

SPOKANE PRIMARY ELECTIONS - BALLOTS DUE AUG 6

REMEMBER TO VOTE

Spokane County Elections Office, 1033 W. Gardner Ave, Spokane, WA 99260, (509) 477-2320

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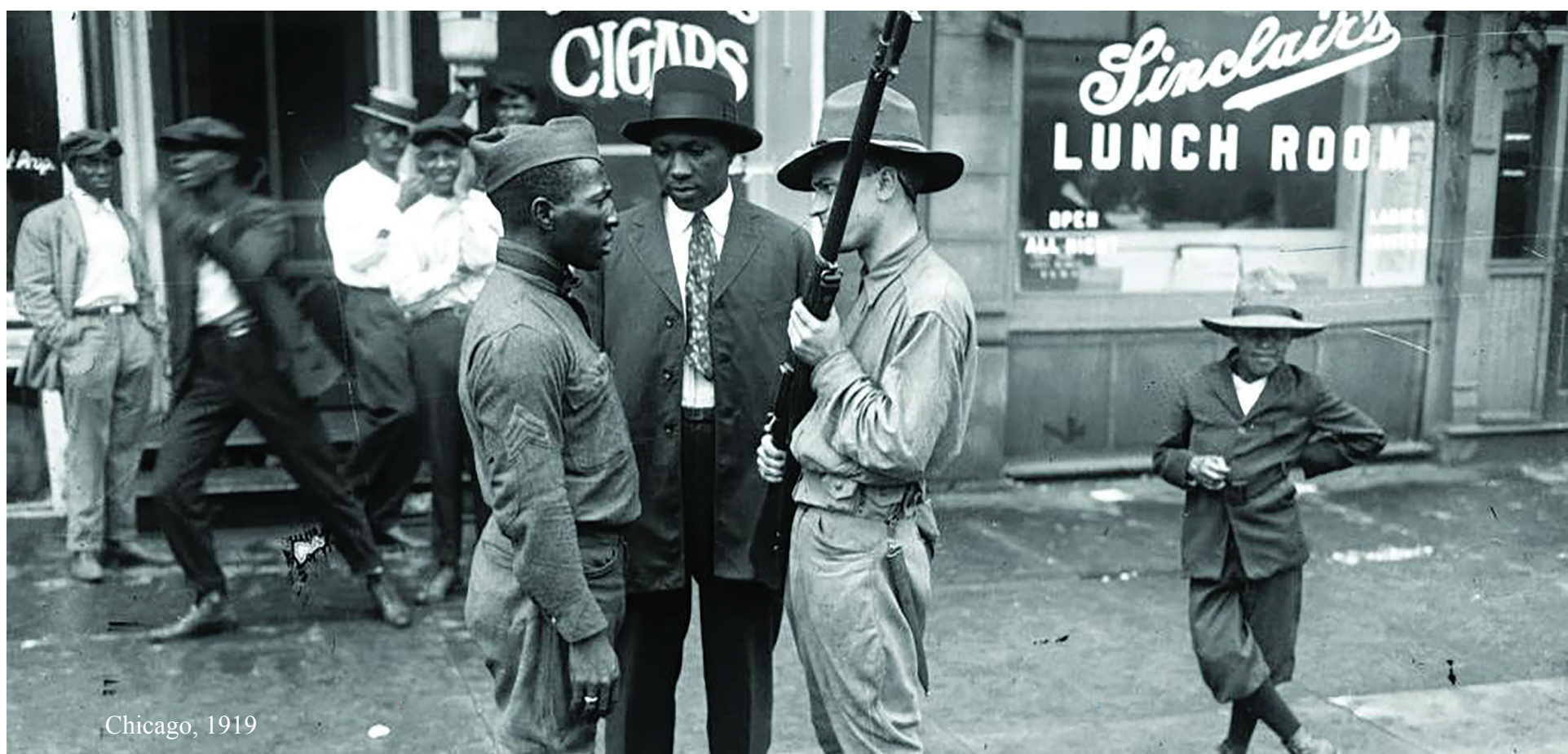
Spokane's Black Community News Source

THE BLACK LENSTM

NEWS FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

REMEMBERING 'RED SUMMER' 1919

100 Years Later: When the White Mob Was Unleashed on Black America



Chicago, 1919

By David Love

(Reprinted from Atlanta Blackstar, atlantablackstar.com)

This year marks the centennial of what has become known as the Red Summer, when in 1919, America was stained red with the blood of Black victims who were lynched, burned, shot and beaten to death by white mobs across the country. In what is regarded as one of the worst periods of white-on-Black mob violence in U.S. history, over 10 months in at least 25 riots, more than 250 Black people were killed with impunity, and thousands saw their homes and businesses destroyed in the conflagration, all without justice being served.

A number of factors and circumstances were catalysts for Red Summer. During World War I, with men serving in the military and restrictive immigration policies, the East and Midwest experienced labor shortages. This was also the time of the Great Migration when hundreds of thousands of African-Americans left the South to escape Jim Crow terror, oppression and exploitation. Working-class whites resented Black workers as potential economic competitors. According to Dr. George Edmund Haynes, who wrote a report on Red Summer, “the persistence of unpunished

lynching” fueled a white male mob mentality, and fostered a sense of self-defense among 100,000 Black veterans who had served in the war and migrated out of the South. “In such a state of public mind,” Haynes wrote, “a trivial incident can precipitate a riot.”

The violence of Red Summer took place in the North and South alike, with Charleston, South Carolina, as the first location to experience bloodshed. White sailors set off riots after attacking a Black man who refused to step off the sidewalk for them, while another white gang killed a Black man in a pool hall. Hundreds of white sailors descended upon the Black community, some of whom armed themselves and fought back.

Other cities were hit as well. In Pittsburgh, the Klan posted notices in Black communities: “The war is over, negroes. Stay in your place. If you don’t, we’ll put you there.” On September 28, 1919, a white lynch mob in Omaha, Nebraska, gathered after a white woman, Agnes Loebeck, accused Will Brown, a Black man, of rape. The whites burned down the Douglas County Courthouse and lynched Brown, where he was being held.

The three deadliest race riots of Red Summer took place in Chicago, Elaine, Arkansas, and Washington, D.C.

In Chicago, a housing shortage had worsened the city’s racial tensions, as the Black population had increased from 44,000 in 1910 to 235,000 in 1930. On July 27, 1919, violence erupted when a Black teen named Eugene Williams swam along a whites-only beach on Lake Michigan. He was stoned by white men and drowned. Police refused to arrest the white men responsible and arrested a Black man instead, leading to escalated violence. Ultimately, 23 Blacks and 15 whites died, 537 people were injured, and 1,000 Black families were rendered homeless.

When Black sharecroppers in Elaine, Arkansas, met to organize and form a labor union, at least 200 people were lynched. Journalist Ida B. Wells wrote in her report that a mob dragged and nearly murdered a woman named Lula Black for wanting to join the union, and lynched another. “They knocked her down, beat her over the head with their pistols, kicked her all over the body, almost killed her, then took her to jail,” Wells wrote. “The same mob went to Frank Hall’s house and killed Frances Hall, a crazy old woman housekeeper, tied her

clothes over her head, threw her body in the public road where it lay thus exposed till the soldiers came Thursday evening and took it up.” Black bodies were dumped in the Mississippi River or left to rot. White elites claimed the Black people had conspired to take the white planters’ land and rape their women.

In July 1919 in Washington, D.C., mobs of white military men targeted the Black community and Black soldiers returning from the war. The “mob in uniform” said they were retaliating against the alleged rape of a white woman — the wife of a Navy employee — by a Black man. As Black people were brutally beaten, the police refused to intervene.

One Black Washington resident, Carrie Johnson, 17, shot at white intruders, and killed a white police officer who broke into her bedroom. Her manslaughter conviction was overturned when she claimed self-defense, and she was regarded a hero, one of many examples of Black people who defended themselves and fought back against white terror. The NAACP counted 2,000 Black people, many of them with guns, patrolling the nation’s capital ready to “die for their race, and defy the white mob.”

Continued on Page 20

ON MY MIND

THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR

by Sandra Williams

Better to Have a Few Rats Than to Be one

In response to president Trump's recent twitter attacks directed at the city of Baltimore and its African American representative, Elijah E. Cummings, the Editorial Board of the Baltimore Sun published the following response. Dayam! I hope you enjoy it as much as I did!

By Baltimore Sun Editorial Board| July 27, 2019

In case anyone missed it, the president of the United States had some choice words to describe Maryland's 7th congressional district on Saturday morning. Here are the key phrases: "no human being would want to live there," it is a "very dangerous & filthy place," "Worst in the USA" and, our personal favorite: It is a "rat and rodent infested mess." He wasn't really speaking of the 7th as a whole. He failed to mention Ellicott City, for example, or Baldwin or Monkton or Prettyboy, all of which are contained in the sprawling yet oddly-shaped district that runs from western Howard County to southern Harford County. No, Donald Trump's wrath was directed at Baltimore and specifically at Rep. Elijah Cummings, the 68-year-old son of a former South Carolina sharecropper who has represented the district in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1996.

It's not hard to see what's going on here. The congressman has been a thorn in this president's side, and Mr. Trump sees attacking African American members of Congress as good politics, as it both warms the cockles of the white supremacists who love him and causes so many of the thoughtful people who don't to scream. President Trump bad-mouthed Baltimore in order to make a point that the border camps are "clean, efficient & well run," which, of course, they are not — unless you are fine with all the overcrowding, squalor, cages and deprivation to be found in what the Department of Homeland Security's own inspector-general recently called "a ticking time bomb."

In pointing to the 7th, the president wasn't hoping his supporters would recognize landmarks like Johns Hopkins Hospital, perhaps the nation's leading medical center. He wasn't conjuring images of the U.S. Social Security Administration, where they write the checks that so many retired and disabled Americans depend upon. It wasn't about the beauty of the Inner Harbor or the proud history of Fort McHenry. And it surely wasn't about the economic standing



of a district where the median income is actually above the national average. No, he was returning to an old standby of attacking an African American lawmaker from a majority Black district on the most emotional and bigoted of arguments. It was only surprising that there wasn't room for a few classic phrases like "you people" or "welfare queens" or "crime-ridden ghettos" or a suggestion that the congressman "go back" to where he came from.

This is a president who will happily debate himself at the slightest provocation. And given Mr. Cummings' criticisms of U.S. border policy, the various investigations he has launched as chairman of the House Oversight Committee, his willingness to call Mr. Trump a racist for his recent attacks on the freshmen congresswomen, and the fact that "Fox & Friends" had recently aired a segment critical of the city, slamming Baltimore must have been irresistible in a Pavlovian way. Fox News rang the bell, the president salivated and his thumbs moved across his cell phone into action.

As heartening as it has been to witness public figures rise to Charm City's defense on Saturday, from native daughter House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to Mayor Bernard C. "Jack" Young, we would above all remind Mr. Trump that the 7th District, Baltimore included, is part of the United States that he is supposedly governing. The White House has far more power to effect change in this city, for good or ill, than any single member of Congress including Mr. Cummings. If there are problems here, rodents included, they are as much his responsibility as anyone's, perhaps more because he holds the most powerful office in the land.

Finally, while we would not sink to name-calling in the Trumpian manner — or ruefully point out that he failed to spell the congressman's name correctly (it's Cummings, not Cumming) — we would tell the most dishonest man to ever occupy the Oval Office, the mocker of war heroes, the gleeful grabber of women's private parts, the serial bankrupter of businesses, the useful idiot of Vladimir Putin and the guy who insisted there are "good people" among murderous neo-Nazis that he's still not fooling most Americans into believing he's even slightly competent in his current post. Or that he possesses a scintilla of integrity. Better to have some vermin living in your neighborhood than to be one.

Quote of the Month



"I am Black with a capital 'B.' I'm woman with a capital 'W.' I'm Black and a woman, and unapologetically proud to be both. We don't need Black faces that don't want to be a Black voice. If you're worried about being marginalized and stereotyped, please don't even show up because we need you to represent that voice. I'm trying to understand why you can be a veteran and say you want to fight for veterans' rights. You could have battled and overcome substance abuse disorder and say I'm going to fight for the recovery community. You could be a former ironworker and say I'm going to fight for workers' rights, and no one flinches. But as a woman, you have to apologize for wanting to affirm your rights as a woman. And as a Black woman, I'm expected to be an apologist. They would have you, and I mean the proverbial 'they,' believe that what is fraying at the fabric of America, what is killing us as a country, is identity politics. I think what's ruining our nation is white supremacy and hate."

-Ayanna Soyini Pressley, U.S. Representative, Massachusetts

THE BLACK LENS NEWS

The Black Lens is a community newspaper, based in Spokane, WA, that it is focused on the news, events, issues, people and information important to Spokane's African American/Black Community and beyond. The paper is published on the first of each month.

Contact Information:

Square Peg Multimedia, 1312 N. Monroe St, #148, Spokane, WA 99201 (509) 795-1964, sandy@blacklensnews.com

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BRINGING JAZZ GREATS TO SPOKANE

Imagine Jazz Kicks Off Fall Series in October

Imagine Jazz presented a variety of concerts and educational events during Spring/Summer 2019 season including; a clinic by Tia Fuller at University High School, The Inner Flame: Female Composers presentation at Bridge Press Cellars, The Joe Magnarelli Quintet which at Spokane Falls Community College, A Tribute to Nat King Cole featuring Horace Alexander Young at the House of Soul, and The Legacy Jazz Workshop featuring members of the Joe Magnarelli Quintet at Holy Names Music Center.

As part of the Spring Festival, Imagine Jazz also presented several local artist presentations at the House of Soul, a jam session at the Bartlett and a jazz brunch at Nectar.

Imagine Jazz presents these concerts and events to promote jazz heritage, encourage

creative diversity and provide a link for local students to the Jazz Legacy. In so-doing, Imagine celebrates the African-American contribution to jazz and fosters a sense of community through artistic collaboration and fellowship.

The events were sponsored by the Spokane Art Grant Award, the Saranac Community Building Foundation, Hoffman Music, Empowering People, and Jazz Education Network via the Herb Alpert Foundation.

Imagine Jazz will kick off the Fall 2019 season in October with two top notch events. **Mike LeDonne's Groover Quartet** will be presented on **October 3rd** at the House of Soul's new North side location (25 E Lincoln Rd, Spokane, WA 99208). Groover is the classic organ quartet sound that is super swingin' and slightly funky.



Eric Alexander, Peter Bernstein and Joe Farnsworth will be joining LeDonne for the tour. Groover has been the Tuesday night band at the renowned New York club "Smoke" for 14 years.

Aaron Parks' Little Big will directly follow up on **October 17th** (venue TBA) with a fresh and modern sound that defies boundaries. Pianist/composer Aaron Parks, like many young composers brought up in a post-rock generation, brings the familiar sounds of guitar, effects and rock beats into the harmonically lush, atmospheric, groove-driven improvisations that are becoming synonymous with the new mainstream within jazz.

Tickets will be available online at www.imaginejazz.org, and unless sold out will also be available at the door.

