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Urban League now home to Simmons Bank branch

See page B1

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OCTOBER 12 – 18, 2023

Vol. 95 No. 28
COMPLIMENTARY

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Kamala Harris: 'Democracy is on the ballot'

She was in STL with DNC chair

By Sylvester Brown Jr. and Dawn Suggs
St. Louis American

The Democratic National Committee stumped for Black votes and sought to energize party members during a three-day regional conference in St. Louis Oct. 4-6, 2023.

Headlining the event were Vice President Kamala Harris and Jaime R. Harrison DNC chair. During a well-received appearance with former DNC Chair Donna Brazille who interviewed her during a "Women's Caucus Program," Harris tailored her message to all Democrats regardless of race, age, or gender.

Harrison appealed to Black voters in an interview with the St. Louis American.

Insisting that "Democracy will be on the ballot," Harris added, "Talk with folk and remind them that they are not in this alone.

See HARRIS, A6



Photo by Brian Munoz / St. Louis Public Radio

Vice President Kamala Harris reacts as she is introduced on Friday, Oct. 6, 2023, during the DNC Fall Meeting at the Marriott St. Louis Grand in downtown St. Louis.



Photo by Maurice Meredith

St. Louis native Brenda Battle said Homer G. Phillips Hospital closed because it was never properly invested in. Even as the safety net in the Black community, the lack of financial support made it impossible to sustain. The impact of the closure in 1979 is still being felt.

A Battle to improve health care

Healthcare advocate Brenda Battle keynotes HG Phillips Lecture

By Ashley Winters
St. Louis American

Brenda Battle returned to St. Louis to deliver the Homer G. Phillips Public Health Lecture Series keynote address and she offered a stirring message urging the region to reduce its healthcare disparities.

The annual event carried the 2023 theme of "Anchoring Communities: A Roadmap to Equity and Transformation in Marginalized Communities.

Battle, who serves as Community Health Transformation senior vice president and chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer at the University of Chicago Medicine, discussed best practices to transform underserved communities into health-thriving neighborhoods.

She began by acknowledging the importance of Homer G. Phillips Hospital, and its closure.

"Homer G. Phillips closed because it was never properly invested in," said Battle, adding that it was "the safety net in the community. Once the revenue is depleted it is difficult to sustain it."

"Hospitals are the anchors in the community," she said.

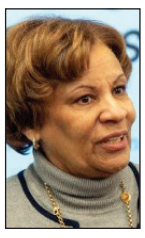
See BATTLE, A6

Reckoning with racism, even at a haven like Spelman

Cynthia Spence says dialogue needed to help HBCU students heal from beliefs rooted in white supremacy

By Joseph Williams
Word In Black

The Black liberation struggle is literally in the DNA of Spelman College. Founded specifically to educate Black women. The school is named for an Ohio couple who helped the enslaved reach freedom and whose daughter, Laura Spelman Rockefeller — wife of wealthy industrialist John D. Rockefeller — was an early benefactor.



Cynthia Spence

Word in Black

Indeed, most undergraduates and alumnae see the Atlanta campus as a haven from white supremacy, and patriarchy, in higher education. Therefore, it's easy to assume that racial truth-telling and reconciliation are non-issues.

See SPENCE, A7

Eight educators to be honored for excellence

They span the area with expertise

St. Louis American

Outstanding educators can be found at schools throughout the St. Louis region and eight of them will be honored during the 36th Annual St. Louis American Foundation Salute to Excellence in Education Scholarship and Awards Gala.

The Gala is Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023, at America's Center in downtown St. Louis.

James T. Minor, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville chancellor and Joycelyn Pugh-Walker, executive director of federal programs for the Ferguson-Florissant School District, will be honored as Stellar Performers in Education.

