

Volume 111
Number 3

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2022

INSIDE

REPORT:
2020 Census
Is the Worst
Undercount
of Blacks and
Hispanics in
Decades
PAGE A3

REPORT:
What Is
COVID-19's
Impact Upon
Students
Attending
HBCUs?
PAGE A6

SOCIETY:
The Stories
of Four
Women
Making
History
in Education
PAGE A9



The ARGUS



CROWN Act Passes the House

It takes an act of Congress to end hair-related discrimination.

by Janelle Griffith
Special to The ARGUS

The House of Representatives passed the CROWN Act on last Friday, which would ban hair-related discrimination.

The measure, H.R. 2116, passed in a vote of 235-189 along party lines. It was introduced by Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman, D-N.J., CROWN stands for Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair. It prohibits "discrimination based on an individual's texture or style of hair." The bill

will now go to the Senate for consideration.

The legislation states that "routinely, people of African descent are deprived of educational and employment opportunities" for wearing their hair in natural or protective hairstyles such as locs, cornrows, twists, braids, Bantu knots, or Afros.

"Here we are today, standing on behalf of those individuals, whether my colleagues on the other side recognize it or not, are discriminated against as children in school, as adults

see CROWN ACT, A2



New Workforce Solutions Chief

St. Louis Community College names Phyllis Ellison to lead Group.

ARGUS Staff Report

ST. LOUIS (March 8, 2022) - St. Louis Community College and the Board of Trustees hired Phyllis Ellison as associate vice chancellor of Workforce Solutions Group.

In this role, Ellison is responsible for the overall development and management of corporate and community workforce development, continuing professional development, personal enrichment education, as well as managing entrepreneurial initiatives to meet the needs of the local, regional and national workforce.

Her career experience includes serving as the vice president of partnerships



PHYLLIS ELLISON
Associate Vice Chancellor
St. Louis Community College

and program development at Cortex Innovation Community, director of Startup Connection, InvestMidwest Venture Capital Forum, as well as experience in private

sector industries, consumer finance, commercial real estate and corporate consulting.

She has a Bachelor of Arts in business administration and economics from Truman State University and a Master of Business Administration from Saint Louis University.

"This is an exciting time to be joining St. Louis Community College! There is such a need for job-specific skills training in our community. STLCC has been delivering this and is well-positioned to help both workers and employers," said Ellison.

"Timely education and training is a key part of moving our region forward and expanding careers for every-

one in our community."

"I am thrilled to welcome Phyllis Ellison to STLCC Workforce Solutions Group. Her expertise in the field and her connections to entrepreneurship and business leadership will be invaluable to the students and communities we serve," said Jeff L. Pittman, Ph.D., chancellor, St. Louis Community College. "I look forward to working together as the College continues to grow its partnerships with businesses and industries that need skilled career professionals and seek training and development at STLCC."

Ellison started the job March 4. The position was previously held by

see WORKFORCE, A7

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NEWSWATCH

The Road to the U.S. Supreme Court

Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's Historic path to a seat on the SCOTUS.

NNPA Staff Report

Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson is making history as the first Black woman to ever sit for hearings as a Supreme Court Justice nominee. The 51-year old has broken barriers as a Supreme Court clerk, a public defender and as a Judge in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. Brown was also confirmed by a bipartisan vote in 2010 to serve as Vice Chair of the U.S. Sentencing Commission. As the world watches to see if America will realize its first Black, female Supreme Court Justice, the AFRO has put together a brief timeline of events leading up to the final Senate vote:

- January 27: After a swirl of rumor one day prior, Justice Stephen Breyer officially announces his retirement from the Supreme Court of the United States. Breyer joined the Supreme Court in 1994 after a nomination from former President Bill Clinton.
- January 27: President Joe Biden announces that he would like to choose a Black woman to replace Justice Stephen Breyer.



According to the Congressional Research Service (CRS), "overall, the average number of days from nomination to final Senate vote is 68.2 days (or approximately 2.2 months), while the median is 69.0 days. (AP Photo)"

- February 25: Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson chosen as a nominee for the Supreme Court of the United States.
- March 21: The confirmation hearings begin with opening remarks from Senators and Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, who tells the American public she will "decide cases from neutral posture" in the proceedings,

streamed live on C-SPAN.

- March 22: On day two of the confirmation hearings, Jackson is questioned by the Senate until 10:12 p.m., for a total of more than 13 hours. She takes on Sen. Ted Cruz's (R-TX) questions about "critical race theory."
- March 23: Day three of the confirmation hearings required

Judge Jackson to face off against lawmakers like Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC), forcing her to defend her record from attacks of being too lenient on criminals.

- March 24: Confirmation hearings for Jackson are scheduled to conclude on Thursday.

According to the Congressional Research Service (CRS), "overall, the average number of days from nomination to final Senate vote is 68.2 days (or approximately 2.2 months), while the median is 69.0 days."

The CRS report, titled "Supreme Court Appointment Process: Senate Debate and Confirmation Vote," states that "of the nine Justices currently serving on the Court, the average number of days from nomination to final Senate vote is 72.1 days (or approximately 2.4 months), while the median is 73.0 days."

The agency made sure to note that "Among the current Justices, Amy Coney Barrett waited the fewest number of days from nomination to confirmation (27), while Clarence Thomas waited the greatest number of days (99)."

CROWN ACT, from A1

who are trying to get jobs, individuals who are trying to get housing, individuals who simply want access to public accommodations and to be beneficiaries of federally-funded programs," Watson said in remarks on the House floor Friday morning. "And why are they denied these opportunities? Because there are folks in this society who get to make those decisions who think because you're hair is kinky, it is braided, it is in knots or it is not straight and blonde and light brown, that you somehow are not worthy of access to those issues."

"Well," she added, "that's discrimination."

"There's no logical reason that anyone should be discriminated against on any level because of the texture of their hair or the style of their hair," Watson Coleman said.

Without naming him, she referenced Andrew Johnson, a Black varsity high school wrestler in New Jersey with dreadlocks who was forced in 2018 to make a choice: cut his hair or forfeit his match.

"This bill is vitally important," she said. "It's important to the young girls and the young boys who have

to cut their hair in the middle of a wrestling match in front of everyone because some white referee says that your hair is inappropriate to engage in your match."

Before a vote was taken, a number of Black and African American legislators spoke of having been discriminated against because of their hair.

Gwen Moore, D-Wisconsin, said someone had told a previous employer that she was "an embarrassment" because of the way her hair looked.

She accused some of her colleagues, such as Rep. Jim Jordan, R-

Ohio, who said Friday that he wanted to focus on issues of importance to Americans, of avoiding a conversation about discrimination that disproportionately impacts Black people. Al Green, D-Texas, who is African American, invoked Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in expressing his support for the CROWN Act.

In response to Jordan's remarks, Green said: "Black people are American people, too. And when you say the American people don't want it, you cannot exclude Black people. Black people would have this be on the floor. This is a kitchen table issue in Black households."

