

INGLEWOOD TODAY

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City of Champions Initiative Qualifies in Less than 2 Weeks

By Veronica Mackey

Looks like Inglewood has scored another touchdown toward the coveted prize of an NFL stadium. Though nothing is solid yet—except for Rams owner Stan Kroenke purchasing 60 acres of prime Inglewood property adjacent to Hollywood Park and now more than enough signatures for an 80,000-seat stadium to be put on the ballot—City of Champion Initiative insiders are moving full speed ahead.

Less than two weeks ago, dozens of boxes with signed petitions were shipped to the Los Angeles County



Mayor James Butts

Registrar's Office to be certified. Now enough signatures have been certified in favor of the initiative.

And while NFL Commissioner Roger Goodall has made it very clear that no football franchise will move to Inglewood/Los Angeles without NFL approval, for many that seems like a moot point.



Magic Johnson

According to Mayor James Butts, Inglewood City Clerk Yvonne Horton received boxes of signatures from the Los Angeles County Registrar's Office on Wednesday. More than 16,000 signatures are likely to be good ones according to the number submitted to be certified. This would

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Storytellers of Black History

Griots to Award-Winning Directors

Since the beginning of time, storytelling has been an important event in African and African American communities. Through storytelling, questions were answered, history was conveyed, and lifelong lessons were taught and learned.

The art of storytelling is deeply imbedded in African culture. In the western country of Ghana, storytellers were called "griots." After dinner, villagers might hear the sound of a drum or a rattle announcing a story was soon to be told. They collected around a central fire and settled down to listen.



Ava DuVernay

This ancient form of entertainment thrilled listeners, with stories about the gods and goddesses. Griots told tales of war and battle, heroes, leaders and kings. Stories were often accompanied with music, dancing and song. There was no written language, so stories kept their history alive.

When Africans were brought to the Americas during the infamous slave trade, the slavers denied (Continued on page 12)

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Salute to Young Black Entrepreneurs

By Thomas Bunn

In traditional Black History Month fashion, we often regurgitate the popular rhetoric and praise familiar faces. In loving contrast to tradition, I want to salute a couple of individuals who in their late teens have already created their own careers

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COMMUNITY

Salute to Young Black Entrepreneurs

(Continued from page 1)

and the careers of over 200 others. These are my top young entrepreneurs under 21.

Excerpt From BMWK:

First up, is Jaylen Bledsoe, CEO of Bledsoe Technologies, a tech company that specializes in web design and information technology. The fact that Bledsoe Technologies is worth nearly 3.5 million dollars may not surprise you. What is truly fascinating, however, is that the company was founded four years ago by then 12-year-old Jaylen.

Since then, Bledsoe Technologies has become the number one information technology consultancy firm operated by a minor in the Mid-West. The company has grown from two employees to nearly 150 contracted workers in order to meet demand for its services.

Attending classes at his school's gift-education program, Mr. Bledsoe developed an interest in web design, which created the motivation for starting his own company. Jaylen's company now provides online marketing campaigns, e-commerce solutions, corporate branding, and technology consulting to small and mid-sized businesses.

The young entrepreneur's best advice: "Keep going, move forward and always take risks."

And the young man is just getting started. He is currently working on a new project that allows customers to check into their hotel rooms with their cell phones and use the phone as a room key. He eventually has sights set on attending Harvard University.

Excerpt from The Griot

Next on my list of young entrepreneurs is Ms. Leanna Archer. CEO of Leanna's Hair, a line of natural hair and body care products. When she was nine years old her mother would make hair pomade using natural ingredients from Haiti and a secret recipe passed down from her great-grandmother. After getting multiple compliments on her hair, Leanna gave her friends a few samples of the pomade and from there the orders started pouring in.

After researching how to start a business online, Leanna convinced her parents it was time to start selling a line of hair and body products. After starting the business in her basement, Archer's parents eventually quit their full-time jobs to help her mix, package and send out the products to customers.

Archer's line includes shampoos, conditioners, lotions and more, infused with avocado, hibiscus and other natural oils. All of Archer's products are available online. She also gives other youth the opportunity to venture into business by

offering Leanna's Inc. "Kid Rep." spots all over the country to young people seeking to sell and distribute her products.

Now 17, Leanna earns an annual revenue of more than \$100,000 per year.

There's nothing more empowering than seeing someone who is treading new ground in the present moment. We've heard so many of the same stories about the same great individuals that the message begins to lose its impact.

The fact that these are young people defining for themselves, who they want to be speaks to the reality that our community is ready to balance the playing field. We must begin implementing self-reliance themed curriculum into our schools, and begin moving with a spirit of expectation. Alexander Pop said, "Blessed is he who expects nothing, for he shall never be disappointed. Bruce Lee, to Paulo Coelho, has phrased this same ideology. It's a seemingly popular belief that a life should be lead without expectation of anything to prevent disappointment.

Well, I challenge that belief by saying that the expectation of nothing, is nothing more than an excuse to relinquish personal responsibility. We are all interdependent upon one another, and if an individual does not live up to his potential, he places a burden on the whole. I would challenge everyone especially parents to set high expectations for their children and their families. For one, it gives your child guidance and something to strive for. And most importantly, as a parent, the expectations you place on your child or family directly relate to you as well. You force yourself to raise your sights and your efforts to ensure that you can walk the walk.

If you are reading this and wondering, what does this have to do with Inglewood? It has everything to do with our city. Our students need to see themselves in positions of importance, and position of power. It heightens their scope of what's possible, and inspires them to want to achieve more. Big Inglewood salute to Jayden Bledsoe and Leanna Archer for their pursuit of excellence. We wish you much success.

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COMMUNITY

Morningside High Students Perform

By Anne Cheek La Rose

Last week, I had a wonderful afternoon attending a rehearsal for a musical revue of icons from the 40's to the 90's. As a former actor, I've been part of or sat in on many rehearsals, but this one was a WOW! Before I tell you more, let me give you some background.



Courtney Kirby as Etta James

Giving Back Corp. is a non-profit Inglewood organization devoted to fostering higher education for high school students moving on to both college and trade schools with scholarships. The scholarships are for \$500 each and are used for books and supplies. Over the years, more than 200 scholarships have been awarded as well as putting various supplies in classrooms in Inglewood and Los Angeles.

This musical revue is Giving Back's latest annual fundraiser and this is the second year. Dorsey High was the location last year. Giving Back is so very pleased to bring their fundraiser back to Inglewood.