Kathy Osborn, Regional Business Council CEO, will receive the first-ever Champion for Education Special Leadership Award. Khadija Thompson will be honored as SEMO Counselor of

See SALUTE, A6

HEALTH

Strutting, striding in battle against breast cancer

More than 6,000 people participated in the 14th Annual SistaStrut Breast Cancer Walk and Parade on Saturday, Oct. 7, in support of breast cancer patients, survivors, families, and advocates.

Page A12



SPORTS

Jeremy Maclin named to Mizzou's Ring of Honor

Jeremy Maclin was honored last Saturday when Mizzou and The National Football Foundation (NFF) and College Hall of Fame welcomed Maclin to the Ring of Honor.

Page B3

HOTSHEET

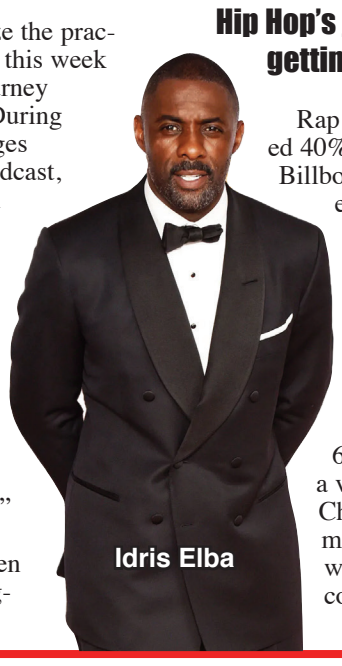
'Workaholic' Idris Elba makes his mental health a priority

No one should ever be ashamed of therapy, says actor **Idris Elba** according to BET.

In an effort to normalize the practice, Idris Elba opened up this week about his own therapy journey for better mental health. During an interview on the Changes with Annie Macmanus podcast, the actor said he had been privately battling being a workaholic, which has impacted his personal life.

"I'm an absolute workaholic. That isn't great for life," he said.

Elba has been in therapy for about a year to treat his compulsive work habits. "It's a lot of work," he revealed.


Idris Elba

"In my therapy I've been thinking a lot about changing," he said. "It's not because I don't like myself or anything like that. It's just that I have some unhealthy habits that have just really formed.

"The things that make me relaxed end up being work," he said, giving the example that working in his home studio after spending 10 days on a film set makes him more relaxed than "sitting on the sofa watching TV with the family, which is bad right?"

Hip Hop's juicy sales numbers getting squeezed in 2023

Rap sales have plummeted 40% in 2023 according to Billboard and other chartmakers and **Juicy J** said it's time for the Hip-Hop community to face the music.

"I know a lot of people don't want to hear this, but I'm being real. Rap music is down 40%," the Three 6 Mafia member said in a video. "Check the charts. Check the math. I don't make the rules. What are we, as rappers, producers, composers, going to do about this sh*t? Because it's down 40% this year. Check the charts. Do your research. This is a fact."

"Let's have a conversation […] We gotta figure some sh*t out. We gotta sit down and talk. Let's have a meeting, let's meet up somewhere and have a big meeting."

There were no Hip-Hop albums or songs topping the Billboard 200 or Billboard Hot 100, respectively, as of June. There had been six by June of 2022.

That changed at the end of that month with **Lil Uzi Vert's** Pink Tape, followed by **Travis Scott's** July album Utopia and **Rod Wave's** September LP Nostalgia.

Kayla Nicole, Kelce's ex, tackles trolls, naysayers

Kayla Nicole, Kansas City Chiefs tight end **Travis Kelce's** Black former girlfriend, has something to say to **Taylor Swift's** fixated fans and African Americans who question her choice in men, according to Atlanta Black Star.

On Oct. 9, she broke her silence on Kelce and Swift's relationship and attacks on her in a video-recorded open letter to Black women.

"Dear Black Girl, they may call you a traitor for falling in love…they'll say you're too much, too provocative, too boisterous, too outspoken, and in the same breath, tell you that you're not enough.

"They'll say you deserve the backlash and embarrassment because of your Blackness. You should have known better," said the influencer.