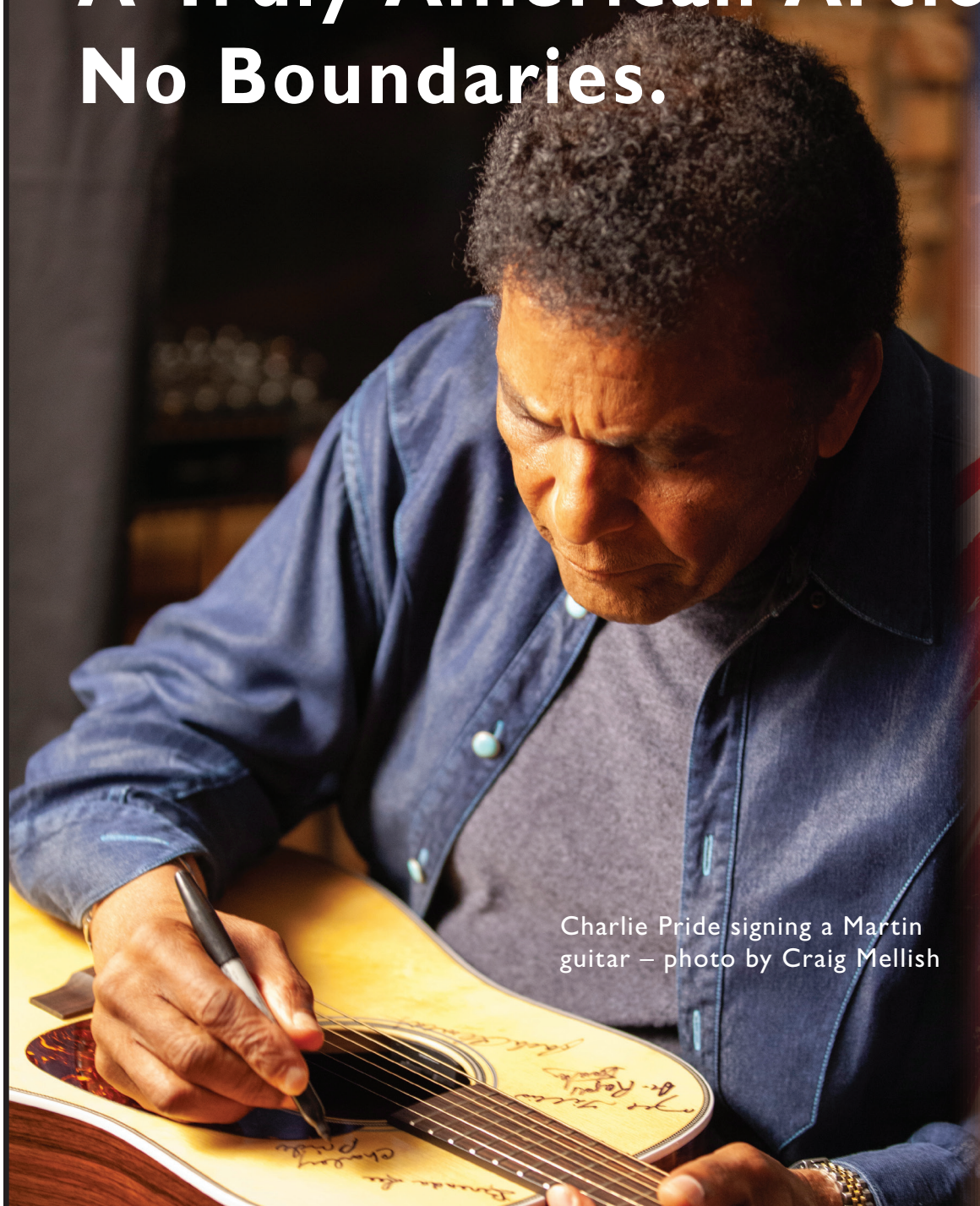
Imagine Jazz tries to make the majority of their events all ages, and provide student discounts when possible. Imagine events are also volunteer and members supported.

Membership dues help support the non-profit's efforts and in turn members get a reduced ticket fee as well as other perks.

Contact rachel@imaginejazz.org for membership info or volunteer opportunities or visit www.imaginejazz.org.



A Truly American Artform that Knows No Boundaries.



Charlie Pride signing a Martin guitar – photo by Craig Mellish

COUNTRY MUSIC

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Coming to PBS
September 15

KSPS



YOU SHOULD KNOW

(Or Things You Probably Didn't Learn In School)

ART AND HISTORY by Bertoni Jones Bey

The Kemetic Nation: Who Were the Ancient Kemites

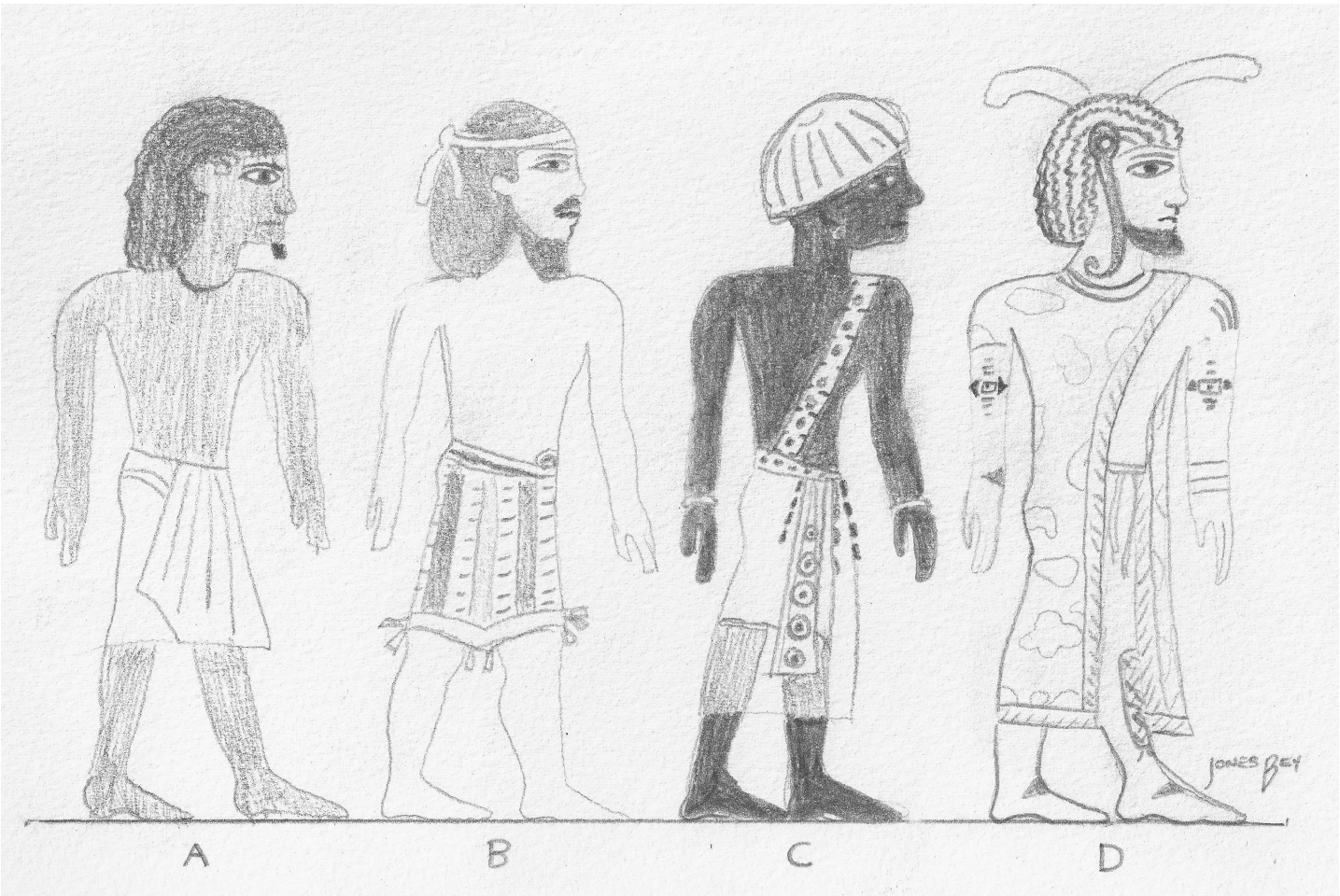
In examining the magnificent history of the ancient people of Egypt (Kemet), questions evolve as to who these people really were. Through history there has been a concerted effort to portray the ancient Kemetic peoples as Arabs, Persians and even Caucasians. But the real question of interest, or avoidance, has been ‘who were the ancient Kemites and what really was their genotype and complexion’?

Hollywood has taken tremendous license with the images of the peoples of the Nile Valley. From Cecil B. DeMille’s ‘Ten Commandments’ to the more recent ‘Exodus: Gods and Kings,’ Caucasians have portrayed themselves as the ancient ones.

The modern world has taken liberty with these images because they have been the sole provider of facts on them. One fact that must be acknowledged however – the ancient Kemetic Empire existed on the continent of Africa – and it hasn’t moved yet. There are still grown-ups who do not know or believe this basic geographical fact.

The most reliable sources on Kemitian ethnicity comes from contemporaries of the land and time like the Greek historian Herodotus (484-425 BC). In his journey to the land of the pharaohs he cites that “...It is certain that the natives of the country are Black with the heat...[22.2]”. And again “...the Egyptians said that they considered the Colchians part of Sesostri’s army. I myself guessed it, partly because they are dark-skinned and wooly-haired”[2].

The most compelling evidence for a “Black Egypt” comes straight from the pharaohs. The accompanying image for this article details the four main ethnic groups: (A) Kemites, (B) Semites, (C) Nubians/Other Africans, and (D) Indo-Europeans. It states: “...Egyptians saw themselves as Blacks, and painted themselves as such



without possible confusion with the Indo-Europeans [Caucasoids] or the Semites. ...Throughout their entire history, the Egyptians never entertained the fantasy of portraying themselves by types B or D.”

This mural is vital because it was found in the tomb of Ramses III (1200 BC) in The Valley of The Kings. The ancient Kemites always knew who they and their kinfolk were but the world of foreigners refusing to acknowledge that reality has drowned out the native voices.

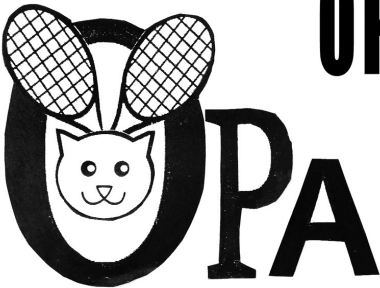
In the almost three-thousand year history of Kemet there were foreign pharaohs, and

many of them were not from the continent of African, but there never was such a thing as a “native Caucasian rule” in Egypt, as Caucasians were never native to the land. So, when a Caucasian rulership is claimed in Kemet, it comes when Kemet was in its final sunset at the end of her thirty-one dynasty rule – the Ptolemaic rule of foreign Macedonian Greeks from Alexander The Greeks invasion of Alexandria in 332 BC. (The Ptolomies ruled from 305-30 BC).

The world has cut the melanin out of your own house and taken credit for the world your ancestors created. By locking you

out of your own home it also revives the myth that dark-skinned people never accomplished anything of value – that they have no real contributions to civilization. The tomb of Pharaoh Ramses III proves otherwise.

Sources:
The History of Herodotus Book II Euterpe [2.22] – Herodotus; The Histories: Book II, Chapter 104 [2] – Herodotus; The African Origin of Civilization Myth or Reality – Dr. Cheikh Anta Diop; When Egypt Ruled the East – George Steindorff and Keith Seele; lisapoyakama.org/the-ancient-egyptians-were-black.



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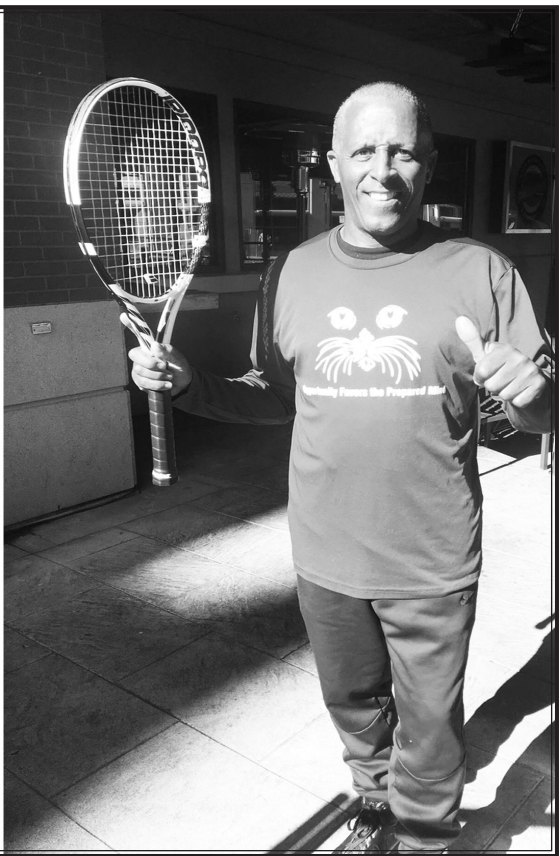
Tennis Summer Camp

Ages 8-12yrs, Tues 3:30-4:30 @ Cannon Park
Cannon Park, 1511 N. Elm, Spokane 99201

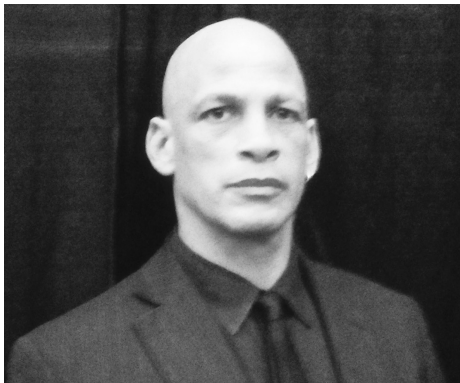
Ages 8-12 Weds 3:30-4:30 @ Liberty Park
Liberty Park, 502 S. Pittsburg St. Spokane, 99202

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West Central Community Center
and MLK Center at ECCC)

For more information about financial aid or how to get started contact Coach Kevin Trim at 509-990-0317.

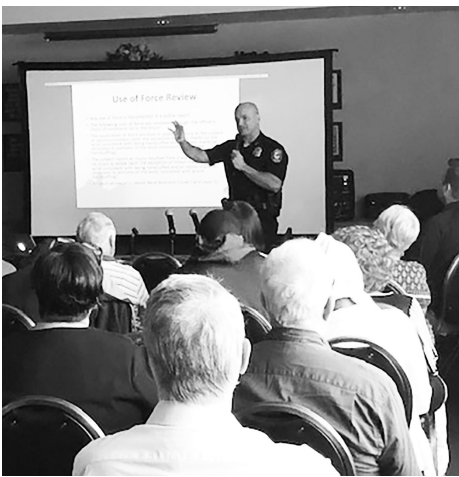


NAACP UPDATE:



By Kurtis Robinson
President, Spokane NAACP Branch #1137

Hello Spokane family,
Your Spokane NAACP has been on the move.
We are strong and growing in our Community partner relationships, we’ve engaged in advocacy and reforms on multiple levels. We are working with Dr. Burns and Spokane Police Department in disaggregating data from stops and use of force and we are working with the Sheriff’s Department in addressing some cultural dynamics and the potential for transparent data understanding as well.