CELEBRATING WOMENS' HISTORY MONTH



Legal saying: Law and order exists for the purpose of establishing justice and when they fail in this purpose they become the dangerously structured dams that block the flow of social progress...Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
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“The Worst Undercount *in Decades*”

Census Bureau Misses Millions of Blacks and Hispanics on 2020 Census.

Robert L. Santos, the bureau’s director, displayed little regard for the undercount of minorities. He said the 2020 results were consistent with recent censuses.



dents in some 10,000 census blocks — the smallest unit used in census tabulations. Bureau experts then compared their answers to the actual census results for those blocks.”

Officials claimed that the survey enabled the bureau to estimate how many residents it missed entirely in the 2020 count, how many people were counted twice, and how many people — such as deceased persons or short-term visitors to the United States — were counted mistakenly.

Officials began the count after the pandemic shut down operations in April 2020. After other starts and stops, the Trump administration pressured census takers by inexplicably moving up the deadline to finish the count.

Trump also attempted to add a citizenship question to the census, further muddying attempts at an accurate count.

Many experts complained that more time was required and called the count unreliable. Some called on then-incoming President Joe Biden to order a recount.

“This is the worse census undercount I’ve seen in my 30 years working on census issues,” Arturo Vargas, CEO of the National Association of Latino Elected Officials Education Fund, said during a news conference.

“I can’t even find the right word. I’m just upset about the extent of the undercount that has been confirmed by the post-enumeration survey,” Vargas said.

by Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Writer

The COVID-19 pandemic and an administration that appeared to sabotage accuracy led to a consequential undercount in the number of Black, Hispanic, and Native American residents during the 2020 U.S. Census.

Further, census officials admitted that they overcounted white and Asian residents.

The bureau reported the overall population as 323.2 million.

“The undercounting of Black, Latino, Indigenous and other communities of color rob us of the opportunity to be the directors of our fate, reducing our representation and limiting our power while depriving policymakers of the information they need to make informed decisions about where the next hospital will be built or where the next school should be located,” said Damon Hewitt, the president and executive director of the Lawyer’s Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.

“In addition, the undercount exacerbates underfunding of our communities because Census data is used as the basis for hundreds of billions of dollars of federal, state, and local appropriations each year,” Hewitt said.

The census population count determines how many representatives each state has in Congress for the next decade.

It also decides how much federal funding communities receive for roads, schools, housing, and social programs. Hundreds of billions of dollars are at stake each time the census occurs.

Robert L. Santos, the bureau’s director, displayed little regard for the undercount of minorities. He said the 2020 results were consistent with recent censuses.

“This is notable, given the unprecedented challenges of 2020,” Santos said in a statement. “But the results also include some limitations — the 2020 census undercounted many of the same population groups we have historically undercounted, and it overcounted others.”

“We remain proud of the job we accomplished in the face of immense challenges,” Mr. Santos said.

“And we are ready to work with the stakeholders and the public to leverage this enormously valuable resource fully.”

Terri Ann Lowenthal, a leading expert on the census and consultant to governments and others with a stake in the count, told the New York Times that the results were “troubling but not entirely surprising.”

“Overall, the results are less accurate than in 2010,” she said. The bureau estimated that the 2020 census incorrectly counted 18.8 million residents, double-counting some, wrongly including others, and missing others entirely, even as it came extremely close to reaching an accurate count of the overall population.

The Times reported that the “estimates released on Thursday — in essence, a statistical adjustment of totals made public last year — are based on an examination of federal records and an extensive survey in which the bureau interviewed resi-

Jacqueline Storman Turnage Passes



The ARGUS mourns the loss of Jacqueline Storman Turnage, founder of Storman Academy. Pictured Jackie Turnage, center-left, Yaphett El-Amin, Mokaan Exec Director, standing for far right and students (Photo by Maurice Meredith).

ATTENTION VOTERS IN THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS

A **Special Municipal Election** will be held in the City of St. Louis on Tuesday, April 5, 2022. Before you go to your polling place to cast a ballot, here are some “helpful hints” to make your voting experience more enjoyable.

1. In order to vote, you must be in your **correct** polling place. This information will be contained on the “Notice of Election” card you should receive from the Election Board a week or so before the election. Please note that your polling place may have changed. If you do not receive such a card, call the Election Board at 622-4336.
2. If you moved within the City of St. Louis within the last six months, notify the Election Board so that your registration records can be updated.
3. You **must** have identification in order to vote. **IT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE A PHOTO ID.** You can use a driver’s license; an ID issued by a government agency or the Election Board; the “Notice of Election” card you receive from the Election Board; or a current utility bill or bank statement that contains your name and address.
4. The only items on the April 5 ballot are two propositions — a proposed Charter amendment (Proposition R) and a proposed bond issue (Proposition No. 1). There are **no candidates** on the ballot and everyone will receive the **same** ballot.
5. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, face masks and social distancing will be required in the polling place by all voters.
6. As in previous elections, you may vote using **either** an optical scan voting machine **OR** a touch screen voting machine. If you need help in using either machine, the Election Judges at your polling place will help.

For additional information, please visit the Election Board’s web site at www.stelections.com or call the Election Board at 314-622-4336.

[Rev. 2-17-22]



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A CLOSER LOOK

Emmett Till Family Seeks Renewed Probe

After 77 Years, the Slain Youth's Relatives Are Still Fighting for Justice.

by Emily Wagster Pettus and Jay Reeves
ARGUS Contributors

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Relatives of Emmett Till joined with supporters Friday in asking authorities to reverse their decision to close an investigation of the Black teenager's 1955 lynching and instead prosecute a white woman at the center of the case from the very beginning.

Authorities have known for decades that Carolyn Bryant Donham, now in her 80s and living in North Carolina, played a key role in Till's slaying, and they need to act immediately to bring her to justice before time runs out, said Deborah Watts, a cousin of Till.

"Time is not on our side," Watts, who lives in Minnesota and heads the Emmett Till Legacy Foundation, said during a news conference that included a saxophone serenade of a civil rights anthem at the Mississippi Capitol.

Relatives presented Mississippi authorities with a petition signed by about 250,000 people seeking a renewed probe of the killing, which came to demonstrate the depth of ra-



HATEFUL HEADLINES: The two white men who confessed to the murder of Emmett Louis Till were Roy Bryant, husband of Carolyn Bryant (whose alleged claims led directly to the youth's heinous murder), and his half-brother J.W. Milam. Both men are dead, as are all other individuals directly linked to the events leading up to the killing.

cial hatred in the South to the world. Other petition drives continue.

Michelle Williams, chief of staff for Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch, cast doubt on the possibility of a renewed investigation. In a statement, she said the Justice Department had worked with a local district attorney's office in a re-examination that ended in December.

"This is a tragic and horrible crime, but the FBI, which has far greater resources than our office, has investigated this matter twice and determined that there is nothing more to prosecute," Williams said.