The 31-year-old Nicole, who is credited with styling up Kelce during their five-year relationship, would go on to remind herself and other Black girls that they are valued even when "they try to quantify your character and touch your boundaries."

"I know, girl, the rage of the world is loud, but Black girl, your God is louder, and your tribe is stronger," said Nicole before encouraging them to take up space. "You deserve protection, and your feelings matter solely because you're a Black girl."

She received an outpouring of love on the post.

"Love this! The classiest response to all this unnecessary hate she's been receiving lately," read a comment.

"Class and grace personified," wrote another fan.

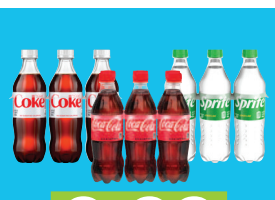
Sources: BET.com, AtlantaBlackStar.com and Billboard.com

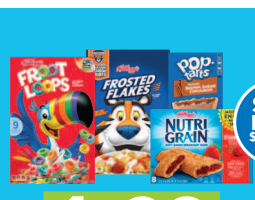
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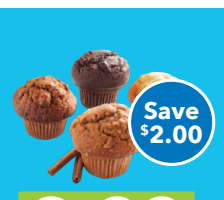
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"Get [your] act together"

- House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries amid the GOP speakership deadlock and war in Israel.



News

Board of Elections expands ballot access for St. Louis voters



Photo courtesy of Word in Black

Black voters will be key to Democratic success in upcoming elections. St. Louis has just unveiled new voting equipment to be used in the 2024 election cycle and 2025 city mayoral and aldermanic races.

Sylvester Brown Jr.
The St. Louis American

"As voting rights and our democracy face unprecedented attacks, I am proud of how the City of St. Louis made it easier for residents to make their voice heard at the polls."

Mayor Tishaura O. Jones, alongside the Board of Election Commissioners and other elected officials have expressed pleasure about the unveiling of new voting equipment to be used for the upcoming election cycle. The press conference was held on September 17, "National Voter Registration Day."

Through a nearly $2 million investment of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, the City has upgraded its voting technology, keeping elections secure while giving St. Louisans the opportunity to vote at any precinct across the city - regardless of their registered address or neighborhood, according to the Board of Election Commissioners.

3rd Ward Alderman Shane Cohn said he was proud to have sponsored the amendment spearheading the appropriation.

"Working in partnership with the Board of Election Commissioners, the Administration, and my colleagues at the Board of Aldermen, we are listening to the voices of our voters. This critical investment in our election infrastructure allows for increased flexibility in elections for our citizens to ensure that every vote counts," he said.

Standing alongside the mayor, Board Republican Director Gary Stoff added: "This system represents a year's long effort on behalf of the Board of Election Commissioners to find the right system for city voters, one that gives the voter the ability to vote anywhere regardless of voter's assigned precinct."

In previous elections, the Board piloted 12 "Vote Center" locations across the city where residents can vote regardless of their registered precinct. In theory, allowing residents to cast their votes anywhere will expand the power of citywide voting.

In 2022, for the first time, Missouri voters began casting ballots before Election Day without having to provide a reason why they couldn't wait to vote in-person at their assigned polling places. Absentee voting still requires people to provide a reason for doing so, such as incapacitation due to illness or disability or plans to be gone on Election Day, among other things. However, what's been termed as "No-excuse early voting" is an additional option to the regular absentee voting period.

According to Board Democratic Director, Ben Borgmeyer, the board's next step will involve addressing American with Disabilities Act (ADA) concerns and making sure those voters are adequately informed about their new voting options.

"Now, the goal of the Election Board is to make sure polling places are physically accessible for all voters and to educate St. Louisans on their voting options prior to the August 24, 2024, Primary Election," Borgmeyer said.