We are intimately engaged in the criminal justice task force and conversations on the issues of a new jail and we are most happy to announce the beginning of the Black Prisoners Caucus taking place in Airway Heights Correctional. I was honored to participate with the other co-sponsors, Lydia Barlow and Cassandra Butler on June 21st at the beginning of this most important and auspicious engagement.
With a lot of top-down support from Secretary Sinclair, Superintendent Keys and Associate Superintendent Kay Heinrich,



we were able to launch this incarcerated community circle dialogue with at least 40 + impacted persons present. We began with an introduction of the sponsors followed by conversations about the mission, purpose and hope of the BPC.
We talked about the struggles of our people and the long journey getting the BPC to manifest at the local AHCC facility. We also continued with discussions on the BPC constitution, membership, responsibilities, sponsor expectations and facility commitment. Although a lot of the meeting was

centered around developing understanding, affirming commitments and logistical needs. there was a very strong sense of anticipation, hope and realization of a dream coming to pass that has been long overdue. As the great Dr. King said “Justice too long delayed is Justice denied”.
Make no mistake this is just the beginning of the process yet it has begun! And although there has been and continues to be some communication challenges between sponsors, BPC and institutional staff. We have been and will continue to remain very determined, hopeful and expectant in seeing this great humanizing process fully manifested and sustainably maintained here in Eastern Washington.
Another note, the time is drawing near for the 100 year centennial celebration with the AOW state area conference, September 13th through the 15th at Northern Quest Casino. Make sure to get your registrations in, your sponsorships nailed down and your ears open for some very exciting main speaker announcements!
Looking Forward & Leaning In.
For information: SpokaneNAACP.com

NAACP and Community Organizations Call for Cultural Audit of Spokane County Sheriff's Dept

In the aftermath of the firing of Spokane County Sheriff’s Office Sergeant Jeff Thurman, the Spokane NAACP and a number of local organizations and individuals have called on the Sheriff’s office to implement an equity strategic plan and conduct a cultural audit. Thurman’s termination followed an investigation by the Sheriff’s Office of Professional Standards (OPS) for “several violations of the Spokane County Sheriff’s Office Policy and Washington State Civil Service employment law.” According to Spokane County Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich, Thurman was terminated for his “unprofessional, unacceptable and reprehensible conduct noted in the internal investigation,” which amongst other things, included being overheard making the statement, “You ready to kill some nigg*rs tonight or what?” to an on-duty deputy, as well as allegations of sexual harassment. While commending the Sheriff for acting swiftly and decisively in the matter, the NAACP has concerns that Thurman’s behavior was not an isolated incident for the Sheriff’s department and feels the equity strategic plan and cultural audit would address those concerns.

**Note: Jeff Thurman has filed a \$12.5 million defamation claim against Spokane County as a result of his termination.*



Concerning Former Sheriff’s Deputy Sgt. Jeff Thurman,

As an organization dedicated to the healthy and successful advancement of not only persons of color, but all people, the Spokane NAACP and our many Community Partners of shared values and goals are deeply concerned by the behaviors leading to Mr. Thurman’s termination.

Our collective organizations advocate for all persons of color, as well as for the vulnerable, the traumatized, the ostracized, and the dehumanized, and will continue to push for the creation of the necessary pieces that make equity, restorative accountability, and justice a reality.

Although we applaud the Spokane Sheriff’s Office on decisive action taken, we are acutely aware that justice should be for all, not for “Just Us.”

Uncomfortable as it might be for our entire community, we must openly come to terms with the reality of what persons of color, both locally and nationally, have been addressing for a very, very long time. That there exists in many aspects of our local, state, county governments and private institutions an underpinning of racial bias and outright bigotry.

We are rightly concerned because the factions which carry these issues are in places of power and authority and have been so, again, for a very long time. Exposures of behavior and studies of data released time and time again absolutely confirm that fact and affirm that reality.

We believe it is well past time to cease trying to sweep these truths under the rug. It is time for all of our Spokane human family to start taking a proactive, wrap around stance, instead of one of structural protectionism. It is time to embrace the reality that the mindsets of racial bigotry and cultural superiority are alive and well here in our Spokane community, criminal justice system, private institutions, and yes, in some of our law enforcement family.

And while we do not desire to demonize or ostracize people like Mr. Thurman, we absolutely call upon the organizations within which they serve, especially organizations whose mission it is to hold people accountable and to dispense justice, to take a serious, hard, transparent, and community-accountable cultural inventory in order to evaluate its internal perspectives. This process needs to be timely, community driven, persons of color (and allies) inclusive, transparent and restoratively accountable.

As we continue the growing collaborative work with Spokane Police Department, from the Spokane County Sheriff’s Department we now specifically request:

- the development of an equity strategic plan for the Sheriff’s Department;

- to have an outside source conduct a cultural audit of the Sheriff’s Department with a commission report on stops, arrests and use of force that will include a breakdown by race, gender and areas / districts;
 - that these processes begin immediately and are reported on by the end of this year of 2019 in a public forum and in a transparent fashion.
- It is our hope to receive full, clear support from the Spokane government, community, criminal justice system, private institutions, educational system, and their leaders and staff in establishing this critical process for moving our Spokane community and human family closer to the healthy, safe, inclusive Spokane we all want to see.
- In sincerity and solidarity,
- Spokane NAACP.
 - Spokane Coalition of Color.
 - Spokane Community Against Racism (SCAR).
 - Center for Justice.
 - The Peace and Justice Action League.
 - ACLU of Washington.
 - Tenants Union of Washington State.
 - Spokane National Organization of Women (Spokane NOW).
 - The Asian and Pacific Islander Coalition of Spokane.
 - The Hispanic Business/Professional Association.
 - Paul Dillon, Vice President of Public Affairs for Planned Parenthood For Greater Washington and North Idaho.
 - Sandy Williams, Publisher of The Black Lens.
 - Curtis Hampton, SCAR, Spokane Regional Law and Justice Council’s Racial Equity Committee.
 - Scott Mueller, SCAR, Community Activist.
 - Annemarie Frohnhoefer, Community Activist.
 - Leslie Cushman, Citizen Sponsor I-940.
 - The Rev. Rick Matters, Smart Justice EC.
 - Nikki Lockwood, Every Student Counts Alliance, ACLU.
 - Terri Anderson, Interim Executive Director Tenants Union of Washington State.
 - Autumn Reed, SCAR, President Spokane NOW.
 - Camerina Zorroza, Center for Justice, Smart Justice Spokane EC.
 - Pastor Walter Kendricks President of Ministerial Fellowship of Spokane, Commission on African American Affairs.
 - Kurtis S Robinson, President Spokane NAACP #1137, AOWSAC Criminal Justice Chair, JustLead Washington, I-940 CSG.

July 5th, 2019

BLACK NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

Local, State, National and Around the World

Baton Rouge Honors Slain Activist Sadie Roberts-Joseph

(Source: Candace J. Semien, Jozef Syndicate reporter, The Drum Newspaper, charleston-chronicle.net; blackpressusa.com; wbrz.com/news; Photo Credit: James Terry III)

In a memorial service at the Living Faith Christian Center on July 22, Sadie Roberts-Joseph, the 75-year-old founder of the Baton Rouge African-American History Museum was honored by hundreds of mourners who came to pay their final respects, including Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards, Baton Rouge Mayor Sharon Weston Broome and a number of other elected officials, as well as community leaders and Baton Rouge residents. The attendees, dressed in black and African print clothing, gathered to remember

the mother and grandmother, affectionately known as “Ms. Sadie”, who was described as a Civil Rights icon. In addition to founding the museum, Roberts-Joseph, one of 12 siblings from a large southern family, hosted the city’s Juneteenth celebration. “She was a lady small in stature, but mighty in spirit,” Governor Edwards said. “Let us never forget what Ms. Sadie stood for – education, love, and community. What she has done has inspired me and all of us,” said Edwards. “That’s why we’re all here.” “Sadie Roberts Joseph was a beacon of light in our community. She was the matriarch of our community,” Mayor Broome



said. “She lived a life of purpose. She was a woman on a mission.” Roberts-Joseph was also acknowledged with several proclamations, coming from the governor, the mayor, state representatives, and U.S. Congressman Cedric Richmond. Echoing the grief of the community, Jason Roberts, Sadie’s son, said, “You stole light. You stole a warm, loving, giving and caring woman and it wasn’t just for her family. She cared for the city. She cared for you. Her life should not have ended that way. She did not deserve that, but she would want forgiveness for you.” Sadie Roberts-Joseph was found dead in the trunk of a car on Friday, July 12, about 3 miles from her home. On July 16, Baton Rouge police arrested an African American man, Ronn Bell, 38, who was

Robert-Joseph’s tenant. He was charged with first degree murder. Police said Bell was \$1,200 behind on his rent. In the aftermath of the tragedy, community leaders promised to continue to support the efforts started by their beloved Ms. Sadie and urged those in attendance to do the same. “Just don’t talk about what she stood for,” Mayor Broome said. “Stand for what she stood for.” To memorialize the impact that Sadie Roberts-Joseph had on the Baton Rouge community, The Wall Project, Building Baton Rouge, and Mayor Sharon Weston Broome’s Youth Workforce Experience Program have teamed up to create a mural at the corner of Plank Road and Pawnee Street to honor Roberts-Joseph’s life and legacy.



Will Smith Invests in App that Helps Teens with Financial Literacy



(Source: Sequoia Blodgett, Birmingham Times, birminghamtimes.com)

Will Smith recently became an investor in Step, a mobile-based banking service app for teenagers, through his Dreamers fund. Step (<https://step.com>) allows teens to easily send and receive money from their family and friends, get real-time notifications, and they don’t have to deal with the monthly or overdraft fees and no minimum balance that traditional banking customers incur. The platform’s lead investor is Stripe. Other investors include Nas, Jeffrey Katzenberg’s Wndrco, Ronnie Lott, Matt Rutler, Kevin Gould, and Moat founders Noah and Jonah Goodhart. Total investments come to \$22.5 million in funding. “Schools don’t teach kids about money,” CJ MacDonald, the CEO, and co-founder of Step said in an interview with TechCrunch. “We want to be their first bank accounts with spending cards, but we also want to teach financial literacy and responsibility. Banks don’t tailor to this, and we want to be a solution for teaching the next generation of adults to be more responsible with money in the cashless era. It was easy with cash to go to the mall but now everyone is using their phone for Uber and more.” Step currently has a waitlist of over 500,000 potential users waiting for access to the product.



Serena Williams Gets First Wheaties Box Cover



(Source: Paige Elliot, Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder, spokesman-recorder.com; Photo Courtesy Wheaties) In July, Serena Williams became the new face on the cover of Wheaties cereal boxes. Wheaties announced the honor on June 25 with a tweet: “She’s an athlete. She’s a fashion designer. She’s a philanthropist. She’s a mother. @serenawilliams is a Champion. #ShesAChampion” In a statement, Williams said “I have dreamt of this since I was a young woman and it’s an honor to join the ranks of some of America’s most decorated athletes.” Williams follows in the footsteps of Althea Gibson who in 2001 became the first Black female tennis player on the cover of a Wheaties box. Other Black women athletes include: Gymnast Dominique Dawes (1996) and Olympian Jackie Joyner-Kersey (2004). The limited-edition Wheaties box featuring Williams will be on the shelves throughout the summer starting in July. “I hope my image on this iconic orange box will inspire the next generation of girls and athletes to dream big,” said Williams.

Three Alabama HBCUs Participating in Industrial Hemp Research Project

(Source: Journal of Blacks in Higher Education, jbhhe.com)

Historically Black Tuskegee University, Alabama State University, Alabama A&M University, along with two other state universities in Alabama, have been selected by the state of Alabama to grow and study industrial hemp, a non-intoxicating cannabinoid. The research at Tuskegee will focus on identifying the best varieties and innovative research techniques that will ensure that industrial hemp grown in Alabama is cultivated efficiently and profitably.



Dr. Desmond Mortley, a research professor of plant and soil science in Tuskegee’s College of Agriculture, Environment, and Nutrition Sciences, is heading Tuskegee’s portion of the research. He will investigate the best seeds and varieties with optimum proportions of cannabidiol oil and fiber content under growing conditions. The research will ultimately support various suspected uses for cannabidiol oil, which range from medicine to fiber. “We are looking at planting dates, plant varieties, adaptability and productivity, and days to maturity,” Dr. Mortley explained. “In addition, we are also interested in finding which seeds produce which proportions of oil and useful residue under growing conditions.” In June, the research team planted more than 900 “Cherry Wine” female industrial hemp plants to determine which variety grows best in Alabama and how to make these plants grow even better. The plants will grow for 75 days in greenhouses and growth chambers, after which their flowers will be harvested and examined. The other participating universities are Troy University and the University of Alabama.

BLACK NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

Local, State, National and Around the World

Idaho Lawmakers Oppose Boise State University's Diversity Programs

(Written by Nathan Brown, reprinted from Idaho Post Register, postregister.com)

Twenty-eight House Republicans sent a letter to Boise State University’s new president Tuesday criticizing the university’s diversity-related programs and asking her to take the school down a different path. The letter, which was sent to Boise State University President Marlene Tromp and written by Rep. Barbara Ehardt, R-Idaho Falls, faults these programs for dividing people and connects them to rising tuition.

“This drive to create a diversified and inclusive culture becomes divisive and exclusionary because it separates and segregates students,” Ehardt wrote. “These initiatives by nature highlight differences and suggest that certain groups are treated unequally now — and that BSU should redress these grievances.”

The letter is framed as a response to a newsletter former BSU Acting President Martin Schimpf sent out a month ago highlighting the university’s spending on programs supporting minority students and touting efforts to increase the recruitment of minority faculty and students. Tromp was named BSU’s president in April and only recently took the reins.

“It is clear to me that students, faculty and staff across campus understand the importance of Boise State being a leader on inclusive excellence, not only because it is the right thing to do, but because it is vital to maintaining our ability to serve our students into the future,” Schimpf wrote.

The opposition letter’s signatories include Majority Leader Mike Moyle, R-Star; Assistant



Majority Leader Jason Monks, R-Nampa; and local Reps. Bryan Zollinger, R-Idaho Falls; Chad Christensen, R-Ammon; Julianne Young, R-Blackfoot; Kevin Andrus, R-Lava Hot Springs; Randy Armstrong, R-Inkom; Dorothy Moon, R-Stanley; and Terry Gestrin, R-Donnelly. Ehardt said she and the other lawmakers hope the letter marks the start of a conversation with BSU.

“Both myself and my fellow legislators certainly want to begin a dialogue as to the direction of higher education in Idaho,” she said. “We’ll continue to proceed, and we want to make sure we’re focusing on academic excellence. And then we also want to make sure as best we can that an education in Idaho is affordable to Idaho kids.” Ehardt said similar initiatives have created division and chaos elsewhere and go against the principle that people should be judged on individual merit. “As Gov. (Brad) Little has said, we do things the Idaho way,” she said. “We believe

in traditional values such as being rewarded for hard work.”

BSU spokesman Greg Hahn had no immediate response, saying he was unable to reach Tromp on Thursday.

Ehardt lists numerous programs at BSU that she says are “antithetical to the Idaho way,” criticizing support for multicultural student events and graduate school preparation courses and fellowships that target underrepresented groups. BSU, Ehardt wrote, should focus on programs that benefit all students instead. The letter also connects these programs to tuition, which is set to go up 5 percent for 2019-2020 and has increased nearly 14 percent over the past three years. “As legislators, our constituents always ask us about the rapidly increasing cost of college tuition,” Ehardt wrote. “They rightly note that tuition hikes put degrees out of reach for the

average Idaho student. The cost of college is a factor in some students dropping out. Yet instead of looking to assist our students, Boise State is adding unnecessary costs.”

She lists numerous programs that, she said, add costs, including targeting undocumented immigrants whose parents brought them to the United States as children to apply for Opportunity Scholarships “even though the state turned down 1,780 Idaho applicants in 2018;” hiring an American Indian liaison and a staffer to support first-generation nonwhite students; another new staffer in the provost’s office dedicated to diversity and inclusion; and spending \$25,000 to attract more minority job candidates and \$30,000 to support “multicultural student events, including Pow Wow, Rainbow Graduation, Black Graduation, (and) Project Dream.”

The legislators’ letter makes many of the same points Idaho Freedom Foundation President Wayne Hoffman did in a column last month criticizing the programs mentioned in Schimpf’s newsletter. The libertarian-leaning group put out a statement Thursday backing the lawmakers’ message. “IFF applauds the 28 House members who bravely spoke up today, and we join the chorus,” said IFF Vice President Fred Birnbaum. “IFF urges President Tromp to avoid buying into the radical left-wing agenda that has ruined the academic experience of millions of students on campuses across America.”