Morningside High School has teamed with Giving Back for this year's Vaudeville "Lip-Syncing" Musical Revue, "where youth become the legends." Principal Reginald Sirls has completely embraced this opportunity for MHS and the students. Theatre Department head, Eddie Slack, Jr., is co-directing the revue with actor and Giving Back



(L-R) Jordan Paige, Eddie Slack, III, and Austin Windom as The Pips founder, Ken Sagoes, and Chester Whitmore has choreographed some of the numbers. This is a wonderful opportunity for Morningside drama students (and students from other schools) to work with professionals and learn how a professional show is put together.

I had the opportunity to see Asia Malone-Dyson rehearse her solo Diana Ross number, "Ain't No Mountain High Enough," Austin Windom doing the Ben E. King hit, "Stand By Me"; Courtney Kirby transforming herself into Etta James
(Continued on page 4)

ATTENTION ESTIMATING INVITATION TO BID

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PROJECT: Hollywood Park Phase 1 Infrastructure Project

BID DUE DATE: February 23, 2015 by 1:00PM

You are invited to submit a Bid Proposal for the Hollywood Park Phase 1 Infrastructure Project Century Boulevard and Prairie Avenue Landscape Project, located in Inglewood, CA.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project consists of providing Public Right of Way Landscaping on Century Boulevard and Prairie Avenue for the development of a new community on the 238 acre Hollywood Park site.

Important Dates:

1. Issuance of Formal Bid Package: **January 28, 2015**
2. RFI's Due before: **February 9, 2015** (emailed to HollywoodPark@tcco.com)
3. Public Bids Due: **February 23, 2015 by 1:00PM** (hand delivered: 910 S. Prairie Avenue, Inglewood, CA 90301)
4. Public Bid Opening: **February 24, 2015 @ 9:00AM** (Casino Pavilion 1st floor)

This is the Bid Package for pricing:

1. Century Blvd. & Prairie Ave. Landscaping

JOBWALK: One (1) Pre-bid Meeting & **mandatory** job walk will be provided. Bidding contractor is required to attend the meeting. The person that attends the event must be the person responsible for the bid submission. Please provide proper PPE for the walk (Hard hat, boots, eye protection, gloves, etc.). The date for the job walk is:

1. **February 6, 2015** at 9 AM

PROJECT LOCATION: Hollywood Park, 910 S. Prairie, Inglewood, CA 90301; meet at the CM Office. For security purposes, please contact the Construction Management Team and provide the names of the attendees so that we may place the names on the visitor list. HollywoodPark@tcco.com

BID RESPONSES: Sealed bids in a Company Envelope using the attached Bid Form are due to the Owner, Hollywood Park Land Company and the Owner's representative, Turner Construction **by 1:00 pm** at the Construction Manager's Office located at 910 S. Prairie, Inglewood, CA 90301 on **February 23, 2015**. Late submissions will NOT be accepted. The bids will be opened publicly on February 24, 2015 at 9 AM inside the Casino Pavilion (first floor) by the Hollywood Park Construction Management Team. A company proposal must be included with the Bid Form to address the additional bid response requirements listed below. Although the basis of award is Price, the following items **MUST** be included in your bid response (found on the bid form):

1. Completed bid form and attachments.
2. Acceptance of the Project Schedule.
3. Confirmation and Acceptance of all items in the Additional Provisions scope of work.
4. List any DBE / MBE participation, including sub-tier participation as a total percentage of your Price. Participation is 30% at all tiers or a "good faith effort".
5. Completion of "Information Required of Bidders".
6. Project proposal on company letterhead.
7. Payment & Performance bonds are required.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Provide a Lump Sum Bid Proposal in accordance with the Bid Documents on the provided bid form.
2. Union labor is to be provided.
3. Schedule: Phased Project. Start date **March, 2015**; end date **April, 2016**. Provide long lead items and fabrication data with proposal, as applicable.

BID DOCUMENTS: Bid Documents will be provided electronically on **January 28, 2015**.

COMMUNITY

Morningside High Students Perform

(Continued from page 3)

for “It’s Over,” and MHS alumna Sandra Cerna doing Frieda Payne’s “Band of Gold.”

Rehearsals are often disjointed, so on the day I sat in, I was treated to the Pips – Jordan Paige, Austin Windom, and Eddie Slack, III – without their Gladys Knight, working on “Midnight Train to Georgia”

and Nakya Gant and Asia (missing the other Supreme) running through the Supremes’ “You Can’t Hurry Love.” I also watched as Eddie Slack, III, performed Fats Waller’s “Lulu’s Back in Town” and “Chain Gang” by Sam Cooke. Joshua Conteh will be performing as Sammy Davis, Jr. and Stevie Wonder.



(L-R) Sandra Cerna as Frieda Payne; Nakya Gant and Asia Malone-Dyson as the Supremes



Partial cast with Ken Sagoes (left) and Eddie Slack, Jr. (right)

While the backstage crew and most of the performers are Morningside students, there are a few students from other high schools and a handful of non-students to round out the cast.

In addition to raising funds for scholarships, Giving Back is making sure the Morningside Theatre Department will benefit. \$1 of each full price ticket (\$20) and \$1 of each advance student ticket (\$3 in advance and \$5 at the Box Office) sold will

go to the Theatre Department. In addition, Giving Back is awarding two scholarships to MHS students.

The one and only performance will take place Saturday, February 22 at 3pm in the MHS auditorium. Morningside is located at 10500 S Yukon Ave, two blocks south of Century. Call (310) 226-6198 for student and group tickets.

Don’t miss this once-a-year, dancing-in-your-seat, toe-tapping good time.