Though not directly linked, his statement applies to the importance of next year's national, state and municipal elections. Besides voting for Presidential, Senate and Congressional candidates, issues such as abortion rights, election security or voter infringement, protecting welfare resources for the truly needy, defending or defeating political agendas in public schools or simply protecting the integrity of the Democratic voting process, there is a lot at stake in next year's elections.

National Democratic leaders, including Vice President Kamala Harris, were in St. Louis for a Democratic National Committee conference last week, and all speakers share the message that every vote will be important in the 2024 election cycle.

Adding new voter machines was an example of the political collaboration needed between entities such as the Board of Aldermen and the Board of Election Commissioners, Mayor Jones stressed, to make sure the process is fairer and more open to all voters. There is a need for continued collaboration, she added.

Sylvester Brown Jr. is a Deaconess Foundation Community Advocacy Fellow.

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Guest Editorial

Where do we find the voices of reason to change the trajectory of undermining our democracy and the essence of America that we seem to be on? In ourselves. It is up to us.

Claiming your voice amongst chaos

By Janice Ellis

In this political season, where it seems that anything is up for interpretation and speculation — truths, codes of ethics, rules of law — where do we turn for a sense of direction or best decision-making?

Congress may not be sick and tired of arriving at the same senseless place session after session, but we should be.

Are you befuddled by the failure to adequately fund public education and pay teachers a well-deserved salary even when there are budget surpluses?

What about the lack of caring about foster care, delivery of meals and other needed programs and services for children who couldn't survive without them? Foster care services remain underfunded, and thousands of children are losing their Medicaid services.

But aside from the perennial and cyclical issues that occur in our legislative halls, there are other behaviors that we should find just as alarming. Many of our national and local values and traditions are being blatantly ignored, deliberately undermined, verbally disemboweled, and brazenly broken.

We do not have to go very far or look very long to see examples of this destructive discourse and behavior in nearly every area of the public square.



Guest Columnist

Janice Ellis

Pick either party, or any branch of government, to find laws being broken and codes of ethics being ignored by those who are supposed to be leaders and role models.

Where do we find the voices of reason to change the trajectory of undermining our democracy and the essence of America that we seem to be on?

In ourselves. It is up to us.

We have become accustomed to thinking there is little we can do, become discouraged, and too often become resigned to doing the minimum or nothing at all.

While the aberrant speech and behavior of some leaders seem to dominate the airways, we must remember that they are in the minority. They may represent a sizable minority, but they are still just that: a minority.

So why should we allow them to consume our thoughts or cause us to resort to a defeatist mindset or behavior?

Even amid divisions, let us shift our focus more on who we are, what we believe, and the values we share.

Sometimes the needed motivation can begin by recalling the wise words of some of the greats whom we have encountered in our personal lives or through the annals of history.

There is an often-misquoted phrase attributed to Edmund Burke, the 18th-century Irish statesman: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

However, I think what he actually said is more meaningful and applicable for us today: "When bad men combine, the good must associate; else they will fall, one by one, an unpitied sacrifice in a contemptible struggle."

As disgusting or as bad as the political landscape and some of the political leaders seem today, we as a nation have endured and overcome worse.

This is a time for deeper reflections and new conversations.

We are in a different time, with different challenges that could result in different outcomes — outcomes that could change many of the things we take for granted.

Do you ever think that the celebrations, traditions, and holidays we hold dear could be at risk?

Do you think our American way of life will always be there?

Lest we forget. Few things are sacrosanct.

Few societies survive indefinitely when most of its citizens remain silent.

Changing the conversation, exercising our individual and collective power, and aligning our voices of reasons and actions with others of like-minded beliefs and values will be what will rule our near-term and long-term future.

These options are there for our claiming and reclaiming.

Missouri Independent columnist Janice Ellis analyzes educational, political, social and economic issues across race, ethnicity, age and socio-economic status.