The Justice Department announced in December it was ending its renewed investigation into the killing of Till, a 14-year-old from Chicago who was abducted, tortured and killed after witnesses said he whistled at Donham, then known as Carolyn Bryant, at a family store where she worked in rural Money, Mississippi.

Federal officials had reopened the investigation after a 2017 book quoted Donham as saying she lied when she claimed Till accosted her. Relatives have publicly denied that Donham recanted her allegations,

and Donham told the FBI she had never changed her story, the Justice Department said.

The Justice Department also said historian Timothy B. Tyson, author of "The Blood of Emmett Till," was unable to produce recordings or transcripts to substantiate his account of Donham allegedly admitting to lying about her encounter with the teen.

The FBI investigation included a talk with one of Till's cousins, the Rev. Wheeler Parker Jr., who previously told The Associated Press in an interview that he heard Till whistle at the woman, but the teen did nothing to warrant being killed.

Donham's then-husband, Roy Bryant, and his half-brother J.W. Milam, were tried on murder charges about a month after Till was killed, but an all-white Mississippi jury acquitted them. Months later, they confessed in a paid interview with Look magazine.

The Justice Department found Bryant and Milam were not the only people involved, however, and estimates on the number of people who might have played a role in Till's killing range from from a half-dozen to more than 14.

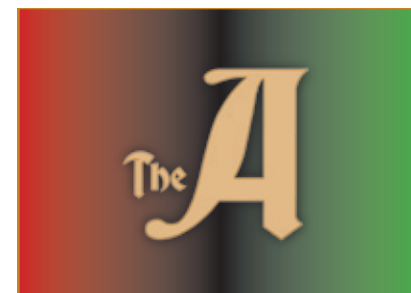
Although it's unlikely a governor would have a role in deciding whether to reopen an investigation, Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves was asked during a Friday news conference about Till's family seeking justice for the teenager's lynching.

"The lynching of any teenager is of significance and certainly something that we as a society should do anything in our power to make sure that we bring anyone that committed that crime, or any other, to justice," said Reeves, a Republican.

On Monday, Congress gave final approval to legislation that for the first time would make lynching a federal hate crime, sending the bill to President Joe Biden. Years in the making, the Emmett Till Anti-Lynching Act is among some 200 bills that have been introduced over the past century that have tried to ban lynching in the U.S.



Emmett Louis Till



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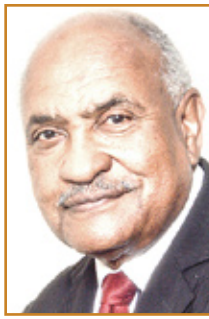


OPINION

Ukraine, Refugees and Racism

by Dr. John E. Warren
of The San Diego Voice & Viewpoint

Our hearts, prayers and support are with the people of Ukraine. No one should suffer such violence and loss in what is supposed to be a civilized global society. We as members of humanity are doing the right thing in providing support for all we can help.



school, have also complained of being denied transportation to make room for "White" Ukrainian citizens when all were waiting equally for transportation. This is racism.

It is interesting to see how the European (white) world appears to have no limits on the outpouring of housing, food, clothing, and every need that such refugees are having.

This is truly the humanitarian thing to do. But where was the same level of outpouring for the Afghan people when America pulled out or, even closer, how is it that at the

Mexican/American border of San Diego, California and Tijuana that Haitians who have been waiting, some as long as two to three years, are still denied refugee status under the same Title 42 used by President Trump to keep people out? It now appears that border officials have some discretionary authority under that very law, which is now being used to admit Ukrainian refugees who have made it to the very same Mexican border where Haitian and other refugees are still waiting to cross. Here is the pattern of racism: in the Ukraine, if you are Black, you are denied exit. At the Mexico/American border, if you are Black, you are denied entrance because the Ukraine refugees can go ahead of you in the line. The common factor in all these cases is the racism of putting white refugees ahead of people of color for no reason other than the color of their skin.

Here we sit in America with White Republican lawmakers blocking dollars for Child Tax Credits which will help working families; universal school lunch funding expiring; and the failure to fund so many things needed by the American people seeking to exit the pandemic, but we appear to have funds with no limit for Ukraine. We should help them, but "charity starts at home and then spreads abroad".

If we are going to provide global help, and we should, then let's make sure that we have policies that treat all fairly without making the color of one's skin the determining factor in establishing their humanity. Something to really think about.

The Type of Critical Race Theory We Really Need

by Marvin Banks, Jr., MBA
Guest Opinion

It seems as if we are inundated daily by propaganda from the right. Blue Lives Matter, Trump's Big Lie about the last presidential election, and most recently Critical Race Theory. I first became aware that this is a talking point for conservatives when I saw a random white woman crying about Critical Race Theory at a school board meeting on the news. History has shown me that whenever these fake tears are present there is usually some sort of manipulation or shady business behind the theatrics. So, I decided to look further into what Critical Race Theory is and how it is defined.



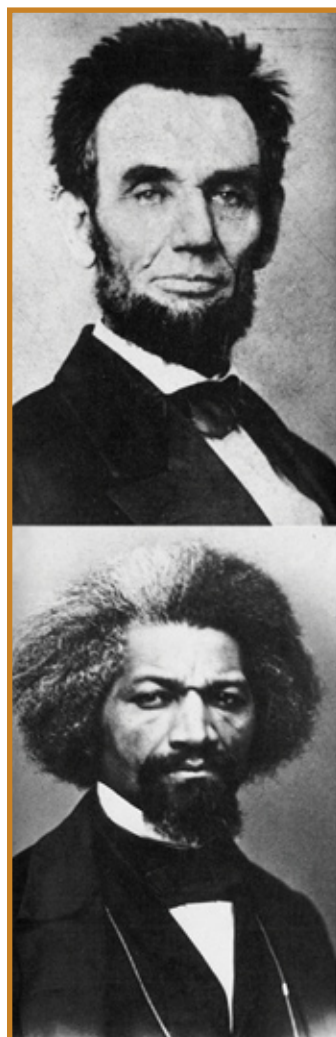
Surely this is another lie or con game being used by those on the right to distract us from what is really important. But what are we being distracted from? I would submit, the attack on our voting rights, an ever-increasing racial wealth gap, and a criminal justice system that needs not only reform but a complete overhaul just to name a few.

While the propaganda being spread about this concept may be another political Red Herring, I still believe we need to teach our children to approach thinking about the systems that have oppressed us in a critical fashion. It is said that if your child is only being educated by the school system they aren't being educated. It is our duty to make sure our youth are properly educated.

Teaching our children about atrocities like the Tulsa Race Massacre and the history behind Juneteenth is not enough. We need to teach them about Mass Incarceration, and how prosecutors with disproportionate power work in tandem with corrupt law enforcement to keep us over policed, over sentenced, and over incarcerated as a people.

We need to teach them that not only was black wealth destroyed by white domestic terrorist like in Tulsa, OK, but it was kept from even existing by racist policies like red lining and covenant laws. We need to teach them how Black Soldiers who fought for this country were denied access to benefits their white counterparts were given to build wealth like VA Loans and the GI Bill. Black soldiers like my father who fought for a country that didn't even give them full citizenship.