Pick up your copy of *Inglewood Today* at one of these locations:

- 1 Stop Mini-Mart, 420 E. Florence Ave.
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- Airport Gas, 501 Hillcrest St.
- Allstate, 2300 W. Manchester Bl.
- Bayou Grill, 1400 N. La Brea Ave.
- Boston Cream Donuts, 2576 La Brea Ave.
- Bourbon Street Fish & Grill, 601 S. Prairie Ave.
- Briarwood, 3500 Manchester Bl.
- Broadway Federal Bank, 170 N. Market St.
- Brolly Hut Barber Shop on 109th & Crenshaw
- Bruno’s Pizza, 450 E. Manchester Bl.
- Budda Market, 3753 Slauson (Rimpau)
- C&J Beauty Supply, 11252 Crenshaw Bl.
- Carlton Square, 8700 Carlton
- Centinela Hospital, 555 E. Hardy St.
- Chili’s, 3490 W. Century Bl.
- Chile Verde on Crenshaw
- Choice Berry, 599 1/2 S. La Brea Ave.
- City One Stop, 110 Queen St.
- Cranford Scott, M.D., 211 N. Prairie Ave.
- CVS Pharmacy, 222 N. Market St.
- Darby Park, 3400 W. Arbor Vitae
- Dulan’s Soul Food Kitchen #1, 202 E. Manchester Bl.
- Dulan’s Soul Food Kitchen #2, 3249 W. Century Bl.
- Edward Vincent Park Senior Ctr., 700 Warren Lane
- Fabulous Burger, 1315 Centinela Ave.,
- Family Fish Market, 1300 Centinela Ave.
- Fiesta Martin Mexican Grill, 1330 N. La Brea Ave.
- Gin’s Liquor, 11001 Crenshaw Bl.
- Gonzales Northgate Market, 10801 Prairie Ave.
- Heart & Soul Grill, 128 N. Market St.
- Hollywood Park Casino, 1050 S. Prairie Ave.
- Inglewood Airport Area, 330 E. Queen St.
- Inglewood Park Cemetery, 720 E. Florence Ave.
- Inglewood Community Police Ctr., Manchester/7th Ave.
- Inglewood City Hall, 1 West Manchester Bl.
- Inglewood Library, 101 W. Manchester Bl.
- Inglewood Meadows, 1 Locust St.
- Inglewood Park Mortuary, 3801 W. Manchester Bl.
- Inglewood Police Station, 1 West Manchester Bl.
- Inglewood Today, 949 S. La Brea Ave.
- Inglewood Unified School District, 401 S. Inglewood Ave.
- In the Kut Barber Shop on 109th & Crenshaw
- Jamba Juice, 5305 W. Centinela Ave.
- King Fish Market, 10901 Crenshaw Bl.
- KJLH Radio, 161 N. La Brea Ave.
- Ladera Physiotherapy, 409 S. La Brea Ave.

- Lan’s Nails, 10901 S. Crenshaw Bl.
- Lawrence Carey Barber Shop, 10901 S. Crenshaw Bl.
- Liquorette Liquor Store, 1400 Centinela Ave.
- Louisiana Fried Chicken, 170 La Brea
- Lucy Laundromat across from Sizzler’s on Manchester
- M&M’s Soul Food on Manchester
- M&M’s Soul Food (new) on Crenshaw
- Martino’s Liquor, 706 E. Manchester Bl.
- Mike’s Deli, 4859 W. Slauson Ave.
- Moby’s Breakfast & Lunch, 3008 W. Manchester Bl.
- Morningside Adult Day Care, 3216 W. Manchester Bl.
- Nix Check Cashing, 140 E. Manchester
- Nix Check Cashing on Crenshaw & 110th
- Osage Senior Villas, 924 S. Osage
- Pann’s, 6710 La Tijera Bl.
- Pay Day Loans on Crenshaw & 110
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- Stuff I Eat, 114 N. Market St.
- Super Fish Market, 11007 S Crenshaw Bl.
- Superior Groceries, 11202 S Crenshaw Bl.
- The Serving Spoon, 1403 Centinela Ave.
- TGIFriday’s, 6721 La Tijera Bl.
- True Vine Baptist Church, 1437 Centinela Ave.
- Union Bank, 6719 La Tijera Bl.
- Vons, 500 E. Manchester Bl.
- Walgreens on Century
- Westchester Villa Senior Living, 220 W. Manchester Bl.
- Whole Foods, 4508 Overhill (Slauson)
- Winchell’s Donuts, 2601 W. Manchester Bl.
- Winchell’s Donut Shop on Crenshaw near 108th St.
- Wings Stop on Century
- Wise Tires & Brakes, 949 S. La Brea Ave.
- Woody’s Barbeque, 4751 S. Market St.
- Yvonne B. Burke Senior Center, 4750 62nd St. (La Brea)



PUBLISHER'S MESSAGE

Black History Has a Legacy of Strength

February 11th marked the 25th anniversary of Nelson Mandela's release from prison in South Africa. Imprisoned 27 years for speaking out against his country's minority white rule, he was the "Dr. Martin Luther King" of his day. And like Dr. King, Mandela, a former lawyer, refused to allow injustice to dampen his spirit. Finally released at age 73, he was just getting started, more determined than ever to change the culture that had imprisoned him. Mandela would go on to become South Africa's first black president 4 years later.

To separate African American history from African history would be nearly impossible. We owe so much of our strength and resilience to our brothers and sisters across the Atlantic. It is this same strength of Mandela that keeps popping up in countless lives of African Americans faced with various forms of injustice.

Whether we're talking about black folks in America, South America, Africa or Europe, skin color, to some extent, dictates how people are viewed and treated. What Black Americans share with other members of the African Diaspora is the legacy of strength; the unquenchable spirit that refuses to quit.

As we have been painfully reminded over the last two years, black men in particular are walking targets for abuse. The multiple shooting deaths of unarmed black men, along with countless others who are behind bars for the least of crimes, speaks to the desperate need for more heroes and role models.

We need heroes willing to fight injustice, not just react to it. Mandela decided he would change the corrupt Apartheid system even before his release. Speaking to the crowds in his hometown of Soweto, he raised his clenched fist, signaling his determination to end the



Willie Brown, Publisher, Inglewood Today Weekly
system of racial discrimination. It was a turning point in South Africa's history.

In America, as in Africa and other places, the heavy weight of racism can wear us down. It takes faith, courage and vision to keep going when you keep getting knocked down. What made Mandela and King different was their commitment not only to change the system, but to bring people of all races together, without violence. It's easy to fight back against those who fight you. It takes real strength to keep offering the olive branch.

We need more people like Nelson Mandela as role models, no matter where in the world we live. And there is no better time than Black History Month to practice tolerance and nonviolence. Inner strength, self-control, commitment and courage—these are qualities that have served African descendants over the centuries. It is what has helped them to survive slavery, discrimination, injustice, police beatings and just about every inhumane experience imaginable.