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Mike Terhaar - Art Director
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DIGITAL

Dawn Suggs - Digital Director
James LeBine - Multimedia Specialist
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SALES

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Commentary

In support of American autoworkers

By Ben Jealous

When General Motors, Chrysler, and Ford – the "Big Three" American automakers – were close to extinction 15 years ago, their workers and the American people stepped in to save them. The United Auto Workers (UAW) gave back wages and benefits they had every right to get under a contract they had negotiated just a year before.

Now, rather than being paid back, union workers face getting left out of the future of the car business. And the rest of the country is being told we have Hobson's choice when it comes to electric vehicles – we can have them, but only at a cost to our neighbors who build them.



Guest Columnist

Ben Jealous

We see this when Ford announces its slowing construction of a battery plant in Michigan. And when Donald Trump, who leads Republican presidential primary polls, goes to a non-union company outside Detroit to claim that "the auto industry is being assassinated" by the move away from dirty fuels.

Neither auto workers nor the climate can afford for us to fall for this false narrative. If anything, we should see that momentum is moving squarely and more rapidly in the other direction. That's what President Biden means when he says that talking about the climate is talking about good jobs.

New York's city council voted unanimously to move its fleet of more than 30,000 municipal vehicles – the largest in the country – to buy only zero emissions cars and trucks beginning in 2025, and heavier vehicles after 2028. By 2035, the entire city fleet will be zero emission.

That's the same year that California, New York and 14 other states will require all cars and trucks sold to be zero emission vehicles. The standards they've agreed to ask carmakers to increase the share of electric vehicles they sell slowly and continuously over the next 13 years.

This isn't a rash rush to abandon the internal combustion engine and gas pumps overnight, even if our warming planet may need quicker action. That fearmongering is inaccurate and misplaced. It's a measured, unmistakable direction that UAW leaders see clearly. Their members must benefit from that, they told me when we met in Detroit last month.

Instead, the Big Three have been pushing battery making and electric vehicle assembly to states that don't offer union workers protection or to plants created through joint ventures that allow them to operate outside the UAW's deal.

This is an all-too-familiar pattern in this country's history — corporations, billionaires, and the politicians representing their interests pitting poor and working Americans who actually aspire to the same future against each other. They do it with hyperboles like assassination and altering established expansion plans.

We're well beyond 2008. Profits for the Big Three are soaring. Consumers want electric vehicles, and as a nation we're encouraging them to buy them through tax credits passed last year. It's those cars and trucks that we'll drive into a livable future. We must ensure that clean energy transition is a fair one to the people who will make it possible.

Ben Jealous is executive director of the Sierra Club.

As I See It - *A Forum for Community Issues*

Standing by ally Israel is morally right

By Donna Brazille

President Joe Biden is right to strongly support Israel after Saturday's brutal terrorist attacks launched from the Gaza Strip against the Jewish state, saying Tuesday that "we will make sure Israel has what it needs to take care of its citizens, defend itself and respond to this attack."

The newest war against Israel has so far killed more than 1,200 people there — including at least 14 U.S. citizens — and wounded about 2,900.

Israeli officials said the dead included 40 babies and young children, some with their heads chopped off, slaughtered at Kibbutz Kfar Aza less than a mile from the Gaza border fence. Chillingly, I visited the same kibbutz with a group of American women in 2011.

As many as 150 more people — including Americans — have been taken hostage by the terrorist group Hamas and its allies.

Palestinians say Israeli air strikes on Gaza, which were launched in response to Hamas attacks emanating from the territory it controls, have killed at least 920 people and injured about 4,500. Israel says it targets only terrorists, but Palestinian civilian casualties are inevitable because Hamas fires rockets from apartment buildings, mosques, schools, and other civilian areas.



Guest Columnist

Donna Brazille

The deaths of noncombatants in Gaza, who are used as human shields by Hamas, are as tragic as the deaths in Israel. Most Palestinians aren't terrorists and want to live in peace, as do Israelis.