Note: A separate letter signed by every legislative Democrat was sent to Marlene Tromp’s office in support of BSU’s diversity programs. Additionally, students held a Diversity & Inclusion rally on July 20 at the Idaho Statehouse.

Black Newspaper Chicago Defender Prints Last Copy After 114 Years



(Source: Katara Patton, chicagodefender.com; Paul Caine, news.wttw.com; Monica Davey and John Eligon, nytimes.com/2019; Victor Tolly, blackpast.org; Photo Credit: Dorion Lewis)

On July 10, 2019, the iconic Chicago Defender newspaper, owned by Real Times Media, printed the last copy of its regular print edition for the paper. The owners announced that moving forward they would focus solely on digital publishing. Special print editions will still be published but not weekly, they said.

In an article about the paper’s transition, the Chicago Defender pointed out that through its 114-year history, the Defender reached across Chicago and deep into Southern States, “offering a glimpse of hope and opportunity to those who dared participate in the Great Migration and come North.” The once must-read newspaper for Black Americans chronicled everything from the 1919 Chicago race riot to Emmett Till’s murder to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Hiram E. Jackson, the chief executive of Detroit-based Real Times Media, which publishes The Defender, told the New York Times the decision was about economics and “an effort to make sure that The Defender has another 100 years.”

Glenn Reedus, managing editor at The Defender from 2007 to 2008 and now an independent journalist, said that at its peak The Defender could be found in most African American homes. “It was the next thing to the Bible,” he said. “It was at everybody’s house. It was at

the barber’s. It was everywhere, South Side or West Side. There was a joke that if someone said something had happened and someone else said it hadn’t, you knew it didn’t happen if it wasn’t in The Defender.”

According to Reedus, the circulation, which plummeted from 200,000 in its prime to 16,000 was in part because under the ownership of Real Times Media, The Defender moved away from hard news and instead focused on entertainment and feature stories. “I’m a newspaper purist and I believe that to have an engaging and effective newspaper it has got to be run by people who have been in the business,” said Reedus. “I have no idea why so many people come into this business to cover entertainment.”

The first Black newspaper, Freedom’s Journal, was created in 1827 and argued for the abolition of slavery. By some estimates, according to the New York Times, more than 500 black-owned newspapers emerged in the three decades after the end of the Civil War in 1865, based on a report commissioned by the Democracy Fund.

The Chicago Defender was founded in 1905 by Robert Sengstacke Abbott. The first issue, which included a run of 300 copies, was published, on May 6, 1905. The Defender began as a four-page weekly handbill filled with local news and reproductions of clippings from other newspapers. Abbott initially sold both subscriptions and advertising for the paper himself by going door-to-door throughout Chicago, Illinois. Upon Abbott’s death in 1940, his nephew, John H. Sengstacke, assumed control of the Defender. On February 6, 1956, The Defender became a daily and was renamed the Chicago Daily Defender. At the time it was the largest Black-owned daily newspaper in the world.

Hiram Jackson said no staff members would be cut as the print edition ends, according to the New York Times. Instead, he said, existing employees would turn to “improving news coverage for their website and social media accounts”, as well as “expanded efforts to hold newspaper-sponsored events and to interest readers in the newspaper’s vast archives. “The Chicago Defender is known for the impact it’s had. The only way we can be impactful is to have a huge audience. You can’t do that with printed newspapers,” Jackson said.

With Crown Act NY Joins CA to Ban Race-Based Hair Discrimination



(Source: Aris Folley, thehill.com/homenews)

On July 12, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) signed off on Assembly Bill 07797, dubbed the CROWN Act, which “prohibits race discrimination based on natural hair or hairstyles.” With the legislation, New York joins California as the second state to ban race-based hair discrimination.

The law amended the state’s Human Rights Law and Dignity for All Students Act to clarify that race-based discrimination also includes “traits historically associated with race, including but not limited to hair texture and protective hairstyles,” according to The Hill.

In a statement, Gov. Cuomo said, “For much of our nation’s history, people of color - particularly women - have been marginalized and discriminated against simply because of their hair style or texture. By signing this bill into law, we are taking an important step toward correcting that history and ensuring people of color are protected from all forms of discrimination.”

Earlier in July, California Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) signed legislation into law that made CA the first in the nation to ban discrimination against natural hair. The bill, also called the CROWN Act, stated that workplace policies prohibiting natural hair “including afros, braids, twists, and locks, have a disparate impact on Black individuals, as these policies are more likely to deter Black applicants and burden or punish Black employees than any other group.” Assemblymember Tremaine Wright (D) said that the legislation is personal to her as “a Black woman who prioritizes equity, and has worn my natural for 17 years.”

AFRICA NEWS

News Highlights From and About the Continent of Africa

African National Congress Wins Sixth Term Despite Low Voter Turnout

(TriceEdneyWire.com/GIN) – Frustrated with the failures of the ruling African National Congress, South Africans gave the ANC its lowest turnout since 2004 when it took a record 69 percent of the vote.

With 57.5 percent of the vote, the ANC won a sixth straight term in May, but with the worst ever electoral showing for the iconic party. Voter turnout was low. Thousands of youth did not even bother to register.

After announcing the elections to be free and fair, President Cyril Ramaphosa addressed the party faithful: “Our people have spoken and spoken emphatically. They have voted for a more equal society, free from poverty, hunger and want.”

He vowed to purge his party of “bad and deviant tendencies” as he prepares to appoint a new cabinet that will not work merely to fill their own pockets.

The party always knew this would be a tough election. Ramaphosa is leading a divided party, criticized for its slowness in delivering basic services

Ramaphosa is also believed to be facing a revolt within the party by Zuma allies, one



Poster of Julius Malema of EFF, Economic Freedom Fighters.

that could surface in the coming weeks as he decides on the makeup of his new government.

Observers have said South Africa’s economy, the most developed in sub-Saharan Africa, would be further weakened if Ramaphosa is removed by his own party. He narrowly won the party leadership in late 2017, weeks before Zuma was pushed out.

Ramaphosa urged ANC leaders not to hang the party’s “dirty linen in public” and said the party must be renewed “so that we cleanse it of all the bad and deviant tendencies.”

Meanwhile, at least one political grouping was celebrating this week. South Africa’s Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) thanked voters for giving them more seats in the next National Assembly.

In its second presidential and parliamentary election, the party grossed 10.7 percent of the vote, up from 6.3 percent five years ago.

EFF spokesman Mbuyiseni Ndlozi offered “deep and sincere gratitude” to the party’s supporters. “In each of the 9 provinces more people believe in the EFF than they did in 2016 and 2014. It is a sign that our revolution is on course and soon it shall be realized and accomplished,” he said.

The ruling ANC despite winning the polls, slipped to holding 230 parliament seats, while the main opposition Democratic Alliance now holds 84, the EFF’s 44 means they maintain their spot as the second main opposition party.

Global Information Network creates and distributes news and feature articles on current affairs in Africa to media outlets, scholars, students and activists in the U.S. and Canada. Our goal is to introduce important new voices on topics relevant to Americans, to increase the perspectives available to readers in North America and to bring into their view information about global issues that are overlooked or under-reported by mainstream media.

Africa’s Largest Wind Farm Is Up And Running in Kenya



(Source: Anmar Frangoul, Africanglobe.net)

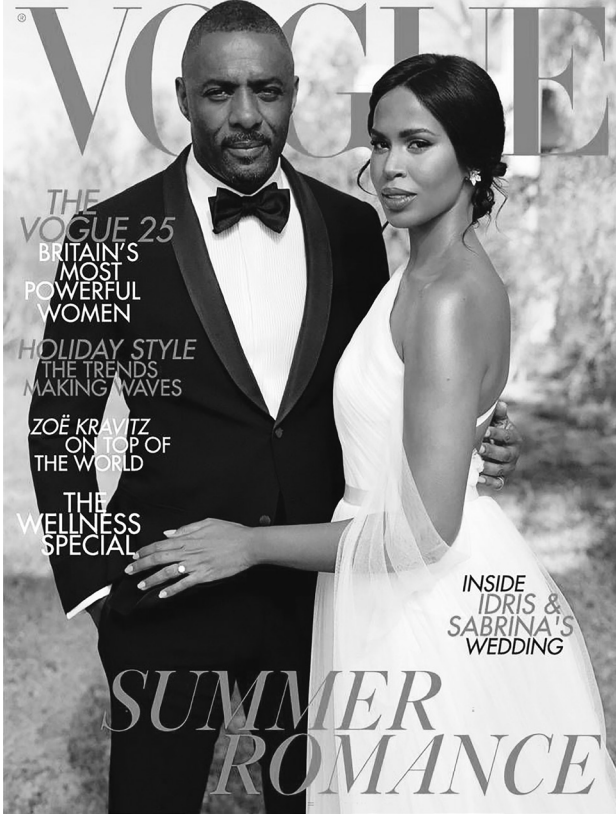
AFRICANGLOBE – Africa’s largest wind farm, the Lake Turkana Wind Power project, has been officially inaugurated. The 310-megawatt (MW) facility was opened by President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya on Friday.

“We are pleased to note that Kenya is without doubt on course to be a global leader in renewable energy,” he said in a speech given at the launch. “This will not only ensure that our nation’s scenic beauty and unique ecosystems are preserved and protected for both present and future generations, but will also ensure that we become energy independent and that our energy supply will be safe as well as predictable,” he added.

The Lake Turkana Wind Power project is made up of 365 turbines, each having a capacity of 850 kilowatts. It is located 600 kilometers from Nairobi in the Loiyangalani District, Marsabit County. Construction of the facility started in October 2014 and it began full commercial operations in March 2019. The International Renewable Energy Agency has described Africa as being “rich in renewable energy sources” such as hydro, wind and the sun. The Lake Turkana project is one of several large-scale renewable energy schemes to be developed on the continent in recent years.

In December 2018, it was announced that ground had been broken on West Africa’s “first utility-scale wind power project,” located in Senegal. The 158.7 MW Parc Eolien Taiba N’Diaye, or PETN, is set to be completed in 2020, according to renewable energy firm Lekela. The 46-turbine facility will use turbines from Danish company Vestas and will generate more than 450,000 megawatt hours of energy annually, boosting Senegal’s generation capacity by approximately 15 percent, Lakela said.

Idris Elba & Sabrina Dhowre Make History With Vogue Cover



(Source: Tweety Elitou, bet.com/style, Photo Credit: Sean Thomas)

Newlyweds Idris Elba and Sabrina Dhowre exchanged vows on April 26th and then made history when they were chosen for the cover of British Vogue’s July special bridal issue, making them the first African couple on the famed magazine’s cover.

The couple met in a Vancouver jazz bar when Elba was filming, The Mountain Between Us, a 2017 film about two strangers who become stranded after a tragic plane crash and must forge a connection to survive the extreme elements of a remote snow-covered mountain. According to Elba it was love at first sight.

The couple, who both share African heritage, got married in Marrakesh, a major city of the Kingdom of Morocco. The 3-day wedding, that included 200 of their friends and family members, was held in Morocco because the bride and groom’s families are from east and west Africa and they wanted to meet in the middle.

Delaware State Establishes Center for Global Africa



Source: jbhe.com/2019)

Delaware State University has announced that it will soon establish a Center for Global Africa. The goal of the new center is to re-educate the descendants of enslaved people on not only their African past, but also to renew and strengthen their present connection to the continent of their ethnic origin.

Ezrah Aharone, an adjunct professor of political science, was the driving force behind the establishment of the center. He believes it will be a major conduit that connects scholars from HBCUs to Africa, where they will collaborate with the intellectual assets on that continent.

“The Center for Global Africa at DSU is designed to be a centralized location and agency to coordinate the diaspora involvement in the affairs of Africa,” Aharone said. “It is a coordinating institution that will involve other HBCUs, as well as corporation sponsors who will be directly involved in the economic facilitation in what we do.”

The new center already has plans to conduct an African economic development project involving asset mapping. Scholars from the center will travel to different African countries, evaluate their assets, and assist the country’s leaders in developing strategic plans for economic growth. Faculty and students from the College of Business are also planning on contributing to the center’s efforts.

Dr. Akwasi Osei, associate dean of the College of Humanities, Education, and Social Sciences, was a key contributor in the initial work for establishing the center. He believes that it is a great example of the global outreach and service that is happening at Delaware State.

“The idea of the descendants of Africa helping their kith and kin on the continent is not new; it has a long history,” said Dr. Osei. “The Center for Global Africa’s activities, therefore, represent a 21st Century contribution to this noble cause.”

A Courageous Conversation About Reparations

Wilburn & Associates Host Community Discussion at the Carl Maxey Center

I submit, it's not just about dollars and cents. There's a system. When we talk about Reparations, we have to talk about how we repair the whole system.
-James Wilburn

The Carl Maxey Center, located on Fifth Avenue in Spokane's East Central neighborhood, might be a little rough around the edges right now while the building is in the very early stages of its remodel, but it is still becoming an important destination for community meetings and gatherings that address issues of importance to Spokane's African American community.

On Saturday, July 27, Roberta and James Wilburn, of Wilburn & Associates, hosted just such an event in the Maxey Center, a Courageous Conversation about the topic of Reparations. Fifty people braved the ninety degree heat and crowded into the building's garage turned into a makeshift meeting room, to learn more about the controversial subject and share their thoughts.

Reparations is the fourth in a series of community discussions that the Wilburns have been offering free of charge to the Spokane community. The previous three addressed the psychological effects of slavery, the school to prison pipeline and mass incarceration. The topic for Saturdays conversation was pulled right out of the headlines, as presidential candidates, congressional representatives, celebrities and community leaders have once again brought what is often a touchy topic to the forefront in the nation's discourse.

Roberta Wilburn laid the foundation for the discussion with an educational presentation that discussed slavery, it's history and its impact both on this country and on the African American community. Technical difficulties prevented much of the video portion of Wilburn's presentation, however slavery's harsh reality was evident.

The educational portion was followed by a panel, which included Kiantha Duncan, program manager at Empire Health Foundation, Rosie Thurman, attorney with Team Child, a youth advocacy group, Curtis Hampton, community advocate, Scott Ward, history teacher and James Wilburn, Commissioner with Spokane's Office of Police Ombudsmen (OPOC) Commission.

The panel members were asked where they stood on the topic of reparations, for or against, and to explain their position. While the Wilburns had attempted to include a voice opposed to Reparations on the panel, they were unable to do so. As a result, the discussion was less about whether or not Reparations are justified, and more about how the process should be handled. Opinions were varied.

Following the panel the audience submitted questions and offered comments in what became a lively discussion. It was evident that this was just the beginning in what is a very important and much needed dialogue.

For more information about the Courageous Conversations series or other services and events offered by Wilburn & Associates visit wilburnassociates.org.





Thursday October 3rd, 2019

The "New" House of Soul



25 E Lincoln Spokane, Wa

www.imaginejazz.org

MIKE LEDONNE THE GROOVER
ERIC ALEXANDER PETER BERNSTEIN JOE FARNSWORTH

THE SPIRIT

Black Church Food Security Network

Connecting Farmers with Black Churches

A photograph of two men standing next to a blue pickup truck. The man on the left is wearing a grey and black baseball-style shirt and a red baseball cap. The man on the right is wearing a green t-shirt with a graphic, blue jeans, and a black baseball cap, and is making a hand gesture. The truck bed is filled with various produce, including yellow bananas, green leafy vegetables, and boxes of grapes. The background shows a residential street with houses and a parked silver car.