We need to teach them that those soldiers are the real patriots, not the fake patriots who marched the Capitol or those who make excuses for them. Our youth need to be taught this so that they know how to navigate a system that is meant to keep them second class. It is important that they know that a debt is still owed to us, and we must not stop until that debt is paid. This is the type of Critical Race Theory education we all need.



Take advantage of your hard-won rights!

- Register to vote in the April 5th General Municipal Election (Deadline: March 9th)
- Sign up to work as an Election Judge (or Student Election Judge) for pay or service hours
- Request an absentee ballot application if you qualify to vote absentee (Deadline: March 23rd)

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Paid for by Rick Stream, St. Louis County Board of Elections Director



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Twitter: @argusstl
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ESSAY

The Impact of COVID-19 on HBCUs

How Much Are African American Students At Risk While Attending College?

by Dr. Harry L. Williams
President / CEO, TCMF

While the world has been focused on the growing numbers of COVID-19 casualties, the media has somewhat ignored the long-term educational and economic impacts of the pandemic – especially for Black students. Although there has been some attention given to the disparities between Black Americans and other groups contracting the virus, it is not an exaggeration to say that the Black community will be recovering from the impact of COVID-19, health wise, economically, and educationally for at least the next two decades.

Throughout the pandemic, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) have been on the front lines addressing the impact the pandemic has had on students, faculty, staff and surrounding communities. In March 2020, when college campuses across the country closed and sent students home, many HBCUs continued to house hundreds of students who did not have homes to return to. Groups of students were stuck on campus without the funds to pay for transportation back to their home cities. This challenge was a byproduct of several students losing the jobs they used to help fund their education, along with loss of family income. Many students became both food and housing insecure without the critical resources that HBCUs often provide.

The Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TCMF) worked with our member-schools—America's 47 publicly-supported HBCUs—and many of their corporate partners to help secure access to needed support for students. Beyond academic scholarships, TCMF stepped up to help provide grants for students, assisting them with rent, groceries, and transportation. At one HBCU, more than half of the students and faculty did not have the adequate computer hardware or broadband internet access to participate in remote classes. Corporate partners supported the purchasing of laptops and hotspots for both students and



faculty to facilitate the pivot to online learning.

Despite their long history and accolades, HBCUs as a collective have continued to struggle with proper funding, receiving less per-student aid from their states, along with less research funding from the federal government. These institutions are highly tuition dependent, which can cause a great challenge anytime enrollment numbers are compromised. Closing campuses and sending students home meant that many schools had to return housing funds that traditionally would have supported the university's operations. Recognizing the great infringement that the pandemic placed on the schools, we shifted part of our focus of providing scholarships and career readiness opportunities to work with HBCUs to provide support restructuring their finances, securing new resources, and planning for the 2020-21 and 2021-22 academic years.

Part of the shift also included engaging corporate partners to help find new and creative ways to help students succeed in this environment. For example, McDonald's expanded their partnership with TCMF in 2020 to provide additional scholarships beyond their original commitment for HBCU students. This commitment extended in 2021 to support students who overwhelming were high-achieving performers but came

from low-income backgrounds and needed the extra support during this unprecedented time. As a non-profit committed to the advancement of Black students, we understand that the best way to address disparities is to invest in students so they can persist in their studies, graduate, and progress to economically sustainable careers.

We also partnered with our member-schools to provide enhanced mental health resources to help students address the emotional needs that may have emerged as a result of the changing landscape of the world. Among other amenities, TCMF scholars were offered access to Shine, a minority-owned mobile app which offers self-care resources to better manage mental health challenges like stress and anxiety.

The resilience of Black students in the face of the pandemic further illustrates the importance of HBCUs for engaging the Black community. Though the pandemic has presented extraordinary challenges in the last two years, HBCUs have emerged even stronger. While many colleges had steep drops in enrollment during the pandemic, HBCUs experienced the exact opposite. Many of the country's largest HBCUs are seeing record numbers of applications. The COVID-19 crisis inspired a new approach to working together as a network and building new capabilities in online learning, student retention

and attraction, and more. This has only strengthened HBCUs' unique position to help fill the social and economic gaps Black Americans experience, given these institutions' assets, experience, and cultural and historical significance.

As a legacy corporate partner, McDonald's stepped up to support HBCU students because of their longstanding commitment to supporting the Black community and empowering the next generation by creating opportunity through educational initiatives. Today, we call on other major corporations to do the same – address inequities by investing in diverse students, who are posed to be the next generation of changemakers. Their journey to leadership starts with a college degree, and with the proper resources that degree can come from an HBCU.

Dr. Harry L. Williams is the President and CEO of Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TCMF), the largest organization exclusively representing the Black College Community.



ARTS TODAY presents

Poetic and Jazzy

LIVE
STREAMING &
IN-PERSON

SUNDAY

FEATURING POET
QUINCY TROUPE

photo by Chester Higgins

Quincy Troupe returns to St. Louis reading poems from his latest collection, *DUENDE*. Troupe will be accompanied by jazz musicians. This event is free and open to the public at High Low in Grand Center. Tickets will be on sale March 28, 2022 at 12:00 AM.

OUR STORY

Remembering *the* Hon. Cora Faith Walker *Late Legislator is Recognized and Honored by Her Former Colleagues.*

by Erica M. Brooks
ARGUS Contributor

MO State Rep. Mike Person (D-74) honors and recognizes the Late Honorable Former MO State Representative of (D-74) CORA FAITH WALKER:

Whereas, it is with a humble heart and eternal compassion that we are taking this moment to commemorate the life and legacy of a Ferguson, Missouri native, the late Honorable Cora Faith Walker and extending our prayers and God's divine spiritual to comfort her husband Tim Walker, her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Edward Drew, and her entire family during their moments of sorrow; and

Whereas, Cora's abruptly and unexpectedly transitioned from our presence leaving us no time to process it all, she was a genuine friend, a legislative confidant; and

Whereas, Cora was a "Faith Walker" and a public servant who advocated for justice in the name of humanity for children, for woman's reproductive rights, healthcare, victims of sexual and domestic abuse, racial and social rights just to name a few of them; and

Whereas, Cora's academia consisted of a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Social Thought and Analysis at Washington University in St. Louis, a Doctor of Law (J.D.) at Saint Louis University School of Law in Health Law, and a Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) at Washington University in St. Louis in Public Health; and

Whereas, Cora was a private practicing attorney, she served as the Former Missouri State Representative for District 74 in which I had the honor to supervene after her tenure in 2019 where I am currently the MO State Representative in (D-74), and she served as St. Louis County Executive Director Sam Page's Chief Policy Officer; and

Whereas, Cora volunteered with various boards and was affiliated with groups i.e., the St. Louis Area Diaper Bank, the University City Children's Center, and Jamaa Village Center (Boards) and Academy Health, The Network for Public Health Law, Supporters of the ArchCity Defenders, Inc., Public Health Law Research and American