Black History Month would be incomplete without acknowledging struggles and injustice. At the same time, the legacy of strength and personal determination is one in which African Americans can be proud, and one that can inspire everyone regardless of race




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Yvonne Horton

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HEALTH & FITNESS

6 Healthy Habits to Implement

In February, American Heart Month Misconceptions Are Among the Greatest Obstacles for Heart Health, Says One of the 'Best Doctors in America'*

Despite decades of medical research and public campaigns to ease the problem, heart disease remains the No. 1 killer in the United States and throughout the Western world.

One of the problems driving heart disease is the messaging, says Robert Thompson, M.D., an integrative medicine specialist deemed by his peers to be in the top 5 percent of U.S. physicians. While there's plenty of good research to indicate good advice, the general public, and many of his peers in the medical community, are stuck with faulty conclusions, he says.

"Perhaps the biggest misconception is that an overabundance of calcium, which may include supplements, is very good for people, especially women, but that's simply not true," says Thompson, author of *The Calcium Lie II: What Your Doctor Still Doesn't Know*, (calciumliebook.com), a new book that details the roles minerals play in overall health and how to identify and correct deficiencies and imbalances.

Calcium is just one of 12 substances, as well as traces of 64 other minerals, that make up our bones. Excessive amounts of calcium hurt our bodies in many ways, especially the heart and the brain, he says. We cannot possibly replace minerals with just calcium, which hardens concrete and makes bones more brittle.

One study, published in the *British Medical Journal* in 2008, was meant to assess the effect of calcium on bone density and fractures in postmenopausal women. Researchers found that participating women were significantly more likely to suffer heart attacks while taking calcium supplements.

"This is far from an isolated study—there are others, including 15 studies combined into a meta-

analysis yielding similar heart-health results, which show an increased risk of heart disease by at least 30 percent," says Thompson, who offers practical recommendations for what individuals can start doing for better overall health in recognition of American Heart Month, celebrated in February.

- **Drink at least 64 ounces of water a day.** As a general rule, we need to drink half of our bodyweight in ounces of water daily. For a 150-pound individual, that's 75 ounces of water. Those who are overweight, or are heavy exercisers or live in warm climates may need more. Take care to drink quality water. Get a quality filtration system at home, which can range from \$200 to \$3,000.

- **Take ionic sea salt-derived minerals.** We all need a diverse range of minerals and virtually none of us get enough. Ionic minerals are the only ones that are completely available for our bodies to use because they are water-soluble and they naturally carry an electrical charge that allows them to be carried through the cell membranes. All sea salt-derived trace mineral products are recommended—at least three grams per day.

- **Use only vitamin supplements made from 100 percent organic whole foods that have been vine-ripened.** Almost all of us need supplements because contemporary food supplies lack adequate amounts of vitamins and minerals, thanks to soil depletion. Most store-bought vitamins include just one component of the many complex molecular elements contained in the naturally occurring vitamin source. You need all of the nutrient



components to get the full benefits.

- **Get your fill of essential fatty acids; raw nuts and/or seeds are a good source.** In 2003, the Food and Drug Administration approved the following health claim for seven kinds of nuts: "Scientific evidence suggests but does not prove that eating 1.5 oz. per day of most raw nuts as part of a diet low in saturated fat and cholesterol may reduce the risk of heart disease." Omega-3 and Omega-6 are considered essential because humans can't manufacture them within our bodies. Research has now shown that plant-derived Omega 6, and not fish oil, is the best oil for humans.

- **Eat high-quality proteins.** Seafood, eggs, beans, chicken, game meat, duck and turkey are excellent sources of essential amino acids that are the building blocks of every protein molecule, hormone, neurotransmitter, cell membranes and immune

molecules. Proteins can also be obtained from grains, sprouted grains, raw nuts and raw seeds. Vegetarians and vegans need to play close attention to combine protein sources to get the full complement of amino acids.

- **Walk at least 30 minutes every day.** This activity has a huge effect on relieving the physiologic effects of stress on the human physiology. Exercise is good, but walking is amazing. No other single activity will more significantly or more rapidly affect the adrenal stress response in humans than walking, which probably works so well because it slows us down. And, it is an incredible way to build relationships.

"Also, I recommend ingesting essential monosaccharides, which is new and unknown territory for most people," he says. "They are the simplest form of carbohydrate molecules found in the body, are essential for protein molecules and can be found in maple syrup, sweet potatoes, parsnips, beets and onions."

Dr. Robert Thompson is a board-certified obstetrician and gynecologist, and a nutrition specialist who helps patients get long-term relief from chronic disease, including obesity, diabetes, hypothyroidism and adrenal fatigue. His newest book, *The Calcium Lie II*, is available for free at calciumliebook.com. Dr. Thompson received his medical training at the University of Kentucky and has been a leader in medical advances for more than 30 years.

* Robert Thompson, M.D., was added to the peer-reviewed directory, "Best Doctors in America," in 1996.

Tips for Eating a Gluten Free Diet

By Jackie Lawrence

A gluten free diet is mostly preferred for treating celiac disease, dermatitis herpetiformis, Lyme disease, migraines, and wheat allergies. This wheat-free diet avoids foods such as wheat, rye, triticale, and barley. This diet may also exclude oats, but there are many differing opinions on including or excluding oats in the gluten free diet.

The main food items that are included in the gluten-free diet are potatoes, corn, tapioca, rice, amaranth, millet, lupin, taro, yam, arrowroot, montina, quinoa, teff, and chia seed.

Various types of soybean, beans, and nut flours are also included in the diet. Gluten is included in foods for thickening or stabilizing the food products such as ketchups and ice creams. These food items are not suitable in the gluten free diet.

Some cosmetics such as lip balms, lip gloss, and lipsticks may also contain gluten, and therefore a careful investigation should be done before use. It may be necessary to change to gluten free cooking and start a new eating habit. But, changing the diet at the initial phase may also be a

bit troubling. The best way to cook gluten free foods successfully is to keep everything simple.

A gluten free diet can be easily followed by simply reading the labels on the already prepared foods. Foods that contain items such as vegetable protein, cereal products, malt, starches, vegetable gum, and stabilizers should not be eaten. Breaded foods, meatloaf, and creamy foods that may contain wheat thickeners should be avoided.

It is actually good to regularly check with a nutritionist to deter-

mine whether your gluten free diet meets nutritional needs. Also, invest in a good gluten free cookbook to avoid getting bored with this diet.