The Black Church has no rival when it comes to institutions with a track record of sustainability in Black America. Since as far back as 1794, with the founding of the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church and the "hush harbors" which preceded it, where enslaved Africans would gather in secret to worship, Black congregations have endured and survived under the most harsh circumstances. In fact, Black Churches have thrived. The Black Church has a legacy of birthing lasting institutions which meet the spiritual and social needs of its members. In addition, the Black Church is the one place where Black communities are empowered with enough autonomy to lead in the direction of their own affairs - a fact that is most helpful when it comes to addressing the issue of food insecurity. Whether a mega-congregation or a storefront, the Black Church remains, in many of the most impoverished neighborhoods, a beacon of hope and avenue to opportunity.

For more information visit: blackchurchfoodsecurity.net





Holy temple

Church of God in Christ

A CHURCH IN
THE **HEART**
OF THE CITY,
WITH THE
PEOPLE OF
THE CITY
AT **HEART.**

806 W. INDIANA AVE | SPOKANE, WA 99205

COME WORSHIP WITH US & ENJOY A SPIRIT FILLED WORSHIP!

SUNDAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL | 9:45 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE | 11:00 AM

WEDNESDAY

BIBLE STUDY | 7:00 PM
YOUTH GROUP | 7:00 PM

COME AND RECEIVE

JESUS

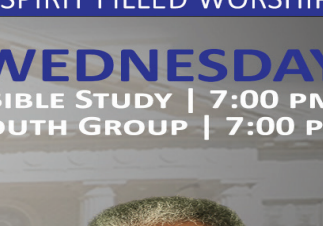
HE DELIVERS
HE SAVES
HE RESTORES
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PASTOR & FIRST LADY
EZRA & ELEISE KINLOW

 **New
Hope
Baptist
Church**

**Come join
us in our
journey
following
Jesus.**

**New Hope
Is On Fire!**

Worship Service
SUNDAYS 11AM

Sunday School
Sundays at 9:30am

New Hope Baptist Church
9021 E. Boone Avenue
Spokane Valley, WA 99212
509-535-1336
NewHopeSpokane.com



**Pastor James &
First Lady Shawn
Watkins**

Upcoming Church Events

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church

73rd Anniversary Weekend

August 2 - 4

Join Morning Star to celebrate our 73rd church Anniversary.

Friday (8/2) - 6pm - Concert

Saturday, 8/3 - Annual Picnic at Audubon Park

Sunday - 3pm - Anniversary Service.

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church
3909 W Rowan Ave, Spokane 99205

For more information call Morning Star at (509) 534-4878.

Holy Temple COGIC

Join us for Sunday Dinner

Choice of ribs or fried or baked chicken

Sunday, August 4

1pm

Holy Temple Church of God in Christ, 806 W Indiana Ave, Spokane, 99205

For more information call Holy Temple at (509) 475-1036.

Refreshing Springs COGIC

Revival

Guest speaker is Superintendent Demetrius Beachum of Mexia, Texas

August 7-9, 6pm

Refreshing Spring Church of God in Christ, 1206 E Broad Ave, Spokane, WA 99207

For more information call Refreshing Springs at (509) 482-7408.

Calvary Baptist Church Annual Picnic

“Let’s Have Church”@ Manito Park

“O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.” Psalms 34:3

Join Calvary Baptist Church for an amazing time of worship, praise, fellowship and food. Annual Church Picnic following morning worship.

Sunday, August 11

10am - 5pm

Manito Park

1702 S Grand Blvd, Spokane, 99203

Reverend C.W. Andrews, Pastor
Reverend Amos Atkinson, Assistant Pastor

New Hope Baptist Church

Annual Picnic

Saturday, August 24

9am - 2pm

Valley Mission Park, 11123 E. Mission, Spokane Valley

Back to School Service

Sunday, August 25

11am

New Hope Baptist Church, 9021 E Boone Ave, Spokane Valley, WA 99206

For more information call New Hope at (509) 535-1336.

MIRACLE HEALING Meeting!

AUGUST 2019

4TH-5TH (SUN-MON)

DOORS OPEN:

5:30PM

MEETING STARTS:

6:00PM

2-NIGHTS ONLY

With Special Honored Guest:

Dr. Beryle Porte

Hosted by:

PASTOR OTIS &
JARRETTA MANNING

CALL 509-919-4150 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

HEALTH MINISTRY

AUG 9 | 6:30PM - 8:00PM

AUG 10 | 2:00PM - 6:30PM

MIND
WELLNESS
BODY SPIRIT

NPBC PRESIDENT
& COORDINATOR

Pastor Richmond
Johnson

HEALTH
AMBASSADOR
TRAINER

Pastor Bernard
Montgomery

HOST
PASTOR

Pastor Walter
Kendricks

MORNING STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
3909 WEST ROWAN AVENUE | SPOKANE WA 99205

For additional information contact Pastor W.J. Kendricks | 509-724-0301

FREE TO
THE PUBLIC

MIRACLE HEALING

Meeting!

AUGUST 2019

4TH & 5TH (SUN-MON)

6:00PM

Guest Speaker:

Dr.
BERYLE
PORTE

Word of Faith Christian Center
9212 East Montgomery Ave
Spokane Valley, WA 99206

CALL 509-919-4150 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

JUST
THE FACTS

A NATION BUILT ON THE BACK

1

Slavery
launched modern
capitalism and turned
the U.S. into the
wealthiest country
in the world.

Slave-harvested
cotton dominated
the 19th-century
international
market.

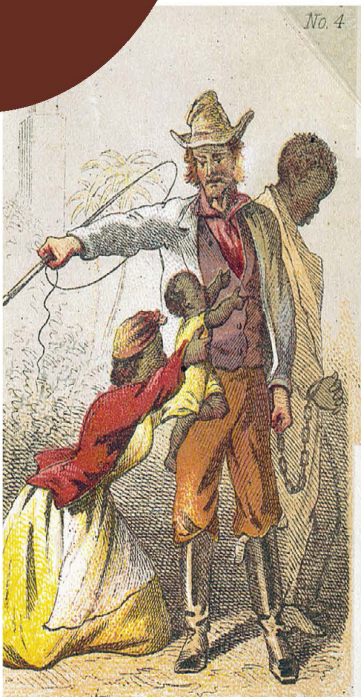
U.S. COTTON
PRODUCTION

1859
2.25 billion
pounds

1790 1.5 million pounds

U.S. COTTON USED
IN BRITISH TEXTILE
INDUSTRY
By the 1830s

77%



Cotton built New York City
into a commercial and
financial center.

For every dollar
cotton made,
about 40 cents
ended up in
New York as the
city supplied
insurance,
shipping, and

NEW YORK'S
SHARE
OF ALL
COTTON
REVENUE

40%

At the outbreak
of the Civil War,
the market
value of slaves
in the U.S.
exceeded that of
banks, factories,
and railroads
combined.

Slaves' worth
\$3 billion



Currency in
circulation
\$450 million

48%

of total
wealth of
the South
in 1860

The nation paid reparations to slave
holders—not to slaves.

No

40 ACRES AND A MULE

President Andrew Johnson
overturned Gen. Sherman's
famous promise, which would
have redistributed roughly
400,000 acres to newly freed
black families.

\$300

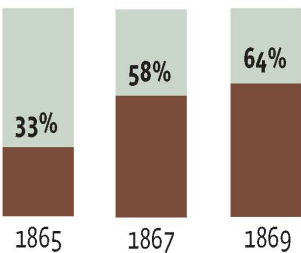
PER FREED SLAVE

On April 16, 1862, President
Abraham Lincoln signed a bill
ending slavery in the District
of Columbia,
providing for compensation
to former owners.

Vagrancy laws allowed
police to sweep up black
men and then rent them
out as convict labor.

Following the war,
convict leasing programs
shifted the Southern
prison populations to
predominantly black.

BLACK CONVICTS IN NASHVILLE,
TENNESSEE'S MAIN PRISON



2

Emancipation
did not
bring economic
freedom
to former
slaves.



Discriminatory business
policies kept white people
economically ahead.

Black Codes were enacted to
stop African Americans from
owning their own businesses.

BUSINESS LICENSING FEES
Under Black Codes in 1870



Black
entrepreneurs

\$0

White
entrepreneurs

Southern merchants
used unfair credit to impede
black wealth building.

INTEREST RATES
CHARGED BY MERCHANTS
1881-1889



44%-74%
Georgia

7%

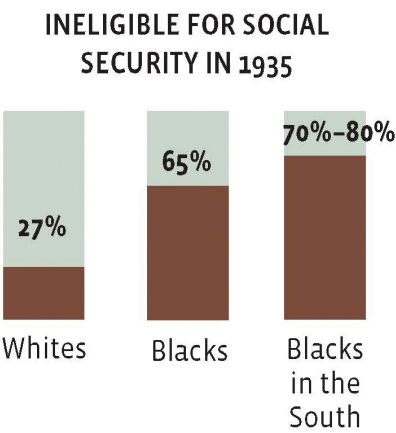
New York City



OF SLAVERY AND RACISM

Social safety nets have missed African Americans.

Social Security originally excluded domestic and agricultural workers—mostly African Americans, especially in the South.

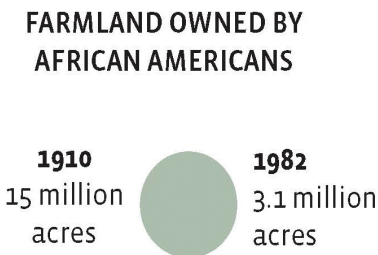


4
The result:
African Americans
have not been able
to get a foothold in
the economy.

The income gap has not
budded since 1970.

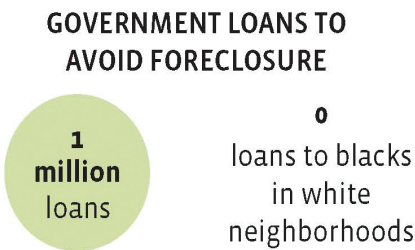
Racist policies contributed to the decline of black farmers.

By 1982, only 1.5 percent of farmers were black, and the USDA's Civil Rights Office—which investigated loan program discrimination complaints—was closed.

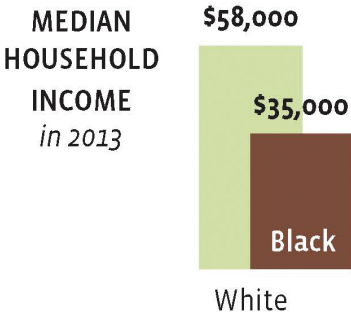


Money meant for distressed homeowners supported segregation.

In 1933, the Home Owners' Loan Corporation was created and helped more than 1 million homeowners. The HOLC was the origin of "redlining" maps.



3
Discriminatory
policies then kept
African Americans
from receiving help
other citizens
received.

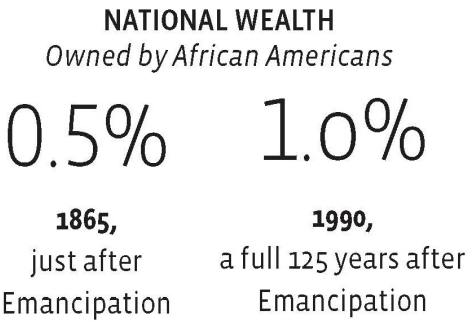


For every dollar
of assets white
households have ...

... black households
have a dime.

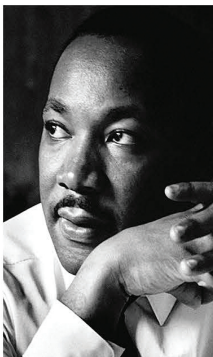
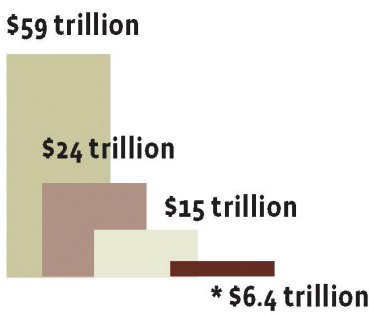
African Americans have barely any of the nation's wealth, and therefore little to pass down to future generations.

Economists estimate that up to 80 percent of lifetime wealth accumulation depends on intergenerational transfers.



Can we calculate the economic damages?

Estimates range from:



Martin Luther King Jr. calculated that making good on the promise of 40 acres and a mule (\$20 a week since the late 1700s for 4 million slaves) would total \$800 billion.*
"They owe us a lot of money."

That's MLK's \$800 billion in today's dollars.

Source citations at yesmagazine.org/JTF74
YES! infographic by Jeff Neumann and Tracy Loeffelholz Dunn.
Research by Heidi Bruce and Clo Copass. Images from Library of Congress.

Children's Book Author Daria Peoples-Riley to Visit Spokane

Featured Author at Inland Northwest Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators Annual Conference

If you write or illustrate for children or young adults, or have always wanted to, there is an event coming up that is designed just for you. On September 20 & 21, Spokane will be hosting "Rise & Shine," the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) Inland Northwest fall conference.

The full-day conference will take place on Saturday, September 21st at the Montvale Event Center in downtown Spokane and there will also be two optional Mini-Intensives on Friday, September 20th at the Spokane Club. Conference attendees will have the opportunity to choose from a variety of workshops, hear from a panel of local authors, sign-up for an individual manuscript or portfolio consultation, participate in a Portfolio Showcase Competition or a round table session with an agent or editor, and most importantly, connect with a community of authors, illustrators and similarly creative individuals. For information about the conference or to register visit: <https://inlandnw.scbwi.org/events/2019-fall-conference>.

One of the featured author's at this year's conference is **Daria Peoples-Riley**, a full-time author and illustrator. whose debut picture book *THIS IS IT*, about a young girl of color getting ready for a ballet audition, who loves to

dance, but doubts herself, was published with Greenwillow/HarperCollins (February 2018). Riley will be facilitating a Picture Book Workshop, as well as breakout sessions that demonstrate Daily Art Practices for the Illustrator and How to Break into the Business without an art degree.

The Black Lens had the opportunity to interview Ms. Peoples-Riley.

1) Please tell me a little about your background, your family, school, where you grew up, etc.

I was born in Los Angeles, but our family moved to Paso Robles, California a few months before I began kindergarten. My mother's family is originally from New Orleans, and my father's side is from Northern Louisiana, so I always say I was raised in a Louisiana home in California. I loved playing basketball with my two young brothers, drawing, and painting. My dad gave me art lessons in our garage, and my mom rescued my first self-portrait from the kitchen trash can, and had it professionally framed the next day. Today, it hangs in my parents' living room as a reminder that our life's purpose almost always introduces itself to us as a child. I earned a BA in English and a Minor in Black Studies from UC Santa Barbara. After earning a Masters in Education, starting a family, and over 10 years of teaching, I became a full-time author and illustrator.

2) What kind of child were you? Shy? Outgoing?

As a young child, I wasn't really shy, but I was an introvert. I was very open to engaging in friendships, but I had to work really hard at initiating them, especially at school, out of my comfort zone. I remember a lot of anxiety and nervous stomach bouts. Mostly for fear of conflict. I had a tender heart, so my feelings got hurt easily, and I probably reasoned that one or two friends at a time was about all I could handle. Playing team sports forced me to become more social. I was even-tempered, neither high or low in most situations, but I did have a little bit of a temper if you tried me or messed with my two friends. (Ha!)

3) What was your inspiration to start writing? To write your first book?

I was searching for purpose, for a calling, an offering to others, the right kind of offering that fulfilled me, and fit the way I liked to work—analytically, creatively, and something project based that I could research, and move on once I'd exhausted the topic.