(L-R) Hon. MO State Rep. Mike Person (D-74) the Late Fmr. State Rep. Cora Faith Walker's successor; Hon. MO State Sen. Angela Mosley (D-13); Hon. MO State Rep. Jay Mosley (D-68); Hon. MO Sen. Barbara Ann Washington (D-09); Hon. MO Sen. Karla May (D-04) and Hon. MO State Ashley Bland Manlove (D-26) moments after the memorial for their former legislative colleague, the Honorable Cora Faith Walker at Friendly Temple Baptist Church on Friday, March 18, 2022. (Photo by Erica M. Brooks)

Public Health Association (APHA) (Groups), respectively;

Now, Therefore, be it resolved that I, the member of the Missouri House of Representatives of the One Hundred First General Assembly in accompaniment with the City of Ferguson's, Hon. Mayor Ella M. Jones conjointly express our gratitude for the late and Honorable Cora Faith Walker's diligence to dedicate her life in pursuing justice and liberty for all.

Sincerely,
Hon. State Representative Michael A. Person (D-74) and the Hon. Mayor Ella M. Jones, City of Ferguson.



WORKFORCE, from A1

Hart Nelson, who was promoted to the College's chief operations officer in December 2021.

About St. Louis Community College: Established in 1962, St. Louis Community College is the largest community college district in Missouri and one of the largest in the United States. STLCC has four campuses: Florissant Valley, Forest Park, Meramec and Wildwood. The College annually serves more than 50,000 students through credit courses, continuing education, and workforce development programs. For more information about STLCC, visit stlcc.edu.



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- **SMS** - Serving My Sisters - Provides assistance to women over the age of 24 in the St. Louis area. Providing case management services and resources to help our sister both attain and sustain quality of life.
- **SAHFR** - Assisting with SAHFR Rental application as well as all federal, state and local assistance applications. Crime Victims Applications, FASA, case management and more. Program Provided through funding from Missouri Housing Development Corporation
- **OASIS** - Reentry Assistance for women returning to the St. Louis area from Prisons across the country.

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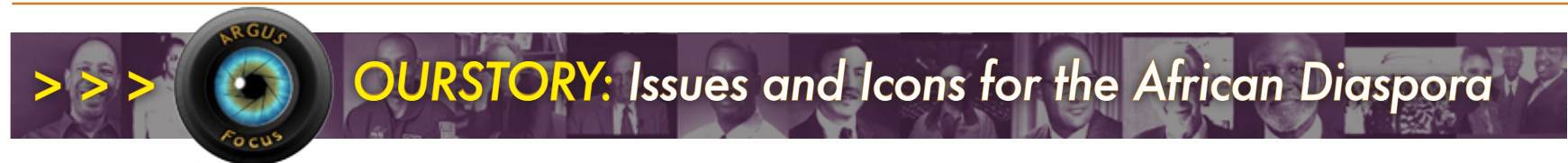
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Two Congressional Black Caucus Members Demand an End to DHS Expulsions to Haiti

by Cindy Hunter
Special to The ARGUS

Two members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) on Tuesday called on Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas to immediately stop expulsions to Haiti.

In a letter obtained by The Hill, Reps. Mondaire Jones (D-N.Y.) and Ayanna Pressley (D-Mass.) summed up their demand to Mayorkas and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director Rochelle Walensky succinctly:

“We write with a request as simple as it is urgent: Stop deporting and expelling people to Haiti. Now.”

The Biden administration has expelled more than 20,000 Haitians in 208 flights as of Tuesday, in most cases denying the Haitians a right to claim asylum in the United States.

At the center of Haitian expulsions is a Trump-era border management policy known as Title 42, which allows the Department of Homeland Security to quickly expel foreign nationals apprehended by U.S. border authorities under the auspices of pandemic sanitary protections regulated by the CDC.

The Biden administration is close to repatriating more Haitians than the last three presidents combined, noted Jones and Pressley.

“Two-thirds of those people have been forcibly flown there after being expelled under Title 42—in clear violation of their legal and fundamental



AN UNPLEASANT UPDATE: As of 2022, There are virtually NO SAFE AREAS in this country. You should not relax anywhere in Haiti – the risk of violent crime is very real everywhere, and this refers to assaults, armed robberies, murders, kidnappings, rapes and any combination of the foregoing.

human right to seek asylum here,” they wrote.

The Biden administration’s decision to continue implementing Title 42, even as it draws down pandemic restrictions on the general population, has been a constant source of criticism from immigrant advocates.

But the disproportionate effect the policy has had on Haitian migrants, a majority of whom are Black, has raised questions of racial double standards in immigration enforcement.

“Recently, on March 3, Immi-

gration and Customs Enforcement suspended deportation flights to Ukraine in response to the ‘ongoing humanitarian crisis’ there - a justified and important exercise of your enforcement discretion. There is every reason to extend that same level of compassion and exercise that same discretion to suspend deportations to Haiti - and, in light of your own findings about the ongoing humanitarian crisis there, no excuse not to,” wrote Jones and Pressley.

And the Biden administration faces a unique challenge in Haiti, a Western Hemisphere country under-

going a deep political and humanitarian crisis.

The Biden administration recognized the gravity of the situation in Haiti last fall, listing the country under Temporary Protected Status (TPS), a program that defers deportations or expulsions to a country undergoing man-made or natural disasters.

While that designation spared Haitians in the United States before the July cutoff date from repatriation, Haitians who arrived later are not eligible for TPS protections.

“This Administration cannot have it both ways. It cannot be that Haiti is in so deep a humanitarian crisis that people who have fled Haiti are entitled to Temporary Protected Status, but also that Haiti is safe enough that you can deport and expel people there by the tens of thousands,” wrote the legislators.

The administration’s expulsions increased significantly after the September crisis in Del Rio, Texas, when nearly 15,000 Haitians crossed the Rio Grande and briefly camped under a highway bridge in the United States.

A majority of those migrants, and Haitians who have subsequently arrived, have been returned to Haiti under the auspices of Title 42, preventing them from claiming asylum.

Mayorkas and other officials have defended the policy as a sanitary necessity given the coronavirus pandemic, but that argument has fallen flat as the pandemic’s effects have waned.

“There is no reason to believe Title 42 expulsions actually protect anyone’s health. In fact, leading public health experts, including former CDC officials, have condemned the use of Title 42 as ‘scientifically baseless and politically motivated,’” wrote Jones and Pressley.

And court cases have further muddied the rationale behind the measure, as the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit ruled “it’s far from clear that the CDC’s order serves any [public health] purpose,” while a Texas federal judge ruled the administration cannot implement an exception for minors and families it had previously announced.



Jones and Pressley joined advocates in calling for the end of Title 42, but also called for a moratorium on repatriations to Haiti specifically, a measure that the United States took after an earthquake in the country during the Obama administration.