Jackie Lawrence helps people learn how to eat a gluten free diet. One of the hardest things about eating gluten free is figuring out how to replace the foods you use most often in cooking, like cream of mushroom soup. If you're in this situation, check out this gluten free cream of mushroom (<http://glutenfreecookingschool.com>) and other recipes.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

SCE Black History Month Celebration Honors Energy-Efficiency Champions, Community Partners

Southern California Edison (SCE) honored the Compton Unified School District, the Inglewood Unified School District, the Moreno Valley Black Chamber of Commerce and the Youth Action Project at its 13th annual Black History Month celebration on Feb. 6 at SCE's Energy Education Center in Irwindale.

A crowd of 300 attended the event, which honored achievements of local African-American businesses and leaders, their contributions to economic growth, service to the community and participation in energy-efficiency programs.

"This celebration recognizes the importance of African-American contributions to our communities, our state and our nation," said SCE President Pedro Pizarro. "SCE serves one of the most ethnically diverse regions of the country and serving our customers means embracing and incorporating diversity into everything we do."

"Our partnerships with our business and community leaders are the foundation of the service we provide to our customers," added Lisa Cagnolatti, vice president of SCE's Business Customer Division. "Southern California Edison's annual Black History Month event is an opportunity to show our appreciation to them and to the communities we serve."

Bonnie Boswell, a reporter, producer, commentator and talk-show host, was the keynote speaker. She is executive producer of "The Powerbroker: Whitney Young's Fight for Civil Rights," a film about her uncle, that first lady Michelle Obama presented at the White House during the 50th anniversary celebration

of the March on Washington.

The Compton and Inglewood school districts were honored with SCE's Energy Efficiency Participation Award for energy conservation at their respective school sites. Their participation in the School Energy Efficiency Program has saved both school districts money on electricity consumption and helped create more comfortable learning environments for students.

Alvin Jenkins, director of Facilities for the Compton district, and Joe Dominguez, chief deputy superintendent for the Inglewood district, accepted awards for their school districts.

The Moreno Valley Black Chamber of Commerce is the recipient of SCE's Diverse Business Enterprise Award for its commitment to the economic, civic, commercial, cultural, industrial and educational interests of the area. Linda Wright, president/CEO/founder of the chamber, accepted the award.

The Youth Action Project received SCE's Community Partnership Award. It has successfully helped youth and young adults in the development of skills and habits needed to experience economic and social success. Since 2007, it has hired and trained more than 200 local college students, provided more than 90,000 work experience and community service hours and provided tutoring and mentoring to more than 1,000 high school students within the San Bernardino Unified School District.

Tremaine Mitchell, director of operations for the project, will accept the award.

Kyanne Parchment, a 2014 Edi-



LOVIN' BY EXAMPLE.

Here's to the leaders that don't talk about dedication, they show it. To the people who constantly perform selfless acts as they reach out, reach back and bring others along. We show our gratitude during Black History Month, but we applaud you everyday. Let's all be inspired to stay deeply rooted in spreading the love, 365 days a year. Find your motivation at 365Black.com.

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son Scholar who attends the University of California, Davis, gave a testimonial highlighting the difference her \$40,000 scholarship has made in her life. The West Covina resident, who graduated from Henry J. Kaiser High School last year, is majoring in engineering and computer science.

This year's event theme is "Giving Back" and the focus is "Celebrating Business and Community Partnerships."

Chris Schauble, a co-anchor for the KTLA 5 Morning News, served as emcee.

An Edison International (NYSE: EIX) company, Southern California Edison is one of the nation's largest electric utilities, serving a population of nearly 14 million via 4.9 million customer accounts in a 50,000-square-mile service area within Central, Coastal and Southern California.

End-of-Life Care Resources

By BrightStar Care

End of life can be and is often difficult to think about, let alone plan for. But when we do think about the end of our lives, many have preferences about how things will be handled but few communicate this.

Here are a few resources providing information on end-of-life care:

National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization

The National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) is the largest nonprofit membership organization representing

hospice and palliative care programs and professionals in the United States. The organization is committed to improving end of life care and expanding access to hospice care with the goal of profoundly enhancing quality of life for people dying in America and their loved ones.

Aging with Dignity

Aging with Dignity is a national non-profit organization with a mission to affirm and safeguard the human dignity of individuals as they age and to promote bet-

ter care for those near the end of life. The life and work of Mother Teresa of Calcutta served as the inspirational foundation of Aging with Dignity.

Caring Connections

Caring Connections, a program of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO), is a national consumer and community engagement initiative to improve care at the end of life. Caring Connections provides people with information and support when they are planning ahead, caring for

a loved one, living with an illness or grieving a loss.

Hospice Foundation of America

Hospice Foundation of America is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, headquartered in Washington, DC, that provides low-cost and free educational services to both healthcare professionals and individuals regarding hospice, grief, and end-of-life care. HFA's educational programs and books have a national and international reputation and have won numerous awards.

(Continued on page 8)

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Inglewood Park Cemetery

A Distinctive Resting Place

In 1905, a group of businessmen pooled their resources to form the Inglewood Park Cemetery Association. At that time, the Centinela Valley was a sparsely settled area of farms and small homes. Funeral processions came from Los Angeles on horse-drawn flat carts. Later, with the spread of the railroads, mourners arrived at the cemetery in specially designed funeral cars like the Descano. The first interment was made on July 20, 1906. There were a total of 32 interments during the first year, a number which was to increase dramatically over the years.

Today, Inglewood Park Cemetery assists more families than any other cemetery in the vicinity. In fact, eleven members of the famed black World War II fighter pilots, Tuske-



Inglewood Park Cemetery

gee Airmen, are buried there. The first, Saint Twine, died January 21, 1984. Most recently, Clarence Huntley, who passed away January 5, 2015, was laid to rest. Isham Burns, Claude Davis, Celestus King, William Melton, Lawrence Miller, Robert Porter, Roger Terry, Vincent Williams and Willard Woods are among the other

Airmen buried in Inglewood.

Other notable African Americans buried at Inglewood Park Cemetery include:

Gertrude Baines, world's oldest person of African American descent (Guinness World Records, 2009); Ricky Bell, professional football player; Mayor Tom Bradley, first African American mayor and city council member in Los Angeles; Rev. James Cleveland, gospel musician; Johnnie Cochran, high profile attorney; Ella Fitzgerald, renowned jazz singer/record-

ing artist; Robin Harris, comedian; Dr. Billy Ingram, founder/pastor of Maranatha Community Church; "Billy" Preston, soul musician; Ray Charles, singer, musician and conductor, and "Sugar" Ray Robinson, heavyweight boxing champion.