I don't remember a specific incident, only that I loved making art and writing, and I kept searching for a function for me and my art in the world. When I began, I honestly didn't know I was a storyteller. I still feel as though my storytelling is unconventional, and never follows a specif-



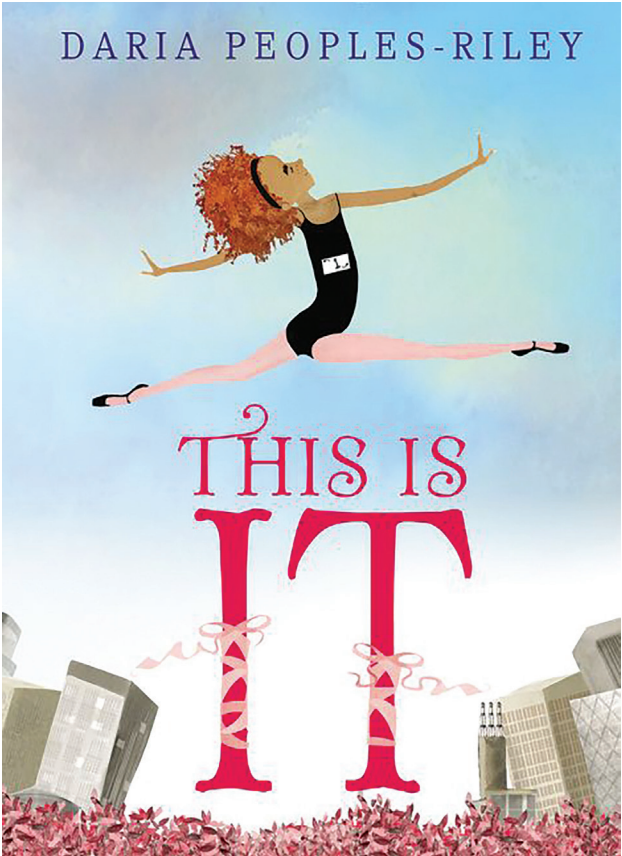
ic structure. But I trusted I could figure out how to tell a story through the interaction of both words and pictures, so writing and illustrating my first book was quite strategic. I read and learned from piles of picture books, and when I felt ready, I embarked on my own story idea, from creation to submission to agents. That first story didn't make it, but it received the attention of a few industry professionals who told me to send them work as I progressed, which encouraged me to try again. My second book, two years later became my first published picture book, *This Is It*, a title that was metaphorical for finding the gift I could offer the world, and on a good day, change it.

4) What has been the most challenging part of your journey so far?

The journey is a climb, and the climb is challenging for everyone. In this industry we're all climbing up towards the mountain top or down towards the valley or back up again one project at a time, and I'm not totally sure how to express this, but the most challenging aspect of the climb for me so far has been trusting myself to be the artist I've become, and a part of that is truly believing I've always been an artist, and it just manifested itself a bit later in my life.

It also means I have to face my fears of living a creative life to fully receive myself as an artist. Giving my inner artist the grace it needs to catch up with my outer artist has been a tremendous load to carry through all the other obstacles I've faced during the climb.

Continued on Page 20







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Heads Up (Spokane)

By Kiantha Duncan

Brown Bear.

A piece of me will always be a kid at heart. Being a Midwest girl, I love what as a child I called “water sprinklers”. To this day, I love them so much that sometimes I will even go outside in my back yard and run in the water when the irrigation system comes on. Imagine more of a slow run now. My knees are bad lol... I remember one day shortly after moving to Spokane, driving downtown near Riverfront Park and getting caught at the light, on the corner, where the beautiful waterfall pool thingy (probably not the real name) was. I jumped out of the car (I was not driving) and ran over to put my feet in the ankle high water.

Another childlike thing that I love is the car wash. I like sitting in the car as the car and windshield fill up with splats of pink and blue foam. I enjoy everything about the car wash experience all the way down to the green “GO” sign at the end. There is also one more reason I love the car wash and I will even go so far as to say that I especially love Brown Bear Carwash. You see, Brown Bear Car Wash informed and helped me develop my personal philosophy on living this life.

When you pull into a Brown Bear Carwash, you are given options to choose from selecting the type of wash you would like to purchase. There are three simple options. No long list of addons just three choices. Good, Better or Best. As I made my selection of Best, I instantaneously felt the universe, God (or whoever or whatever tells you the good stuff) nudge me in that moment to make the decision not just for the car wash but for my life as well. Every day we get to choose. Good, Better or Best. We all get too choose. Our lives are more than a set of circumstances. We have choices, we get input and we determine how we want to exist.

What is is that you want for yourself? What are your dreams? How would you like your time on this earth to be experienced? What life will you choose to live? There are three simple options. No long list of addons just three choices. Good, Better or Best.

For me, daily, I commit to re-selecting BEST, repeatedly choosing to show up as my best self, and in truth, my decision to live my best life and to show up as my



best self does cost a little more. It costs a higher level of awareness, a higher standard of existing, a greater commitment to my community and to the world.

Which will you choose for your life, Good, Better or Best?

Kiantha Duncan is a Principal Development Strategist with The Duncan Brown Group. She can be reached at 206-225-4736.

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Fresh Soul Turns 1 Year Old

July 19th marked the one-year anniversary of Fresh Soul. Located at 5th and Fiske, this soul food restaurant is so much more than amazing BBQ, fried chicken, mac and cheese, collard greens, and seafood gumbo on First Fridays.

It is a restaurant with a mission! Fresh Soul is a job and life skills training program for underserved youth ages 14 to 18.

Located in the heart of the East Central neighborhood, Fresh Soul, is owned and run by long time East Central resident, Michael Brown. The restaurant is one of three programs that make up the Spokane Eastside Reunion Association (SERA), a nonprofit started by Mr. Brown.

SERA is building community and bringing hope to many in East Central and the Spokane area through its job training program at Fresh Soul, the tutoring center located on the west end of the same block, and its summer youth basketball camp.

Stop by and enjoy Fresh Soul's BBQ, catfish, collard greens, and more, all while helping the youth in our community learn valuable job and life skills.

To learn more about SERA visit <http://spokaneeastsidereunionassociation.com>.

(Pictured in photo: Michael Brown, owner of Fresh Soul, and Kristine Meyer, Executive Director of the Avista Foundation, who stopped by to drop off a \$5,000 donation.)





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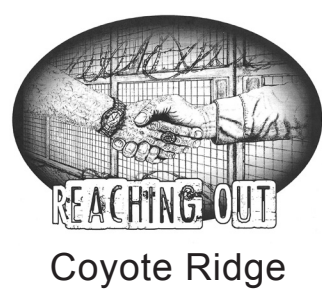
Tuesday, August 20, 5:30-7:30pm

Ironworkers and Boilermakers Programs

Are you into heavy metal? How about welding and rigging? Come learn what it takes to become an apprentice in the Boilermakers and Ironworkers industries. George Moore of Boilermakers Local 242 and James Ryckman of Ironworkers Local 14 will tell you what it takes to join these physically demanding but well-paying careers.

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THE BLACK PRISONERS CAUCUS

"Power Of the Tongue"

Rashaun "A'God The Poet" Williams #742604
Coyote Ridge Correctional Center



Just-Us, Free-dom,
Most of us have a better chance
of beating King Kong
before the admission by police
of any wrong doing
while pursuing the presence
of my Black skin
and, Black men,

even when we're in full cooperation
we still have to wave picket signs and march across the nation
before we get a pinch of reparations,
and I see clear separations when our bail is set so high,
that my momma couldn't raise that with three lives,
and as she cries, a part of me dies,
because I now realize that I'm not going home any time soon,
Wyclef sang that he'll be gone til November
but last December a judge said that my brother
has to sit in here for 65 Junes,
and when they lock us in that room
they scream rehabilitation,
but family separation and mainline segregation
is the only thing that's being perpetuated,
I mean,
how do they suppose we get elevated
with a deck of cards or a ping-pong game?
you see,
when economic captivity is involved
you won't even see those chains,
and there's been zero change
but a billion dollars made off the backs of Black and Brown skin,
sometimes I wonder if that wall is really meant
to keep the illegals out or to keep the slave's children in,
and every dollar that I spend
goes out of my pocket and
into corporate Americas retirement plan,
which invests in prison vans and barb wire fences,
but if change begins with self
then our best defense is to pay attention,
and,
should I dare mention
that our thoughts really do become our things,
this means that,
the movie was already rollin'
when we came into existence
but it's our actions thats controlling the scenes,
you see,
Martin Luther had a dream and Brenda's baby had a son,
Trevon Martin wasn't doing anything but walking home
and Tamir Rice didn't even have a real gun,
so it's up to us to raise our young,
mental liberation before anymore Negro spiritual songs get sung,
because wise words are the keys to our locks,
and death and life are held in the power of the tongue.

SAVE THE DATE

Black Prisoners Caucus Family (and Community) Summit

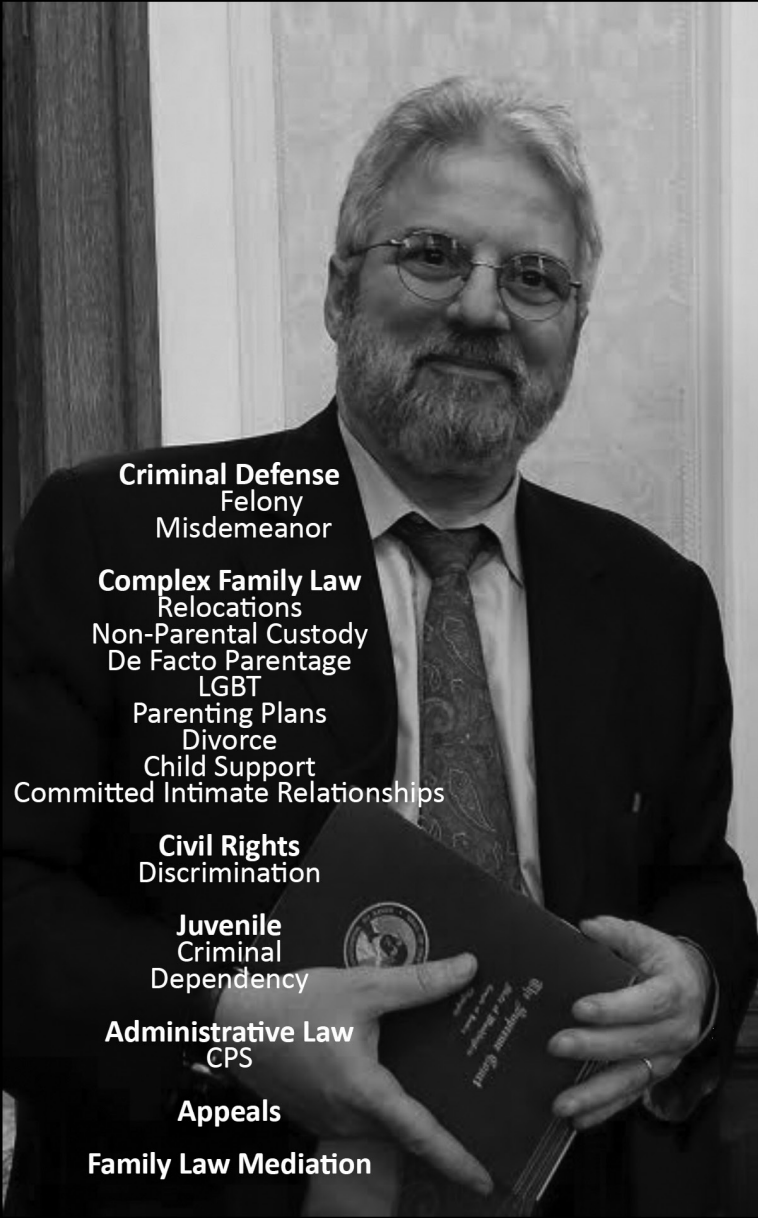
Join us as we work to Restore Humanity in the hearts,
minds, and spirits of formerly incarcerated individuals;
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More information and details to follow in the September issue of The Black Lens.

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OUR VOICES

SEEING RED: A Professor Coexists with 'MAGA' in the Classroom

By Jeffrey Omari

(First published in ABA Journal, abajournal.com July 3, 2019)

It was just a few minutes before the start of class, and I was standing at the podium prepping my notes when, through my peripheral vision, I could see a speck of red on the student's head as he entered the classroom. With just three weeks remaining until the end of the academic year, I knew this student's political leanings from our various class discussions throughout the course of the semester.

Up to this point, the student had not—indeed no student in any of my classes had—donned any political paraphernalia in the classroom. This particular day, however, was different. As the student walked to his usual seat in the seminar, which was directly in my line of vision, the message on his flaming red hat was unmistakable: “MAGA,” or “Make American Great Again.”

I was in the first year of a two-year fellowship as a visiting assistant professor of law. Moreover, as an African-American male, I was one of an exceedingly small number of students, faculty and staff of color in the law school. From my (progressive) perspective as a black man living in the increasingly polarized political climate that is America, MAGA is an undeniable symbol of white supremacy and hatred toward certain nonwhite groups.

For its supporters, MAGA indexes an effort to return to a time in American history when this country was “great” for some—particularly, propertied white men—but brutally exclusionary for others, most notably women and people of color. Recent statements by MAGA-supporting politicians such as Roy Moore have given this perspective added credence.

Thus, in that moment, I was unsure whether the student was directing a hateful message toward me or if he merely lacked decorum and was oblivious to how his hat might be interpreted by his black law professor. I presumed it was the former. As the student sat there directly in front of me, his shiny red MAGA hat was like a siren spewing derogatory racial obscenities at me for the duration of the one hour and fifteen-minute class.

Being a law professor, I understand the complexities of academic freedom and free speech. I respect students' rights to freely express their political beliefs and values within the framework of the law. Yet, at the same time, law schools are inherently institutions of professional training. Just as faculty and staff are required to maintain professional formalities to aid the training and matriculation of their students, it seems only logical that students, too, should maintain similar businesslike etiquette.



But when students fail to live up to such professional expectations, what are the professors' options? Although my position is at a private university, I understood that my lack of tenure, precarious status as a VAP and the hue of my skin meant that I would be fighting an uphill battle should I have asked the student to remove his distracting red hat during class. Surely, there must be protocol when African-American professors—whose presence is scarce in most law schools—find their authority defiantly undermined by an insensitive student.

As my blood boiled inwardly, outwardly I remained calm. In an effort to assuage the perceived tension, I jokingly told the student, “I like your hat,” when he raised his hand to participate in class discussion. Without missing a beat, the student mockingly grinned from ear to ear and said, “Thank you.”

Scholars have argued that whites and people of color perceive racial discrimination through fundamentally different psychological frameworks. Moreover, people of color and whites are likely to differ substantially in how they perceive and define such discrimination. These studies show that many whites assume people are colorblind and expect evidence of racial discrimination to be explicit; many blacks perceive racial bias to be widespread and implicit.

With this scholarship in mind, I understood why no one else in this particular class—in which whites outnumbered students of color 20 to three (with me, the instructor, being the lone African American)—seemed

as vexed as I was. Indeed, in a class with such racial uniformity, it appeared frivolous to rely on students to speak up on my behalf, as one of my associates suggested. An informal survey of my colleagues revealed that no other law faculty had experienced any students wearing such propaganda in their classes, which furthered my contention that this student was indeed trying to intimidate and/or racially antagonize me.

But how can this type of racial antagonism be reconciled with the increasingly present discourse of “diversity and inclusion” within higher education? Several of my colleagues took an intellectual approach when answering this question. For instance, some suggested that I remain professional, which to them meant ignoring the student and not bringing attention to his hat.