I believe in the two-state solution of a Palestinian state and a Jewish state living side-by-side in peace. But that will be impossible if Hamas and other Palestinians persist in attacks against Israel, inflicting death and destruction not just on Israelis but on Palestinians as well.

In addition to firing thousands of rockets into Israel since Saturday, gun-wielding terrorists overran a music festival and small communities near Gaza when the attacks began, killing, raping and abducting victims who were primarily unarmed civilians. Israel says it has recovered the bodies of 1,500 terrorists on its side of the border with Gaza, in addition to killing hundreds more in air strikes inside Gaza.

Israelis are still taking cover in bomb shelters and may be plunged into a wider war of self-defense against Hamas and perhaps others on their northern border and in the West Bank.

Standing with Israel is necessary because it involves defending American citizens, protecting U.S. national security and supporting an ally. The same issues are at stake with America's support for Ukraine in its struggle for survival in the face of Russia's war of aggression.

Black elected officials, from Vice President Kamala Harris on down, are helping mobilize U.S. support for Israel.

House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, D-N.Y., said in a statement: "I strongly condemn the violent and ghastly attack by the terrorist organization Hamas on the Jewish people and the State of Israel. … The Congress must stand with Israel until the invasion by Hamas has been crushed and security in Southern Israel and throughout the country has been permanently restored."

Rep. Gregory Meeks, D-N.Y., the top Democrat on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, joined with his Republican counterpart in sponsoring a resolution titled "Standing with Israel as it defends itself against the barbaric war launched by Hamas and other terrorists." Some 392 members of the 435-member House have signed onto the resolution.

Sen. Cory Booker, D-N.J., a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was in Israel for meetings when the nation was attacked. He sheltered in Tel Aviv and left for home on Sunday. "I emphatically condemn Hamas' horrific acts of violence, kidnapping and terror targeting Israeli families, children and other civilians in towns and cities across the nation of Israel," he said.

I am proud to stand with President Biden and so many other Americans of all faiths and races in support of Israel and in opposition to the bloodthirsty terrorist killers who want to destroy the world's only Jewish state.

Donna Brazille is a veteran political strategist and senior advisor with political consulting firm Purple Strategies.



Photo courtesy of BFL

The Better Family Life staff is celebrating the news that its Youth Passport to the Future after school program has been selected as a model program by Missouri Accreditation of Programs for Children and Youth.

BFL after-school program garners prized accreditation

St. Louis American staff

The Youth Passport to the Future after-school program of Better Family Life Inc., has been accredited by the Missouri Accreditation of Programs for Children and Youth.

"We are thrilled," said Marquette King-Connor, BFL Youth, Family & Clinical Services vice president.

"This designation reaffirms our dedication to providing top-notch education and care for the children we serve. We are immensely proud of our team's hard work and commitment to excellence."

Pamela Speer, Missouri Accreditation executive director announced that the BFL program is the only accredited school-age program in the St. Louis area.

"Achieving accreditation places the program in an elite and unique group that upholds a high standard of quality," she said.

"Missouri Accreditation sets rigorous quality standards for programs catering to children from birth to school-age across the state, and goes beyond the scope of state licensing requirements, and focuses on the qualitative aspects of a program's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual growth opportunities."

Missouri was the first state to establish and implement quality accreditation criteria for programs catering to children and youth. Founded in 1981, Missouri Accreditation established ongoing monitoring, evaluation, and recognition of accredited programs ensuring a consistently higher standard of quality.

"By meeting and surpassing the accreditation standards, Better Family Life continues to prioritize the holistic development and well-being of the children in their care," said King-Connor.

> ■ "Missouri Accreditation sets rigorous quality standards for programs catering to children from birth to school-age across the state, and focuses on the qualitative aspects of a program's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual growth opportunities."
>
> **– Pamela Speer**

For more information about Better Family Life's licensed and accredited afterschool program, please visit betterfamilylife.org.