Known for its pristine lawns and beautiful structures, the park leads the way among historic sites in Inglewood. More than a place to bury loved ones, the park's mausoleums are Southern California treasures. Its Mausoleum of the Golden West, built during the 1930s through the 1960s, boast beautiful stained glass representations of early California. Other historic structures on the property include the Manchester Garden Mausoleum and the Sunset Mission Mausoleum. The newest projects, Garden of Chimes and Grandview, are both under construction. Once completed, there will be more available mausoleum space, cremation columbaria, family estates, garden mausoleum and lawn crypts.

With these and other projects and an Endowment Care Fund in excess of \$25 million, Inglewood Park Cemetery will be the "burial place of kings" for years to come.



End of Life Care Resources

(Continued from page 7)

U.S. Living Will Registry

U.S. Living Will Registry is a privately held organization that electronically stores advance directives, organ donor information and

emergency contact information, and makes them available to health care providers across the country 24 hours a day through an automated system.

Medicare Rights Center

The Medicare Rights Center is a national, nonprofit consumer ser-

vice organization that works to ensure access to affordable health care for older adults and people with disabilities through counseling and advocacy, educational programs and public policy initiatives.

American Hospice Foundation

The American Hospice Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, supports programs that serve the needs of terminally ill and grieving individuals of all ages.

Eldercare Locator

The Eldercare Locator, a public

service of the Administration on Aging, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is a nationwide service that connects older Americans and their caregivers with information on senior services.

BrightStar Care consists of 150+ franchises that provide home-care to anyone who needs it, from children to seniors, and medical staffing solutions to individuals, families and organizations nationwide.

To learn more about benefits of home care and types of senior homecare services please visit www.brightstarcare.com/senior-home-care.

Great News!

Allstate Agency Owner Billy Campbell Honored Named Premier Agency for 2014

As a business leader and involved citizen in the Inglewood area, Allstate exclusive agency owner Billy Campbell has been designated an Allstate Premier Agency for 2014.

This designation is being presented to Billy Campbell for outstanding business performance and commitment to putting customers at the center of his agency's work.



Billy Campbell's agency is located at 2300 W Manchester Blvd. in Inglewood and can be reached at (323) 750-1777 or <http://agents.allstate.com/billy-campbell-inglewood-ca.html>.

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BUSINESS

25 Tricky Interview Questions and How to Answer Them (Part 2)

The interview is the most important part of your job search. Job expert Peter Studner concludes his list of potential interview questions for job seekers.

- **Why should we hire you?** If you know the job requirements and can match them with some accomplishments, briefly share those anecdotes. Then say, “If there are opportunities to do that and more here, then this is a great fit. What do you think?”

- **What has been your biggest failure?** Discuss this question with friends, mentors, and possibly your references before the interview. If at all possible, think of something you were later able to correct. Then the story isn’t just about a failure, but also about a learning experience.

- **What kind of day-to-day schedule did you have in your last job?** The interviewer isn’t looking for a minute-by-minute breakdown of a typical day. “Stress action, performance, and results rather than administrative work,” Studner advises.

- **How do you feel about the progress you made in your last position?** Rather than discuss your feelings, per se, stress your accomplishments. For instance: “When I started with the Blake Company, I was given responsibility for their operations in Mexico and Costa Rica. After I turned them around, they made me general manager for Mexico and Central America. How are your international operations performing?” An answer like this communicates great information about your value as an employee while still conveying positive feelings about your progress.



Peter K. Studner

- **Did you have any frustrations in your past job?** Frustrations are a normal part of any job, and interviewers know this—so don’t claim you didn’t have any. “Relate some of the bottlenecks you experienced, but more important, indicate what you did to overcome them,” Studner suggests.

- **Do you like to compete?** Competition is great as long as it does not sacrifice the rest of the team. If you are competitive, Studner suggests relating that quality to the total company effort and not to your personal ambitions.

- **How long do you think it would be before you could make a contribution to our company?** Don’t be in a hurry when providing an answer to this question. There normally is a period of transition before a new hire learns the ropes. You might say, “If the transition goes according to plan, I would guess relatively soon. What would you expect?”

- **What was the last book you read?** You do read. Saying that you don’t in this setting is a misstep. But be careful not to fib. Your interviewer may have read the same book!

- **Don’t you feel that you’re overqualified for the position?** Ouch! If you have a lot of experience and the company is thinking of hiring a younger person, you may get this kind of query. A good answer is: “I imagine my experience would make me more valuable sooner!”

- **Do you mind working for someone of the opposite sex or someone younger than you?** It’s the job that counts. Stick to the job specification and don’t get sidetracked on implications.

- **How do you take criticism?** Most people have problems taking criticism. If the criticism is part of a formal evaluation program where you can learn and improve, that is fine. “I would welcome the opportunity to learn how to

(Continued on page 11)



We want your feedback on the transit connection to LAX.

Airport Metro Connector Scoping Meeting

Metro is planning a new transit station that will connect the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) to the regional rail system.

Once complete, the Airport Metro Connector transit station (near Aviation Blvd/96th St) will provide the connection to a future Automated People Mover to be built and operated by Los Angeles World Airports.

Monday, February 23, 2015, 6 – 8pm

Flight Path Learning Center
6661 W Imperial Highway
Los Angeles, CA 90045

This meeting will be broadcast live online for those unable to attend in person.

Visit metro.net/laxconnector or ustream.tv/channel/airport-metro-connector.

All Metro meetings are held in ADA accessible facilities. Spanish translation will be provided. ADA accommodations and other translations are available by calling 213.922.4484 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

 323.466.3876

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한국어	日本語
中文	русский
Հայերեն	ภาษาไทย
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Metro

LEGAL NOTICES

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File No. 2015034877
The following Person is doing business as:

Kings & Queens Hair Salon
921 LaBrea Blvd.
Inglewood, CA 90302
P O Box 451057
Los Angeles, CA 90045

Registered owner: Uchenna Gloria Nwofor, 11439 205 Street, Lakewood, CA 90715

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business listed above on February 9, 2015.

I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct.
(A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
Uchenna Gloria Nwofor, Owner
This statement was filed with the County Clerk on February 9, 2015

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

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or common law (See Section 14411 et.seq., Business and Professions Code.)
Original
February 12, 19, 26; March 5, 2015
ITO0422301059 Inglewood Today

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City of Champions Initiative Qualifies in Less Than 2 Weeks

(Continued from page 1)
give developers more than enough signatures needed to build their stadium.