Others suggested the academic convention of writing my reflections on the incident. And some colleagues offered academic articles on topics such as implicit bias and perceptual segregation. Yet, while offered with kindness and good intentions, these suggestions often fail to mitigate the visceral feelings of exclusion that African Americans and other faculty of color encounter in the academy. Such feelings are a contributing factor to the low retention rates of students and faculty of color at certain institutions and also play a part in the high rates of mental health issues experienced by many of those in higher educational settings.

As scholars of color, maintaining an everyday existence without the constant reminder that we are “othered” within the American academic hierarchy is fundamental to our professional well-being and to the corresponding welfare and status of our institutions. Moreover, normalizing such controversial political attire in the classroom likely does little to improve the diversity and inclusion that these institutions supposedly seek.

In times of such heightened political disparity, decision makers in institutions of higher education should weigh the benefits of exclusionary, in-class political speech against the divisive burdens such speech places on students, staff and faculty.

In the meantime, faculty of color remain committed to professionalism, which also means peaceably coexisting with MAGA in the classroom. To be certain, however, in academic settings “making America great again” suggests a return to the days when women and people of color were denied access to these very institutions.

Jeffrey Omari is a visiting assistant professor in the Center for Civil and Human Rights at Gonzaga University School of Law, in Spokane, where he teaches constitutional law and a seminar on privacy law. He researches issues of transnational internet governance. Share your thoughts on Omari's column by emailing conversation@abajournal.com.

WANTED: Spokane Community Artists/Designers of Color



We are looking for someone to create a design that will become Spokane's flag to commemorate Black History month.

Submit your best designs by August 31.

The winner's flag will fly over City Hall in February, 2020.

Please submit entries by August 31 to mgetnet@hotmail.com or marydeborahrose@yahoo.com, or mail designs to Deborah Cano, 512 E. 16th Avenue, Spokane WA 99203. For more information call 509-838-2605.

OUR VOICES

****Editor's Note: In last month's issue (July 2019), I accidentally cut off the end of Kendu Humphrey's piece, 'From Kings, to Niggas'. As a result, I am reprinting it this month. That piece was Part 1. I will print Part 2 of 'From Kings to Niggas' next month.**

Just Something to Think About

"From Kings, to Niggas" (Part I)

By Kendu D. Humphreys

From great gods, to thugged out gangsters.
From Noble Kings, to no good ass niggas.
From dedicated fathers, to dead beat baby daddies.

From head off the house hold, to "Tyrone" with all your shit in a black plastic bag in the corner, and one foot out the door.
From being heroes in our children eyes, to becoming the most hated in their hearts.

From home grown leaders in the community, to manufactured negropean puppets that have no care of what is happening in the community.

From warriors for our Queens, to one of the most destructive forces against our true sistas.

From being upright men that believed in "your word is bond", to rappers with self loathing empty words.

From praised global giants, to targets around the world...

Somewhere between "Reaganomics", crack, and equal opportunity, many men in our community accepted being a "Nigga".

Most real "Niggas" will tell you, they are totally different from a traditional "Nigger", but the only difference is the one saying it.

I've witnessed a significant transformation in the values (to say the least) in our community once this "Niggerish" mentality took hold to entire generations, and sucked in many individuals of older generations.

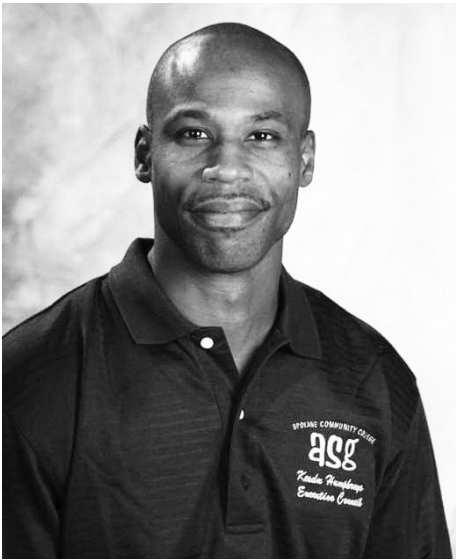
Our music is drenched with "nigga, nigga, nigga". Denzel Washington couldn't win an Oscar until he said "nigga, nigga, nigga". Most times we can't hang around 3 or more Nubians without hearing "nigga, nigga, nigga".

It's gotten so bad, it's cool for everyone else to call us "niggas, niggas, niggas"...

It was 1985 when I was first accused of being "the N word". I was in Brunswick, GA, and a person called me a "Yankee-nigger", to my face. It took what seemed like forever for my mind to register, if I was hearing right. No one had ever called me that, and I was disciplined to never except being labeled as one. Back in those days, the simple mention of any likeness to that word, would get you "hurt really bad". I eventually came to my senses, and assisted that guy in his quest for a bad day.

By 1986-88, more southern urban communities picked up the term "my nigga". I also had major problems with this, so I distanced myself from those that thought like that.

Once the 90's rolled in, many people in most urban neighborhoods couldn't speak 3 words, without saying "nigga" 5 times (lol, but so true).



Our music would not get any air play, if "nigga, nigga, nigga" wasn't in the song. And nowadays "nigga, nigga, nigga" is marketable, with no profits to the community that is labeled as such.

Our sons and daughters no longer say, "great dad", they identify their fathers as "some nigga"... Just something to think about...

Marcus Garvey Course on African Philosophy

By Dr. Conrad W. Worrill, PhD

(Reprinted from Worrill's World, blackcommentator.com)

As we prepare to celebrate the 132nd birthday of Marcus Garvey on August 17th, let us begin to review some of his ideas.

It is quite clear that African people in America continue to be miseducated. This problem is discussed in a variety of ways in conversations everyday in our communities throughout America.

From time to time we should consult the wisdom of those who have addressed this problem whom we may have forgotten. One such person who addressed this problem is the Honorable Marcus Mosiah Garvey, when he presented his formula for learning in his courses on African Philosophy in the 1930s. I think it is only appropriate to review Mr. Garvey's formula for learning as we continue to build the Reparations Movement and seek specific guideposts to our development as a people.

These lessons and guideposts in learning can be found in *Message to the People: The Course of African Philosophy*, edited by Dr. Tony Martin.

Lesson 1: One must never stop reading. Read everything that you can read, that is of standard knowledge. Don't waste time reading trashy literature. The idea is that personal experience is not enough for a human to get all the useful knowledge of life, because the individual life it too short, so we must feed on the experience of others.

Lesson 2: Read history incessantly until you master it. This means your own national history, the history of the world, social history, industrial history, and the history of the different sciences; but primarily, the history of man. If you do not know what went on before you came here and what is happening at the time you live, but away from you, you will not know the world and will be ignorant of the world and mankind.



Lesson 3: To be able to read intelligently, you must first be able to master the language of your country. To do this, you must be well acquainted with its grammar and the science of it. People judge you by your writing and your speech. If you write badly and incorrectly they become prejudiced towards your intelligence, and if you speak badly and incorrectly, those who hear you become disgusted and will not pay much attention to you, but in their hearts laugh after you.

Lesson 4: A leader who is to teach men and present any fact of truth to man must first be taught in his subject.

Lesson 5: Never write or speak on a subject you know nothing about, for there is always somebody who knows that particular subject to laugh at you or to ask you embarrassing questions that may make others laugh at you.

Lesson 6: You should read four hours a day. The best time to read is in the evening after you have retired from your work and after you have rested and before sleeping hours, but do so before morning, so that during your sleeping hours what you read may become subconscious, that is to say, planted in your memory.

Lesson 7: Never keep the constant company of anybody who doesn't know as much as you or (is) as educated as you, and from whom you cannot learn something from or reciprocate your learning.

Lesson 8: Continue always in the application of the things you desire educationally, culturally, or otherwise, and never give up until you reach your objective.

Lesson 9: Try never to repeat yourself in any one discourse in saying the same thing over and over again except when you are making new points, because repetition is tiresome and it annoys those who hear the repetition.

Lesson 10: Knowledge is power. When you know a thing and can hold your ground on that thing and win over your opponents on that thing, those who hear you learn to have confidence in you and will trust your ability.

Lesson 11: In reading books written by white authors, of whatever kind, be aware of the fact that they are not written for your particular benefit of your race. They always write from their own point of view and only in the interest of their own race.

Garvey had many other lessons of learning, in his formula that journalistic constraints will not allow me to elaborate at this time. However, I encourage you to read Marcus Garvey, Message to the People, The Course of African Philosophy, and as we celebrate begin to internalize and incorporate these "Lessons In Learning."

Conrad W. Worrill, PhD, is a columnist for The Black Commentator and is the National Chairman Emeritus of the National Black United Front (NBUF).



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Daria Peoples-Riley Featured Author at SCBWI- Inland Northwest Fall Conference

Continued From Page 14

But I think if I can conquer the task of seeing myself as an artist, in the way God made me an artist, my journey will be lighter, and I'll feel more steady during the seen and unforeseen challenges of the climb.

5) *The primary audience for the Black Lens is the African American community and I am constantly trying to emphasize the value of reading/writing to our community. What do you see as the value of reading/writing particularly for the Black community?*

Ironically, I wasn't an avid reader growing up, so I think this is an important question for me to answer. I've spent time reflecting on this, and I think I didn't like to read for a couple reasons. For one, I was an athletic and physical child. I was either moving or I wasn't. And when I wasn't moving, I liked finishing things, from start to stop, beginning to end, with very few breaks. I needed enough time to read without interruption, from cover to cover, which didn't happen often.

Also, growing up in a predominately white rural town, my access to the Black community was limited to my family and my church, and the books I was being taught weren't of interest to me because they didn't reflect my experience. I didn't have access to Black children's books outside of the breakthrough titles like Roll of Thunder or Sounder, which were required readings in our home. I remember pretending Ramona was a Black girl, and re-imagining her myself as I read.

But because both of my parents were teachers, and they loved to read, my brothers had I had access to many, many books and magazines, and if I wanted to read, it was accessible. It was on the shelf, and I could indulge when I pleased. Access planted a seed because once I was in college, and I no longer played sports, I was starving for a new identity outside of being an athlete. It began with reading. I was ready to read.

I even petitioned the English department to approve American Literature classes with the Black and Latinx writers I wanted to study, instead of their many required courses in the British canon, and finally, as a young adult, I discovered the plurality of the Black experience through books.

I came home to myself, but I also visited the narratives of Blackness that weren't my reality, and it widened my perspective of our community. I am a part of a whole, we are all a part of a whole, and I think we, as a community, often allow dominant culture to tell us we only have a single narrative, we only fit inside one black box, and that is the furthest thing from the truth, a tactic for us to believe there is no room for all of our stories to coexist.

We must believe there is value in all of our stories. There are answers to our community's problems. There is healing. There is a thread of love and hope and empathy in our work. Reading and writing gives us permission to demonstrate, appreciate, celebrate, and share the breadth of our vastness with the world, and most importantly, with each other.

6) *What has being a teacher/an author taught you about yourself?*

I've learned community is important for me. I'm still an introvert, but cultivating, contributing and receiving from a supportive community is necessary. I don't believe in the notion of a singular genius. Solitude may be the beginning of a new project or endeavor, but community is crucial for my sustenance.

The children and adults I teach who live fully in the skin of who they are and actively pursue purpose inspire me to become the highest expression of myself, a gift my students always give to me in return for sharing my knowledge with them. I've also realized how much I love being a student, so I read, study, and take classes about things I want to learn about. Otherwise, I become restless. I've also learned how much I love

to travel and observe people. My travels always inspire new stories.

7) *Tell me about your first picture book, "This Is It."*

On our family's first trip to New York, our daughter wanted to visit Juilliard (School of Music). That trip inspired me to write a poem I planned to give to her on the day of her first audition, and it became This Is It. The heroine stands in front of the audition sign, uncertain of her ability, until she meets her shadow, who gives her the confidence she needs to walk through the audition door.

8) *What's next for you?*

Well, right now, I'm working towards finishing my first young adult novel, a new challenge, indeed. I've also been working on a new picture book. I'm trying new mediums, ink and charcoal, and a completely traditional process to create the artwork, another challenge. Look for an announcement soon! And my hands and heart are always open to new adventures, which always has the potential of being the next thing!

To learn more about Daria Peoples-Riley visit: <https://www.dariapeoples.com>.

Inclusivity Scholarship for RISE & SHINE Conference

To encourage and nurture children's book writers and illustrators from backgrounds that are underrepresented in the children's publishing industry, (people of color; LGBTQIA, person with a disability, or part of a marginalized religious or cultural minority) we are excited to offer one **Inclusivity Scholarship** to attend our fall conference and receive a manuscript critique or a portfolio review.
(Travel expenses not included.)

We encourage you to apply.
Visit: <https://inlandnw.scbwi.org/event-2019-fall-conference/inclusivity-scholarship>

Red Summer

Continued From Page 1

The terror, death and destruction visited upon Black people at the time was by no means limited to Red Summer. For example, in 1921, the thriving Black community of Greenwood in Tulsa, Oklahoma — known as “Black Wall Street” — was destroyed by white mob violence. As a result of an aerial bombing and arson from white rioters and looters, 35 city blocks were burned to the ground, over 800 people were injured and an estimated 300 people died. Similarly, in 1920, several hundred whites burned down the Black village of Rosewood, Florida, hunted for Black people in the countryside and lynched them following unsubstantiated accusations a Black man had raped and beaten a white woman.

Typically called race riots or examples of racial unrest, Red Summer was the handiwork of anti-Black, white lynch mob violence. Following Red Summer, the civil rights and anti-lynching movements were given new life, and NAACP membership increased from 9,000 to 100,000 members.

In today's era of white racial backlash and white supremacist violence, much had been forgotten about the massacres of Red Summer, though that is changing. For example, the National Memorial for Peace and Justice and Legacy Museum in Montgomery, Alabama documents the history of lynching in America and features exhibits on Red Summer. America's Black Holocaust Museum features digital exhibits on the victims of lynching and Red Summer, while Visualizing the Red Summer is a comprehensive digital archive, timeline and map of the lynchings and riots of 1919. The Elaine Massacre Memorial is being constructed and is set to open in September in Arkansas, and federal anti-lynching legislation passed in the Senate just last year, a century after such legislation was first introduced.

Remembering Red Summer is the key to preventing lynchings and other future racial atrocities.

David A. Love is a journalist and commentator on politics, justice, race, environment. His website is davidalove.com.

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POETRY AT THE PODIUM

Open Call for Submissions



In 2019, Spokane poets will raise their voices at Spokane City Council Meetings.

Interested in reading?

Submit one poem via the Submittable portal below:
<https://spokanearts.submittable.com>



DEMOCRACY UNDER SIEGE

Hundreds of Social Justice Leaders Coming to Spokane for AMP Conference

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White nationalists and their allies are threatening our communities and undermining our democratic institutions — but activists throughout the country are fighting back, including hundreds from our region who will be gathering at the Spokane Convention Center this September for Western States Center's AMP 2019 conference.

AMP, short for Activists Mobilizing for Power, is Western States Center's flagship leadership convening. Every two years, it brings together hundreds of social justice leaders from across the Pacific Northwest and Mountain West states to strengthen the movements fighting for an inclusive democracy where all people can live, love, work, and worship free from fear and bigotry. Workshops span three days and aim to develop activists' skills, relationships, and analysis to enhance their struggles for tribal sovereignty as well as racial, gender, and economic justice.

The theme for this year's AMP is Democracy Under Siege and program content will focus on sharing cutting edge tools, regional case studies, and effective strategies to counter white nationalism and defend inclusive democracy, in addition to skill building, racial equity, and gender justice tracks.

Over the past 30 years, AMP has earned a reputation in our region as an energizing, intersectional, and one-of-a-kind movement-building conference. Among the confirmed presenters for this year's event are Maurice Mitchell, National Director of the Working Families Party; Kristen Clarke, President of the National Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law; and Scot Nakagawa, Senior Partner at ChangeLab.

