Los Angeles Sentinel.

“As we celebrate his long and illustrious career, the entire community says,

‘Thank You, Dr. George McKenna,’ for all of your tireless work to educate, motivate and protect the children of our community,” added Bakewell.

Dr. McKenna’s retirement celebration will be held on Sunday, Nov. 17, at 11 a.m., at the Sheraton Grand Hotel, 711 S. Hope St., in downtown Los Angeles. Wendy Raquel Robinson will serve as emcee and the co-hosts are Yolanda “YoYo” Whitaker and Dr. Dechell



FILE PHOTO
During the COVID-19 pandemic, McKenna joins city leaders in urging the public to get vaccinated.

Byrd. Proceeds will benefit the California Student Achievement Foundation (C-SAF).

C-SAF, a nonprofit organization, was founded by Dr. McKenna in 2015 to empower underserved children to achieve lifelong success. According to its website, “Dr. McKenna intent is for C-SAF to provide leadership and scholarships to public high school graduating seniors desiring to achieve higher educational degrees.”



FILE PHOTO
McKenna participated in Read Across America Day hosted by Mothers In Action.

The board member has had a storied career in the Los Angeles Unified School District as a math teacher, dean, assistant principal, principal and local district superintendent of Local Area 7. He has worked in schools across the District including Jordan High School, Foshay Learning Center, Cochran Middle School, and Dorsey High School.

As principal of Washington Preparatory High School from 1978-1988, he experi-

enced such significant accomplishments that Hollywood created a movie about him with Denzel Washington playing McKenna. His successes included raising student achievement, strengthening parent and community involvement, launching a peer counseling program among students, and growing the school enrollment from 1,200 to over 2,800 during his tenure.

During his tenure on the LAUSD Board, he devel-

oped historic community partnerships that led to all LAUSD students receiving TAP cards District wide after the pilot that originated in District 1 via the South Los Angeles Transit Empowerment Zone (SLATE-Z), Fender Play Foundation introducing their suite of educational programming for students which led to the development and passing of Proposition 28 in 2022 that now provides statewide funding for Arts education, and passed legislation to expand opportunities for small and micro businesses to contract with LAUSD.

Previously, Dr. McKenna served as a superintendent in Inglewood Unified, deputy superintendent in Compton Unified, as well as an assistant superintendent in the Pasadena Unified School District.

The public is invited to attend the retirement celebration and scholarship fundraiser. Visit www.c-saf.org.

DESTINATION CRENSHAW {Continued from A-1}

architect to become a member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) in 1923 and was later inducted as its first Black Fellow in 1957.

His architectural legacy spans nearly six decades, during which he designed over 3,000 structures, including homes for Hollywood icons like Frank Sinatra and Lucille Ball, as well as significant civic and commercial buildings throughout the city.

Gabrielle Bullock, a principal architect on the

Destination Crenshaw project, spoke passionately about Williams’ influence on her career.

“Many of us, especially Black architects, never learned about Paul Williams in school,” Bullock admitted.

“But we stand on his shoulders today. His work was not just about buildings; it was about uplifting communities and creating spaces that reflect our dreams and aspirations.”

Born in Valdosta, Geor-

gia, and later establishing his artistic roots in Los Angeles, Patrick Henry Johnson is no stranger to creating powerful public art. Johnson’s works have adorned neighborhoods across L.A. and beyond. His latest masterpiece, “The Pawn Who Became a King,” uses the checkerboard motif — a nod to Williams’ use of patterns in pool designs and interiors.

The mural’s swirling water, dramatic waves, and bold architectural imagery

are layered with meaning, representing the complexities of Williams’ journey as a Black architect in a segregated America. At the unveiling, Johnson expressed his gratitude to the community and those who supported him throughout the project.

“Creating this mural was the most fun I’ve ever had on a job,” Johnson shared.

“I was driven by a desire to honor a man who not only shaped the physical landscape of Los Angeles but also inspired generations of Black architects to dream big.”

Johnson’s personal connection to the mural is evident in every brushstroke. “I wanted him to appear dignified yet accessible, someone who reached for greatness despite the odds,” Johnson explained.

“My favorite part of this painting is the water. It symbolizes the fluidity of his genius and the waves of change he created.”

Jordan Adero, Williams’ great-granddaughter, expressed her pride in seeing her ancestor’s contributions recognized in such a profound way.



LILA BROWN/LA.SENTINEL
Johnson is presented with a commendation from the L.A. City Council.

“My great-grandmother, Mama D, was the backbone of our family, standing by my great-grandfather’s side through all his personal and professional endeavors,” Adero told the Sentinel.

“For this mural to be on Crenshaw Boulevard, in the neighborhood my great-grandfather loved, is such a privilege,” Adero said.

“This is a celebration not just of his legacy but of the spirit of Black Los Angeles. He poured his heart into projects like the 28th Street YMCA, the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Building, and First AME Church. These places are more than just buildings; they are pillars of our South LA community, reflecting his deep love for this area.”

Trenton Whetstone, a public safety officer who once dreamed of becoming an architect, spoke emotion-

ally about the impact of seeing a Black architect honored in his own community.

“If I had known about Paul Williams when I was younger, my life might have been different,” Whetstone reflected. “This mural shows our young people that there’s a place for them in fields like architecture.”