Almost as many signatures were gathered in favor of the initiative, as were all the votes for the entire mayor's election in Nov. 2014. "If this would have been an election, this would have been a landslide," Butts said, adding that over 30 percent of registered voters signed the petition.

Voter turnout in Inglewood

is typically low, usually between 15 and 20 percent.

At the next scheduled council meeting on Feb. 24, the City will receive certified signatures from the city clerk, along with fiscal and environmental reports from experts. Council members will also hear comments from developers and the public. After comments, the council will either take action or review the comments and postpone action until the March 3 meeting.

"This is a great opportunity for the public to weigh in," Butts said.

Since Inglewood got the ball rolling on the ballot initiative, and talk began swirling about an NFL stadium, St. Louis has stepped up its game to try and keep the Rams in their hometown, offering to build a 64,000-seat open air, riverfront stadium.

Butts isn't fazed:

"They want the public to extend bonds for the next 20 to 30 years. They want the NFL to put in \$700 million. They'd have to move a power plant and train tracks. There are too many moving parts. Kroenke's not going for that (and) nobody in St. Louis is going to vote to bond themselves."

Meanwhile Magic Johnson wants a place at the table if an NFL team does come to the Los Angeles market. The former Lakers star, who owns the Dodgers and the WNBA Sparks, told *USA Today*, "We helped the Dodgers rebound... We're No. 1 in attendance in baseball; we've been that for the last two years. So we know how to take a franchise, elevate it and also sell it to the fans in Los Angeles."

The public is invited to attend the Feb. 24th meeting, where the proposed stadium will be discussed. The meeting starts at 7pm, Inglewood City Hall, on the ninth floor.

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Inglewood Today

Print & Online

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Three New Members Join IUSD's Advisory Board of Education

Inglewood Unified State Trustee Dr. Don Brann has appointed three new members to the District's Advisory Board of Education.

During a Jan. 15 swearing-in ceremony officiated by Inglewood Mayor James Butts, Dr. Brann welcomed Henry Brown, Graciela Patiño and Rene Talbott to the five-member board. Two seats were vacated last spring when members stepped down, and a third seat was left open following the resignation of Mrs. Carol Raines-Brown. Dr. Brann's appointments run through the April 7, 2015 general municipal election, when voters will elect members for four open IUSD Advisory Board seats.

Mr. Brown holds Seat #

3. A committed father and community leader, Mr. Brown's passion is to challenge and motivate people of all cultures, backgrounds and status to achieve their full potential. He is an employment specialist with the Watts Labor Community Action Committee (WLCAC), a 50-year-old social service agency. Mr. Brown has worked as a director of Adcon Technical Institute, an associate director of Associated Technical College, a career recruiter with ITT Technical College, and a sales manager with Western Southern Insurance. He holds a B.S. degree from Southern University.

His varied resume also includes service as a memorial counselor at Inglewood Park Cemetery, a member

of the City of Inglewood Parks and Recreation Commission, a chaplain for the American Legion's 23rd District and an employment commissioner for the American Legion's Area 4. Mr. Brown also serves as chairman of the City of Inglewood's Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, which this week marked its 32nd anniversary and largest celebration to date with a commemorative march to festivities at the Fabulous Forum following an excellent series of student speeches and entertainment.

Ms. Patiño fills Seat #4. A longtime city resident, she brings a diverse work history that combines jobs in education and law enforcement. Ms. Patiño, who speaks fluent Spanish, works as a second-grade teacher in a dual-language immersion program at Los Angeles Leadership Academy Charter Primary School. A Teach for America corps member, she became interested in education while working as a Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy. After participating in a program that offered substance abuse and narcotics education in elementary schools, she soon realized she loved

being in the classroom and serving as a role model to at-risk students.

She is retired from a 27-year career in criminal justice that includes work as a police officer and defense investigator in the Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office. Ms. Patiño is pursuing an M.A. in Urban Education, Policy and Administration from Loyola Marymount University and earned an M.A. in Administration of Justice and Security from the University of Phoenix. She also holds a B.A. in Criminal Justice Administration from the University of Phoenix and an A.A. degree from West Los Angeles College. She is the mother of two sons and one grandson, and a member the Briarwood Homeowners Association Board, AYSO Soccer and Americorps.

Mr. Talbott fills Seat #1. He is retired from a nearly 40-year law enforcement career. A Detroit native, Mr. Talbott served four years in the military, including two combat tours in Vietnam, and holds a sociology degree and his certification in secondary education from Central State University. He completed his graduate studies at the University of

Dayton while serving as a juvenile probation officer.

For two years, Mr. Talbott provided sexual assault and child abuse prevention education through Kedren Health Center in Watts. After serving as an adult parole and probation officer in Nevada, he began a career that spanned more than three decades with the Santa Monica Police Department, working as a juvenile counselor, investigator, reserve mounted officer and hostage/crisis negotiator. He has served on the board of the Ladera Heights Civic Association and as president, vice president, secretary and a board member of the Santa Monica Municipal Employees Association. In addition, Mr. Talbott served as an executive board member of Santa Monica Employees Federal Credit Union and as a member and executive board member of the Hamilton High PTA. A father of four, Mr. Talbott has also served as a Police Activities League boxing coach, designed and directed juvenile court diversion-community service programs, and conducted education and seminars through the Male Violence Prevention Project.

The House of John



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BUSINESS

Waters Expresses "Outrage" at HSBC Swiss Bank Violations

In response to recent revelations that HSBC, the second largest commercial bank in the world, committed numerous violations of U.S. and international tax and finance laws, Congresswoman Maxine Waters (D-CA), Ranking Member of the Financial Services Committee, expressed her concern at the continued lack of accountability for the individuals associated with providing financial services for some of the world's worst criminals and tax evaders.

Waters, a fierce advocate for Wall Street accountability during and after the financial crisis, released the following statement:

"The recent revelations about HSBC's efforts to shield individuals from the laws of the U.S. and other nations are just the latest in a long list of troubling misdeeds by the bank. The documents released confirm that the scope of the bank's dealings with dubious figures, including known tax evaders, arms dealers and corrupt officials, exceeds even the shocking admission by HSBC that it actively turned off anti-money laundering controls to

accommodate terrorist financing and Mexican drug cartels.