Each of the workshops and sessions featured at AMP 2019 belong to one of five different tracks: Countering

White Nationalism, Defending Democracy, Racial and Gender Justice, Skill Building, and Arts and Culture Shift.

The Countering White Nationalism track includes a full-day workshop with the authors of Western States Center's Countering White Nationalism in Schools toolkit as well as sessions covering antisemitism, Islamophobia, and the history of white supremacist, anti-immigrant, and paramilitary movements in the American West.

The Defending Democracy track features discussions on mass incarceration, prison abolition, and strategies to engage local governments in resisting authoritarian threats.

In the Racial and Gender Justice track, you'll find sessions on advocating for reproductive rights and Two-Spirit youth, while the Skill Building track includes workshops on podcasting,

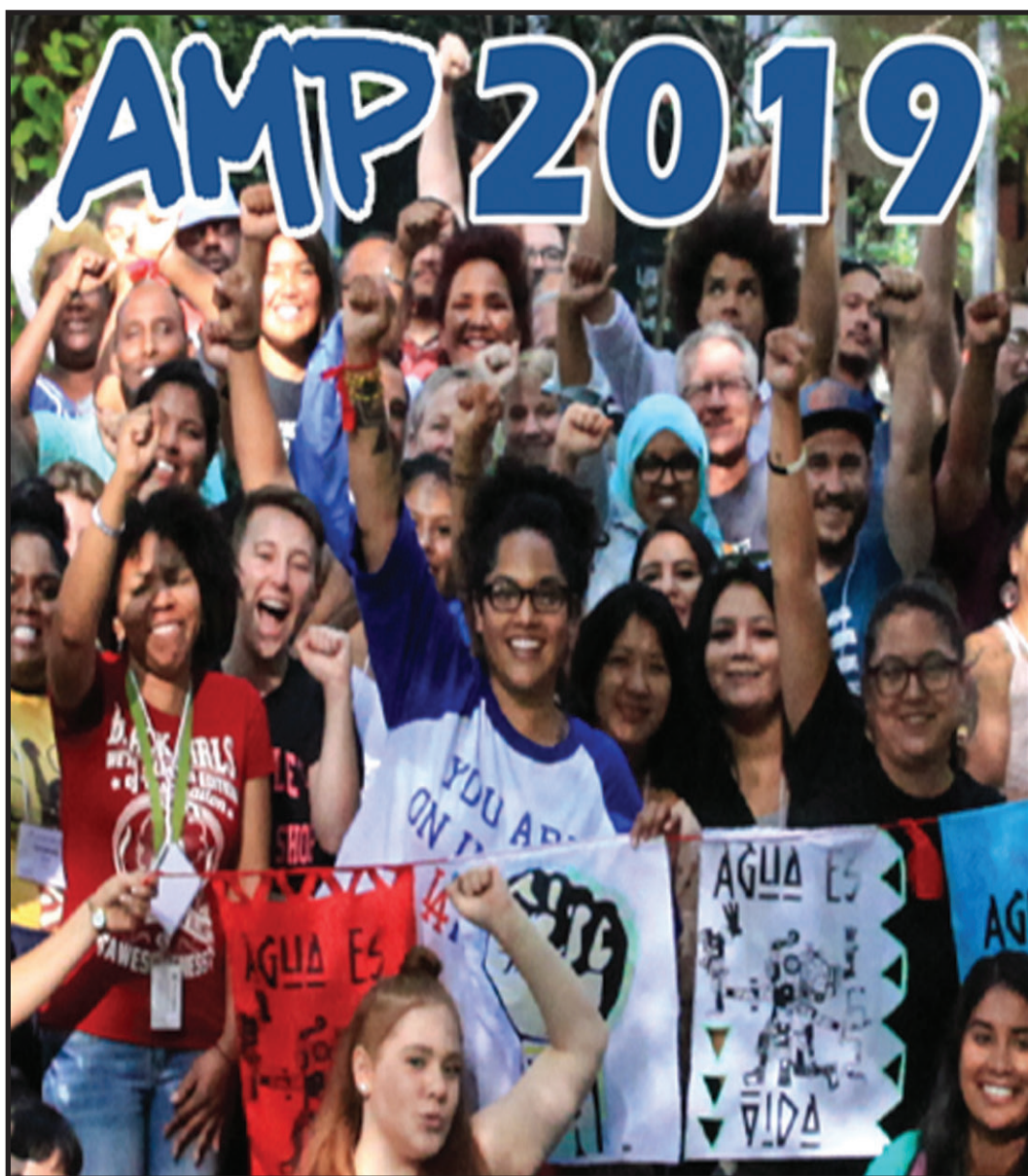
fundraising, digital security, and more.

Finally, the Arts and Culture Shift track features talks on decolonizing social justice spaces and how activists can use art and storytelling to shift culture.

Western States Center is hosting AMP 2019 at the Spokane Convention Center from Friday, September 6 through Sunday, September 8. Tuition for the conference is \$125 per day (or \$375 for all three days) and participants can register through August 16.

AMP is presented by the Sierra Club and is locally hosted and coordinated by Greater Spokane Progress (GSP) and the Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane (PJALS).

To register for AMP 2019 and learn more about this year's programming, visit: www.westernstatescenter.org/amp2019.



Hundreds of us are organizing to defend our communities from white nationalism and fight for a vision of an inclusive democracy.

Register now to join us!

September 6-8

Spokane Convention Center

westernstatescenter.org/amp2019

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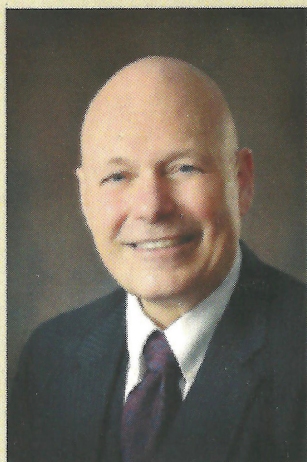
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Spokane Anchor Community Initiative (ACI) Coordinator

The ACI Coordinator will manage Spokane's efforts under A Way Home Washington's ACI to develop and implement a systemic community approach to end youth homelessness.

- Full-time exempt position with benefits.
- Coordinator will be employed by Spokane County United Way, the fiscal sponsor for the ACI position.
- Coordinator will be housed at the City of Spokane within the Community, Housing, and Human Services Department, working with the Homeless Programs team and multiple community partners.

Deadline to submit application is 8/15/19 via unitedwayspokane.org/careers

Please email Spokane County United Way Human Resources at cfo@unitedwayspokane.org with any questions.

Career Opportunities S P O K A N E

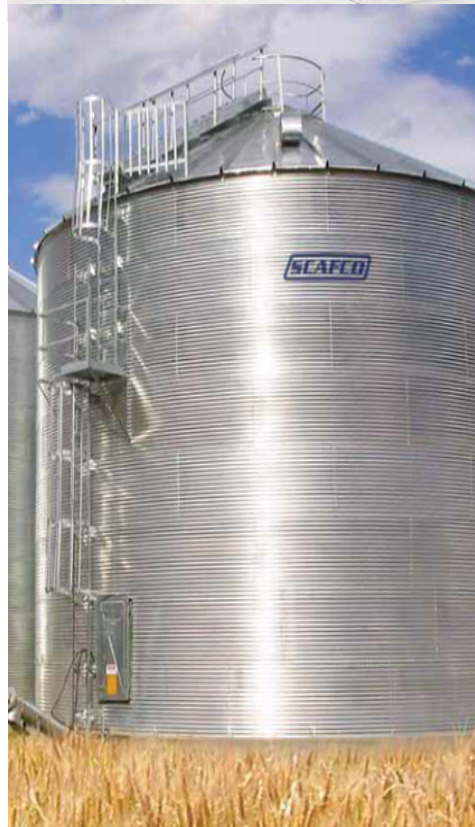
Long established manufacturing company is seeking energetic and hard-working individuals for management, sales, office, machine operators and laborer positions. To view all of our current openings, please visit our website

www.SCAFCO.com and/or CWallA, our authorized distributor of SCAFCO products www.CWallA.com to fill out an application.

You can also send your resume to SCAFCO at 2800 E Main Ave Spokane, WA 99202.

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Job Openings

Program Manager/Cook (FT)

Educare Teacher for Toddlers (P/T)

There currently exists a full time Program Manager/Cook for our Educare program and a part time Educare teacher for toddlers.

These positions are open to all qualified Transitions' employees as well as outside applicants.

A completed Transitions application, cover letter, and resume are required in order to be considered for any position.

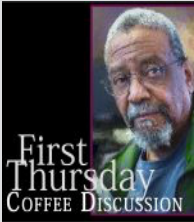
Email these items to: jobs@help4women.org, with the job title in the subject line. Please DO NOT hand deliver, mail, or fax.

Transitions employment applications and complete job descriptions are available online at <http://help4women.org>.

Positions are open until filled.

AUGUST EVENTS

**FIRST THURSDAY
EVENING DISCUSSION GROUP**



Looking for 5-10 people interested in racial and social justice, willing to meet regularly for deep discussions, to plan strategies and take action.

First Thursday, August 1
6 – 8 pm
Carl Maxey Center
3116 E 5th Avenue, Spokane 99202

For information contact Bob Lloyd at (509) 999-1263 or rdlloyd@comcast.net or visit 4comculture.com.

AUGUST 2 & 3
MIRACLE HEALING BREAKTHROUGH CONFERENCE

Host and speaker Dr. Beryle Porte who will be joined by Special Honored Guest, Dr. Juanita Bynum, International Spiritual Motivational Speaker, also speaker Dr. Sarah Morgan, Gospel Singer Vickie Winans and the Jerusalem Center Worship Team!

5:30pm - Doors Open on Friday
Spokane Convention Center
Centennial Ballroom
334 W. Spokane Falls Blvd, Spokane
Limited seating. Free Online Registration at <https://drberyleporte.com> or call 763-318-9978.

AUGUST 3
FÄVS COFEE TALK ON REFUGEES IN SPOKANE

Panelists include: Jackson Lino, refugee from Sudan; Ben Shedlock, FäVS Columnist; Bushra Alshalah, refugee from Iraq; Arcelia Martin, journalist who has been writing about refugees for SpokaneFäVS. Panel will be moderated by Megan Carroll from KREM.

10 - 11:30am
FäVS Center
5115 S. Freya, Spokane, WA 99203
(50th & Freya)
For information visit www.FaVSCenter.com or call (509) 448-1311.

AUGUST 4 & 5
MIRACLE HEALING MEETING

Hosted by Pastor Otis and Jarretta Manning. Special Guest: Dr. Beryle Porte.

6pm (Doors open at 5:30pm)
Word of Faith Christian Center
9212 E Montgomery Ave, Spokane Valley
For information call 509-919-4150.

AUGUST 8
JUSTICE NIGHT

Speak with an attorney. Free Consultations in these areas: LFOs (Legal Financial Obligations), Housing, Juvenile Law, Family Law, Seal/Expunge/Vacate Convictions, Police Accountability. NO CRIMINAL LAW.

5:30 pm
Center for Justice
35 W Main, Spokane 99201
Cost: Free. Sponsored by Center for Justice. *For more information call 509.835.5211 or visit their website at www.cforjustice.org.*

AUGUST 9 & 10
HEALTH MINISTRY: WELLNESS FAIR

Join us for a health ministry focusing on body, mind and spirit. Featuring NBPC (National Pacific Baptist Convention) President Pastor Richmond Johnson and Health Ambassador, Pastor Bernard Montgomery.

8/9 - 6:30-8pm
8/10 - 2-6:30pm
Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church
3909 W. Rowan Avenue, Spokane 99205
For more information call Pastor Walter Kendricks at Morning Star Baptist Church, 509-724-0301.

AUGUST 10
EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

Join us for free food, drinks, games and awards. Presented by Spokane Eastside Reunion Association (SERA) and the East Central Neighborhood Council (ECNC).

Noon - 4pm
Underhill Park
2910 E Hartson Ave, Spokane, WA 99202
For more information call visit spokaneeastsideunionassociation.com/events.

AUGUST 13
FUSE SPOKANE - DIVERSE VOICES BOOK DISCUSSION

Becoming by Michelle Obama

An intimate, powerful, and inspiring memoir by the former First Lady that invites readers into her world and chronicles the experiences that shaped her.

6:30pm -8:00pm
Downtown Public Library - Level-up classroom (topmost floor)
906 W Main Ave, Spokane, WA 99201
Everyone welcome! Free and open to the Public. Please read book before attending for the best experience. Questions email Erin at EJToungate@gmail.com

AUGUST 13
SMALL BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONALS DIVERSITY MEET & GREET

Diversity Meet & Greet (for small businesses, professionals and community members), to get connected and working together. Ben Stuck-art will has been invited to discuss access to opportunities within city government and how to promote equity and inclusion within the city.

5:30 - 8pm
Shadle Park Library
2111 W Wellesley Ave, Spokane, WA 99205
Hosted by Ben Cabildo of AHANA. For more information e-mail bencabildo@gmail.com.

AUGUST 17
UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY

Celebrate the 25th anniversary of the region's largest multi-cultural celebration.

10am - 4pm
Riverfront Park (Downtown Spokane)
507 N Howard St, Spokane, WA 99201
Family friendly and free to all ages. For more information visit: nwunity.org.

AUGUST 19
NAACP MEETING

This month we will be hosting a panel on Spokane's Homeless Women, Children & Veterans.

7pm
Community Building Lobby
35 W Main Ave, Spokane 99201
For more information contact the NAACP at 509-209-2425 or visit: naacpspokane.org.

AUGUST 20
SKILLED TRADE PREP FOR YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

Ironworkers and Boilermakers Program

Learn about opportunities for education, job training and pre-apprenticeship opportunities.

5:30-7:30pm
East Side Library
524 S. Stone, Spokane 99202
For information call 509-444-5300.

AUGUST 24
MLK BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR

MLK partnered with Tools2Schools and Community in Schools to provide free backpack, haircut, food and family resources. Applications available on 8/1 at the center or online.

10am - 4pm
MLK Center at ECCC
500 S Stone Street, Spokane 99202
For information call (509) 868-0856.

SPOKANE POC AFFINITY SPACE

GAME NIGHT

Hosted by Michaela Brown and Kurtis Robinson

Hey Spokane People of Color, Join us as we continue to create a space where as folks of color we can just be ourselves in community, sharing our experiences, challenges and hopes, while celebrating each other!

Friday, August 30
5:30 - 7:30pm
Carl Maxi Center
3116 E. 5th Ave. Spokane, 99202

Games will include Dominoes, Backgammon and Cards. There will be snacks. Please feel free to bring foods and drinks to share and any board or other game you think the group might enjoy.

Also, please invite other POC you think would enjoy building community with us!!

Send information about upcoming community events to sandy@blacklensnews.com.

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Region's Largest Multi-Cultural Celebration

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nwunity.org

Family friendly and free to all ages.

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SERA & ECNC Presents

Community Celebration



August 10th

12pm to 4pm

Underhill Park

Come join us for free hotdogs, drinks, games, awards, and much more.

Celebrate the end of SERA's basketball camp and all of the wonderful things happening in the EAST CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD. For more info, to volunteer, or to sign up to have a booth visit our website <http://spokaneeastsidereunionassociation.com/events>

- FREE THROW CONTEST
 - 3PT CONTEST
 - DANCE OFF
- WATERMELON EATING CONTEST
 - 3 LEGGED RACE
 - FACE PAINTING
- BOUNCY CASTLE
 - BIKE RAFFLE
 - AND SO MUCH MORE!

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August 10th 12pm to 4pm Underhill Park