“As Representatives for some of the most vibrant Haitian and Haitian-American communities in the country, we know that our constituents deserve so much better than these deportations,” wrote Jones and Pressley.

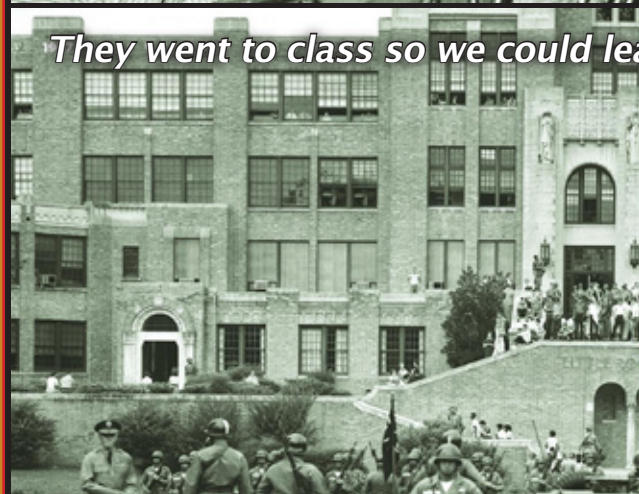

“While more than 20,000 people have already been deported or expelled, it is not too late to protect the thousands more who call our communities home. And it is never too late to do right by those who have already been wronged by welcoming them back home,” they added.

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For more information, go to www.civilrightstrail.com



SOCIETY



St. Louis Women Making History in Education

by Shirley A. Brown
ARGUS Society Editor

March is Women's History Month, a time to recognize the great contributions that women have made to history, culture and society. This article highlights four St. Louis women who have made history in the field of education. Join me in recognizing their leadership and service. In addition, let's commemorate and encourage the study, observance and celebration of the vital role of women in American history.



In 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8th as National Women's History Week. The U.S. Congress followed suit the next year, passing a resolution establishing a national celebration. Six years later, the National Women's History Project successfully petitioned Congress to expand the event to the entire month of March. Since 1987, the United States has observed Women's History Month annually throughout the month of March.

In 2016, Dr. Tiffany Anderson, became the first Black woman to serve as superintendent of the Topeka, Kansas Public Schools, home of the monumental Brown v. Board of Education decision. In addition to her role as superintendent, Dr. Anderson advises Kansas officials on postsecondary policies and on equity policies and legislation. Since she arrived in Topeka, the district has earned four national Magna Awards from the National School Board Association.

Dr. Anderson was recently selected as one of USA-TODAY'S 2022 Women of the Year in recognition of women across the country who have made a significant impact. USA-TODAY named Dr. Anderson the Kansas Woman of the Year and reported that Dr. Anderson still feels the same drive to change other's lives as she did when she walked into her first elementary school classroom in 1994.

"My job is to teach others and to learn from others," Anderson said. "To explore new ways of thinking and doing things, I'm still a teacher, but the title is different."

In 2016 and 2017, national documentaries were created about Dr. Anderson's work with addressing poverty and transforming communities. She was recognized as one of the top six People with Purpose at the Oscars for her innovative work in education. She also earned national recognition from Education Week as one of the nation's 16 Leaders to Learn From.

Born and raised in St. Louis, Dr. Anderson is the former Superintendent of the Jennings Public Schools, former principal of Clark School and former teacher of Riverview Gardens (her first teaching job). She is also a former superintendent of the Montgomery County Public Schools in Virginia. Dr. Anderson received her doctorate degree at Saint Louis University.

Karen Kalish is a serial social entrepreneur focused on education transformation, literacy, academic, opportunity and achievement gaps, and ending racial discrimination.



DR. TIFFANY ANDERSON
Superintendent
Topeka, Kansas Public Schools



KAREN KALISH
Founder
HOME WORKS! The Teacher
Home Visit Program



REVEREND DR. DORIS GRAHAM
Trustee
St. Louis Community College



DR. LATONIA COLLINS SMITH
President
Harris-Stowe State University

She is the founder of Cultural Leadership, founder of Books and Badges, founder of Operation Understanding in DC and founder of Home Works! The Teacher Home Visit Program.

Cultural Leadership is a teen leadership program dedicated to civil rights, social justice and democracy, and how to be activists, advocates and change agents to rid America of racism and all forms of discrimination; Books and Badges partners St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department recruits and other reading partners with St. Louis Public School elementary school students to improve reading and language skills and relations with law enforcement; Operation Understanding (DC), founded in 1993, is a year-long leadership program for high school students that teaches them about their own and each other's races, religions, cultures and histories.

HOME WORKS! The Teacher Home Visit Program was started in 2007 to partner families and teachers for children's academic success. The program trains and pays teachers to go to the homes of their students to get families engaged in their children's education. HOME WORKS! began in a handful of elementary schools, and has since served 116 early childhood, elementary, middle and high schools in urban, suburban, and rural districts in Missouri, including charter schools in St. Louis.

Teachers have made more than 30,000 home visits, primarily to disadvantaged families. In March 2020, HOME WORKS! pivoted to Virtual Home Visits to ensure that all students, especially the hard to reach students, had the resources they needed to succeed academically during COVID-19 and beyond.

Karen has served on the Board of Directors of several non-profits from the NAACP to the Jewish Community Center and she has won many awards for her community service. She received an MPS from the Harvard Kennedy School concentrating on African American issues, leadership and nonprofits.

Reverend Dr. Doris Graham has devoted her life to education and serving others. She is the first Black woman elected to serve on the Ferguson-Florissant District School Board. During her tenure of 28 years on the Board, the district twice was recognized as a school district of distinction by the Missouri School Board Association.

During her 38-year career with the St. Louis Public Schools, Dr. Graham was a classroom teacher, remedial reading specialist, co-host of an after-school radio program, administrator during summer school, and assistant principal at Ames Visual and Performing Arts Elementary School for seven years before she retired.

Dr. Graham was elected to the St. Louis Community College Board of Trustees in 2012 and was re-elected in 2018. She has served as chair and co-chair of the Board. She served two years on the Association of Community College Trustees' Diversity Committee and was instrumental in bringing a Diversity Counsel to STLCC as well as the creation of the position of Director of Diversity and Inclusion.

Dr. Graham is a recipient of many awards including the Lifetime Achiever Award from the St. Louis American's Salute to Excellence in Education; Salute to Women in Leadership Award from the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis; Phi Delta Kappa Public Recognition Award for community service; the Lifetime Achievement Award from the St. Louis Teachers Union; and the Legacy Award from the St. Louis Argus.

Dr. Graham earned her undergraduate degree from Harris Teachers College (now Harris-Stowe State University). She received her master's degree from the University of Missouri-St. Louis and a doctorate at Saint Louis University. She also has a master's degree in pastoral studies from Aquinas Institute of Theology.

Dr. Latonia Collins Smith was appointed President of Harris-Stowe State University in February. She is the first Black woman to serve as President of the institution.