Banks that actively help clients evade taxes, break American law, or provide services to those connected with illegal activity should be punished accordingly. While HSBC has paid billions in fines to the United States and other nations, it outrages me that not a single individual has been prosecuted or held accountable."

Last October, following reports of money laundering violations by HSBC, Waters introduced the "Holding Individuals Accountable and Deterring Money Laundering Act" proposed legislation that would bolster the government's ability to prosecute and hold accountable individuals who violate the Bank Secrecy Act. Currently, the Bank Secrecy Act requires government agencies to seek out and prevent money laundering schemes in the financial system. Additionally, one of the more significant provisions in the proposed bill makes bank executives personally liable for wrongdoing and empowers regulators to remove or permanently ban bankers who violate the law from the financial services industry.

25 Tricky Interview Questions

(Continued from page 9)

do my job better. Do you have a formal program for employee evaluation?"

• **How do you spend your free time?** Be reasonable. This is not the time to mention that you like jumping out of planes, even if it is true.

"You may not be asked these specific questions in your interview, but knowing how you want to answer them will ensure that you're prepared to discuss a wide variety of topics that might come up," Studner concludes.

"You don't want to have to formulate a complicated answer in the midst of an already nerve-wracking situation!"

Peter K. Studner is the author of *Super Job Search IV*. He is a master career counselor and former chief executive and board member of companies in the United States, France, and Great Britain. He has helped thousands of people with their career transitions and trains other career professionals to deliver this easy-to-follow program. To learn more, please visit www.SuperJobSearch.com.

DATES IN FEBRUARY

February 12, 2015

Water 101

Learn about the importance of water reliability in this time of drought. Water 101 provides a global, national and local look at current and future water issues. Recommended for people 18 years and older. A free light dinner will be served at 6:30pm. The class will be held from 7:00-8:30pm. Reservations are required.

Located at the West Basin's Donald L. Dear Building, Third Floor, 17140 S. Avalon Blvd., Carson, CA 90746. For more information call (310) 660-6243 or email info@westbasin.org. Visit the website for full details: <http://bit.ly/1mIutkG>.

Please note that the classes are subject to cancellation if we do not reach a minimum of 15 participants. All participants will be notified in advance if class is cancelled.

*Soles for Life program: Bring in

a pair of old shoes on the day of the class for the Soles for Life organization and take home a free conservation device! (Limit: 1 device per person)

Ongoing

Counseling for Anxiety, Depression

Get free help for anxiety, depression, stress and anger. Recovery International provides tools and practice in changing thinking habits so individuals can gain personal control over distressing emotions and improve life-coping skills. This worldwide non-profit organization, founded in 1937, holds weekly meetings every Monday at 6:00 p.m. at SHARE! 6666 Green Valley Circle, north of Centinela Ave. (2nd building on the right). Call 310-322-6411 for more information, or visit www.lowsselfhelpsystems.org. A donation is requested but not required.

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- Procedimiento de tecnología avanzada para restaurar la salud oral
- Especialistas para (frenos) ortodoncia, terapia del tratamiento de nervio (endodoncia), extracciones (cirugias)

¿Quien es elegible?

- Niños 0 a 18 años de edad
 - o viviendo en una casa con un ingreso familiar total no mas de 250% por encima de Guia Federal para determinar los índices de pobreza
 - o ser miembro de Denti-Cal
- La familia de niños que son pacientes de TCDC

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Programe una vista de 300 E. Buckthorn Street Inglewood, CA 90301

Encuéntrenos en Twitter y Facebook

Storytellers of Black History

(Continued from page 1)

them many of the traditions they had practiced for thousands of centuries. Stripped of their name, the right to pray to their gods or speak their native language, enslaved Africans held on to their stories of the Motherland. It was all they had.

After slaves were transplanted to America, the role of storytelling became even more important. It was the only known way slaves had to preserve their culture and legacy. Centuries later, prolific author Alex Haley set out to recapture the story of his ancestry, which became the best-selling book-turned-TV mini-series called "Roots: The Saga of an American Family." The film aired in 1977 to a record-breaking 130 million viewers. It had great influence on awareness in the United States of African-American history and inspired a broad interest in genealogy and family history.

With a scant amount of roles going to people of color in Hollywood, African Americans have had to take control over their own narratives, or risk becoming obscure. Being ignored by Hollywood, however, has given black filmmakers creative autonomy and helped preserve the integrity of their story lines.

Though often made on a shoestring budget, some films have gone on to gain critical acclaim and rank high at the box office. Unable to sell his biopic, "Malcolm X" to Holly-

wood executives, film maker Spike Lee, solicited funding from wealthy black celebrities. Many felt the film was snubbed by the industry and did not get the recognition it deserved, but Lee' said regardless, the film was too important to black people not to make.



Lavar Burton in "Roots"

Stories of black life may not always translate into box office dollars, but they remain sentimental favorites and form bonds between filmmakers and their African American audiences. John Singleton's urban movie, "Boyz 'n the Hood," which captured the lives of young black men growing up in a gang ridden area of Los Angeles, is one example.

Tyler Perry's plays, films, sitcoms and TV dramas have made him an undeniable commercial hit since he came on the national scene in the 1990s. As writer, producer, director

and actor (as a male and as his female character, Madea), in his own films, Perry is known for a wide body of work which looks at black life from all sides. As of 2014, "The Haves and the Have Nots" has given Oprah Winfrey's OWN its highest ratings to date. The series



Denzel Washington as "Malcolm X"

has also been critically acclaimed as being "one of OWN's biggest success stories..."

Lee Daniels has won two Academy Awards—one for "Monster's Ball," which he produced, and for directing "Precious." Acting awards went to Halle Berry and Mo'Nique for the respective films. In 2013, Daniels directed "The Butler," a historical fiction drama featuring an ensemble cast portraying unique events on the 20th Century presidents of the United States at the White House. "The Butler" received positive reviews and became

a box office success. He continues to wow audiences with his directorial skills in "Empire," the new TV drama about a hip hop musical family business

If director Marie DuVernay's biopic, "Selma" wins the Oscar for the best film on Sunday, she will

stand on the shoulders of other great black story tellers. The 42 year-old director, who won the Best Director prize for her second feature film "Middle of Nowhere," at the 2012 Sundance Film Festival, became the first African-American woman to win the award. For her work in "Selma," DuVernay is the first black female director to be nominated for a Golden Globe Award. With "Selma," she is also the first black female director to have a film nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture, though did not receive a nomination for best director.

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