As Destination Crenshaw moves forward, Jason Foster shared exciting plans for the future, including the completion of additional murals by emerging Black artists and the creation of public spaces that celebrate the rich history of Black Los Angeles.

“This project is about more than art,” Foster shared with the Sentinel.

“It’s about reclaiming our narrative and ensuring that the next generation knows the giants upon whose shoulders they stand.”



LILA BROWN/LA.SENTINEL
DC execs and architects and Williams’ descendants join Harris-Dawson and Johnson to unveil the mural.

MAGGIE HATHAWAY GOLF COURSE {Continued from A-1}

they can be for a community that I believe deserves the best I can deliver to them.”

“Ms. Hathaway, as I’ve stated, was one of the early Jedi warriors and I’m not talking about Star Wars, I’m talking about for justice, equity, diversity and inclusion,” said Bradford. “You won’t have to be into your late years to know what her legacy is because it will be promoted and amplified every time you come on this golf course.”

He continued, “You won’t have to wait decades later like I did to find out the impact that she has made so, I’m excited about what this means, not only to our young folks, but all of our community to learn the game of golf, learn the legacy and the commitment that she’s made.”

On October 8, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved an investment of \$7.8 million from the 2024-2025 Supplemental Budget for the Maggie Hathaway Renewal Project. To date, the Fore Youth Golf Foundation has raised more than \$10 million and continues to raise funds. When completed, this significantly upgraded course will be the jewel of L.A. County Parks’ 20 golf courses, the largest municipal golf course system in

the United States.

“This is going to be a new Gil Hanse designs golf course,” said Terrell, “he’s sitting right here in the front row—he’s the best designer in the world.”

Maggie Hathaway Golf Course, a 12-acre course located at 9637 S. Western Avenue in Los Angeles, will boast a completely renovated Par 3 course by renowned firm Hanse Golf Course Design. This firm, founded by Hanse, are known for their work at the Los Angeles Country Club in Los Angeles and Rustic Canyon Golf Course in Moorpark, as well as many notable national and international renovation and restoration projects.

“I think ultimately what our goal here is to create something that’s fun, playable and enjoyable but also occasionally challenging and how do you do that?” said Hanse. “That ultimately comes down to flexibility within the setup of the golf course.”

Hanse continued, “The most important thing we can do with this golf course is the most difficult thing—we need to make it better, but we don’t want to change it.”

“We want to make sure that this golf course is still recognizable, enjoyable to the people who have been

here for 30 or 40 years not the people who, may come here because Gil Hanse designed the golf course.

“If we do anything here that makes this golf course less welcoming, less enjoy-



BRIAN W. CARTER/LA.SENTINEL
L.A. County Supervisor Holly Mitchell

able, less recognizable for the people who supported it over a long period of time, then we’ve failed and I think ultimately our goal is to do something fun.”

“This course for us represents a place where children will not only learn the game of golf, a game that has not been open and inclusive and supportive of communities like South L.A., but with the guiding light of the Porters, children here, especially in the next coming years, will be nurtured, will be supported, we’ll be lifted up, will be reminded that they matter and that there is a village of people

caring and supporting children in this community,” said Norma E. García-González, director of L.A. County Department of Parks and Recreation.

Glen and Mary Porter, of



BRIAN W. CARTER/LA.SENTINEL
California State Senator Steven Bradford

the Western States Golf Association and founders of local youth programs that utilize Maggie Hathaway Golf Course have help put the park on the map. It’s out of their programs that golfers like Skyler Graham, who was a previous junior in the Southern California Golf Junior Golf Association, started her golf career at Maggie Hathaway Golf Course.

“It’s absolutely incredible,” said Graham. “I don’t think when I was six-years-old, I could have imagined Maggie getting the facelift that it would be getting, all of the support from our

sponsors, our donors, USGA.

“It’s so incredible to be here and to really be a part of the future of Maggie’s and to continue to support the next generation of golfers from this area.”

In addition to this, Maggie Hathaway premier course upgrade, there are other significant improvements. The existing driving range will be reimaged from 10 to 18 stalls as well as be reversed to be more accessible, along with enhanced practice areas for putting and chipping.

A new building will be constructed that will include a clubhouse, offices, community room, and a public art exhibit that will retell the history of Maggie Hathaway and the course. These much-needed improvements will be enhanced by sustainability elements such as water-saving turf varieties, a new computer-controlled irrigation system linked to an onsite weather station, and new trees and greenery.

The projected course reopening will be at the end of 2025. The clubhouse building, entrance and perimeter enhancements are projected to start construction in late 2025 with an expected completion by late 2026. The entire project cost



BRIAN W. CARTER/LA.SENTINEL
Golfer Skyler Graham

is estimated at \$15.2 million.

“Together, we embrace Maggie Hathaway’s vision of creating a welcoming space that enhances the physical and emotional well-being of community members,” said Paul Ballam, senior vice president of American Golf. “This project offers a unique chance to profoundly impact the youth of the Second District.”

Ballam continued, “This important community parkland will be overseen by our dedicated agronomy professionals, who will steward environmentally responsible practices that will provide an attractive golf experience and preserve the diverse habitats for native plants and wildlife, ensuring a healthier community for generations to come.”

For more information regarding Maggie Hathaway Golf Course, visit <https://parks.lacounty.gov/maggie-hathaway-golf-course>.