Having served as Interim President since 2021, Dr. Collins Smith has more than 20 years of progressive leadership experience with an extensive background in administration and program development.

Dr. Collins Smith began her career in higher education at Harris-Stowe State University in 2010 as a Project Director in the Office of Counseling Services. She has also served the institution as Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Assistant Provost and as Executive Director of the Center for Career Engagement. Dr. Collins Smith was the co-principal investigator of a \$5 million National Science Foundation grant to substantially strengthen STEM in the state of Missouri, the largest grant in the history of Harris-Stowe. She currently serves as a peer reviewer for the Higher Learning Commission, the nation's largest regional accreditation body.

Dr. Collins Smith serves as chair of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Statewide Celebration Commission of Missouri and board member for the Higher Education Consortium and Greater Sr. Louis, Inc. She is a member of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, and the National Association of Colleges and Employers. She is the recipient of several leadership and service awards including the Equal Education Opportunity Group Pioneer Award, the NAACP Excellence in Education Award, and Delux Magazine's Power 100 in Education Award. She is a 2019 Millennium Leadership Initiative Protégé, a St. Louis Business Diversity Initiative Fellow and a Higher Education Leadership Foundation Fellow.

Dr. Collins Smith received an educational doctorate in higher education from Maryville University. She has a master of social work degree and a master of public health degree from Saint Louis University and a degree from the University of Central Missouri where she majored in social work.

Nominate a Doer: To keep readers informed on who's who in the community, Shirley A. Brown's column highlights a community "Doer." A "Doer" is an individual or organization committed to making St. Louis a and the nation better place to live and work. Readers are invited to send "Doer" recommendations to Ms. Brown. Send to: sbrown601@aol.com.





THE VIBE

AAMU vs. UAPB

2022 St. Louis River City HBCU Classic.



On October 16th, Connell Maynor and the Alabama A&M Bulldogs will travel to St. Louis to face Arkansas-Pine Bluff in the River City HBCU Classic

by Mo Carter
Sports Contributor

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — On Wednesday, Coach Connell Maynor and the Alabama A&M Bulldogs found out that their mid-October matchup with Arkansas-Pine Bluff will not be played at Simmons Bank Field.

Instead, the Bulldogs and Golden Lions will square off in St. Louis, Missouri in the 2022 St. Louis River City HBCU Classic.

The FOX 54 Sports Team confirmed with UAPB Athletics that the game will be played inside The Dome at America's Center on Sunday, October 16th.

Arkansas-Pine Bluff and Alabama A&M have met in St. Louis before. The Golden Lions defeated the Bulldogs 24-10 in the former Gateway Classic in 2004.

The two SWAC foes met twice in 2021. Alabama A&M defeated UAPB, 40-33 in the spring SWAC Football Championship. The Bulldogs also defeated the Golden Lions, 52-24 in the season finale of 2021.

‘It’s Just Culture’

Vashon Continues its Dominant Run.



The Wolverines won another state hoops title over the weekend with a 57-49 victory over Tolton in the Class 4 finals. It was Irons’ sixth state championship.

ARGUS Staff Report

ST. LOUIS — It usually takes quite a while to become a legendary coach in St. Louis.

But at just 38 years old, Vashon’s Tony Irons is already well on his way to “legend” status.

The Wolverines won another state

hoops title over the weekend with a 57-49 victory over Tolton in the Class 4 finals. It was Irons’ sixth state championship.

Although he knows what it’s like to finish on top, Irons said this year’s win had a special feeling to it.

“This one probably even more so. Just because we didn’t have a lot of returning kids. We had a bunch of young guys, and so to get an opportunity for freshmen to go and experience that as a whole new nucleus, it’s something special,” Irons told 5 On Your Side’s Frank Cusumano.

Vashon is no stranger to basketball glory as one of the premier basketball powerhouses in Missouri history. Irons has been able to build on that tradition while imprinting his own mark on the program.

“It’s just culture. I know that’s a buzzword a lot of times, but it’s actually real. A lot of our guys that have gone off to play college, they stay in touch with the kids that are on our team now and they preach the same thing. They want them to be successful,” Irons said.

Of course, Irons’ dad is a big part of that history. Floyd Irons won 10 state titles at Vashon and set the groundwork for his son to learn how to be a championship coach.

The younger Irons said there are many things he took from watching his dad coach.

“Preparation, definitely. Being able to go and watch his practices as a kid and just being around it. Just seeing how he went about things on a daily basis. He was real organized. I try to be organized like that,” Irons said. “We have somewhat differences in philosophy in certain things, but for the most part with both center everything around kids and wanting them to be successful and have opportunities when they get done with high school.”

Since this year’s team was filled with underclassmen, the Wolverines will have some high expectations next year as well, with just about the entire team returning.

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THE VIBE

Black Billionaires' Bounty Boosts HBCUs

Historically Black Schools Receive Large Financial Gifts from Famous Benefactors.

by Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.
President and CEO, NNPA

Billionaire philanthropist and novelist MacKenzie Scott's \$560 million donation last year to 23 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) made headlines across the country at a time when racial equity has become front-page news. However, for decades Black leaders in business, entertainment, education, and other fields have been the main sources of philanthropic donations to HBCUs.

A recent Washington Post story found that Black Americans donate a higher share of their wealth than their white counterparts – to the tune of around \$11 billion each year. Given their cultural and educational importance to the Black community, HBCUs are the repository of much of these donations with a number of household names – and some you may not know – making big-dollar contributions to these institutions.

Here are some of the most prominent Black philanthropists to donate to HBCUs:

Robert F. Smith – Chairman & CEO, Vista Equity Partners

Smith, the billionaire investor behind the software private equity firm Vista Equity Partners, drew widespread praise in May 2019 when he announced that he and his family would pay off the entire student loan debt of the 2019 Morehouse College graduating class of 396 students. Along with paying off the student debt, Smith's \$35 million donation also helped establish the Student Success Program to reduce or eliminate debt for all Morehouse grads. The private equity guru also gave the school an additional \$1.5 million to create the Robert Frederick Smith Scholars Program and build a park on campus.

As board chair of the Student Freedom Initiative – a plan to provide STEM students at HBCUs with a family-centric, income-contingent payment alternative to high-cost, fixed-payment debt – Smith pledged \$50 million. Smith's donation jump-started the initiative, which hopes to raise \$500 million for the effort and began operations in the fall of 2021 at eleven HBCUs.

"Each year, thousands of Black graduates from HBCUs across America enter the workforce with a crushing debt burden that stunts future decisions and prevents opportunities and choices," Smith said. "The initiative is purposefully built to redress historic economic and social inequities and to offer a sustainable, scalable platform to invest in the education of future Black leaders."

Oprah Winfrey, Television Personality, Philanthropist, Author, Entrepreneur & Actress

Most people may know the philanthropic acts of Oprah – who, like Beyoncé, Prince, and Zendaya needs no further introduction – through the infamous "You get a Car!" episode of her talk show, but she is also quietly, one of the biggest donors to HBCUs in the country.

In 2019, Oprah donated \$13 million to Morehouse College to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Oprah Winfrey Scholars Program at the HBCU. Overall, Oprah has donated at least \$25 million to the Atlanta school. "I felt that the very first time I came here," Oprah said. "The money was an offering to support that in these young men. I understand that African American men are an endangered species. They are so misunderstood. They are so marginalized."

Besides her gift to Morehouse, Oprah also donated \$1.5 million to the United Negro College Fund to help pay for scholarships for Black students and general scholarship



BENEVOLENT BILLIONAIRES: Robert F. Smith, Oprah Winfrey, Michael Jordan, Frank Baker and William Pickard top the list of black donors to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

funds for 37 private HBCUs.

Frank Baker – Founder and Managing Partner of Siris Capital

Baker, the founder of private equity firm Siris, along with his wife, interior designer Laura Day Baker, donated \$1 million in May 2020 to establish a scholarship fund at Atlanta's Spelman College, the oldest private historically Black liberal arts college for women.

Initially, the scholarship paid off the existing spring tuition balances of nearly 50 members of Spelman's 2020 graduating class and the remaining funds are meant to ensure that future high achieving graduating seniors have the financial resources to graduate.

"We are all aware of the headwinds that people of color – especially women – face in our country, the challenges of which are made even more apparent by the economic and health impact of the COVID-19 pandemic," the couple said in a press release. "We believe it is critical that talented women finish college and confidently enter – free of undue financial stress – the initial stage of their professional careers."

William F. Pickard – Businessman, Co-owner of Real Times Media

Detroit businessman and philanthropist Pickard has a long history of donating to HBCUs across the country. Most recently Pickard and his cousin, Cincinnati businessman Judson W. Pickard Jr., donated \$2 million to Morehouse College to create the Pickard Scholars Program. This program will recruit and support Black students from metro Detroit, Flint, greater Cincinnati, and LaGrange, Georgia to attend the Atlanta HBCU.

"People have uplifted and helped me grow and I believe in blessing others," Pickard, whose children attended Morehouse, told the Atlanta Tribune. "Our gifts are given to where we are from and those who have invested in us and who we are."

The Pickard Family Foundation also donated \$100,000 to the National Black MBA Association to create the William F. Pickard Business Scholarship Fund. The fund is open to qualified business student members at several HBCUs who need help financing their education.

Michael Jordan – Former NBA Superstar

Michael Jordan is arguably the greatest basketball player of all time and is almost single-handedly responsible for transforming the game into the global phenomenon it is today. So, if anybody knows how to make an impact on HBCUs, it would be His Airness.

The six-time NBA champion and five-time league MVP, along with Nike's Jordan Brand, donated \$1 million last year to Morehouse College to boost the school's journalism and sports-related studies program. The donation is meant to bolster a program launched thanks to the donation of another icon, director Spike Lee.

"Education is crucial for understanding the Black experience today," Jordan said in a press release. "We want to help people understand the truth of our past and help tell the stories that will shape our future."

The donation to Morehouse is part of a pledge made by Jordan and his brand in 2020 to donate \$100 million over the next ten years to combat racism across the country.





HOW A SILVER LINING FORMS

IT STARTS AT SEA.

Tropical waters heat up,
Warm air soars upward,
Cold air rushes to the void,
Cold air warms up,
The cycle repeats.

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A 50,000-foot engine of air begins moving,
At seventy miles per hour it earns a name,
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But for a brief, shining moment
A SILVER LINING APPEARS.

People see neighbors instead of strangers,
Labels that normally divide are forgotten.
So when rains finally ease,
When clouds finally part,
SILVER LININGS NEED NOT FADE.

love has no labels

ad COUNCIL

LAST LOOK

Remembering *the* Great Betty Shabazz

The Wife of Civil Rights Legend Malcolm X was an Icon in Her Own Right.

by Dr. Kai Hora El-Aminis
ARGUS Contributor

Liberation discourse and Womanist rhetoric often locate the “Mothers of the Movement” with considerable contributions to the work of freedom. Betty Shabazz, the spouse of el-Hajj Malik el-Shabazz (Malcolm X), is one of the “Mothers of the Movement” for her contributions to advocacy through health and education. Education is a revolution, and it is revolutionary.

Betty Shabazz grew up sheltered from racism by her aunt and uncle, her foster parents. Born into a single-parent household experiencing documented abuse, she moved to Detroit. They cultivated her religious experience in the African Methodism, attending services with significant religious experiences. She appreciated the discipline and spiritual connection.

The violence of oppression associated with racist ideas, lynching, and inequity for females experienced during her tenure at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, made Malcolm’s message of racial uplift, social and community reform more appealing. So much so that after moving to New York, her first encounters with Malcolm, before their marriage, was not to encourage a relationship; but, the reconstruction of Black minds and community life through education, awareness, and economic development.

Their marriage sealed their commitment to family and community.



Their common bond furthered belief in the responsibility of Black people to fight against systemic racism and to “by any means necessary” advocate for the community itself.

The assassination of Malcolm in 1965 created an opportunity to progress in areas of gender identity, racial uplift, and the collective community. Maintaining a commitment to the Nation of Islam, Betty Shabazz raised her daughters, recognizing the strength needed to navigate grief and continue the movement towards civil rights.

She continued her education with a degree in healthcare administration, a Ph.D. in education; became the first African American Professor at Medgar Evers College. She furthered the revolution, ensuring that her children were equipped to navigate the world learning French, Arabic, theology, and medicine. Betty Shabazz was cited as wanting to assure that her daughters could use mind, body, and

spirit in the fight against injustice and inequity in this world.

Ritualized mundane is how one author describes revolutionary education towards flourishing for the community. Mother Betty Shabazz, shy in demure, took the everydayness of life and examined their experiences under the lens of injustice. “Oppression is not incidental but orchestrated,” she said when challenging misrepresentations and misinterpretations of Malcolm’s message.

“Malcolm did not preach hate. He addressed people who had lost hope with the message that you had a past before slavery; and a present for which you are responsible. The goal is to ensure a future with love for yourself, your community, and equitable, shareable resources in mind. Hate is an emotion that bigots have redefined with a white agenda. There is a season for hate as we are redemptive people. Love and hate go

together.”

This struggle continues as Black women reclaim Black lives and Black families and invite the juxtaposition between love and hate. The resurgence of home-based, faith-centered education: formal and informal vocations designed to confront and challenge racism: focus community, capacity building, and process development are the results of love for self and community. Racism, sexism, xenophobia result in hate. Hate for systemic oppression, fostered a restructuring of feminist agendas that espouse inequity while deconstructing Black family life and the responsibility to ensure a collective identity where we change and thrive. Womanist dialogue encourages a type of love, Black women harnessing age-old techniques of strength and strategy towards the common good for humankind. Thank you, Mother Betty Shabazz.

Dr. Kai Horn El-Aminis an Assistant Professor of Religion at Lane College in Jackson, Tennessee



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