Children are not a 'special interest group'

By Marian Wright Edelman

As some members of Congress showed they were willing to bring the federal government to the brink of a shutdown, with demands that include deep cuts to services children and families rely on, once again they are accused of acting like children.

Yet even 5-year-olds understand that quitting the game and taking the ball home if the other players won't give you your way is wrong. Refusing to fund the federal government is far from a political game, but a real threat that harms real workers, families, and citizens across the country.

In "Our God Is Marching On!," his speech on the steps of the Alabama State Capitol at the end of the Selma to Montgomery marches for voting rights, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. urged us to "march on ballot boxes until we send to our city councils, state legislatures, and the United States Congressmen who will not fear to do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with thy God."



Marian Wright Edelman

Some of the people in Congress right now are failing this test. This is not the leadership we or our children deserve.

How I wish some political leaders did not treat children as just another special interest group who must get in line to make their case for why their health, safety, and education needs should be met. Is this the best we can pass on to our children and grandchildren? Dr. King also urged us to march on ballot boxes until God's children can walk the earth in decency and honor.

For that to happen, as he taught us, we need a revolution in values. Fifty-five years ago, another political leader, Senator Robert F. Kennedy, said this to students at the University of Kansas about the need to rethink how we measure American success:

"Too much and too long, we seem to have surrendered community excellence and community values in the mere accumulation of material things. Our gross national product … if we should judge America by that — counts air pollution and cigarette advertising, and ambulances to clear our highways of carnage. It counts special locks for our doors and the jails for those who break them. It counts the destruction of our redwoods and the loss of our natural wonder in chaotic sprawl. It counts napalm and the cost of a nuclear warhead, and armored cars for police who fight riots in our streets. It counts Whitman's rifle and Speck's knife, and the television programs which glorify violence in order to sell toys to our children."

Senator Kennedy continued: "Yet the gross national product does not allow for the health of our children, the quality of their education, or the joy of their play. It does not include the beauty of our poetry or the strength of our marriages, the intelligence of our public debate or the integrity of our public officials. It measures neither our wit nor our courage; neither our wisdom nor our learning; neither our compassion nor our devotion to our country; it measures everything, in short, except that which makes life worthwhile. And it tells us everything about America except why we are proud that we are Americans."

At the end of that speech, Senator Kennedy paraphrased George Bernard Shaw with words that became synonymous with his Presidential campaign and his vision for leadership: "Some people see things as they are and say, 'why?' I dream things that never were and say, 'why not?'" Senator Kennedy's own political leadership was cut far too short. But the dream of a nation that measures its success in the health of our children, the quality of their education, and the joy of their play is still here. So is the need for leaders who share it.

Marian Wright Edelman is founder and president emerita of the Children's Defense Fund.

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Battle

Continued from A1

In the case of Homer G. Phillips, and other hospitals, jobs are provided, they create a sense of community pride, and they create economic growth and stability, Battle explained.

The healthcare advocate has a successful history in executing strategies that result in incremented and systemic change toward improving the health and wellness of vulnerable communities.

She was the founding director of the Center for Diversity and Cultural Competence at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. While there, she developed and implemented the hospital's strategy for diversity, equity, inclusion, and community benefit.

She says hospital closures affect surrounding businesses that support medical institutions like pharmacies and dental offices.

"The revenue that comes from people using those businesses can no longer sustain themselves without the hospital," said Battle.

"This creates poor health outcomes," she said.

According to the health expert, what helps people have good healthcare has nothing to do with medicine and genetics. It is a combination of structural determinants of health.

"It's time to address the issues of systemic inequities," she said.

She suggests starting with authentic community engagement, the main goal is to address poverty as the main social driver of disparities. Battle says collaborating with corporate, philanthropic, and governmental partners is essential to success.

"Working alongside the community to develop and execute strategies will have a long-standing effect," said Battle.

Next, Battle says job creation in underserved communities must increase, which includes hiring within the community, promoting within the organization, and investing in the communities where the hospital is located.



Photo by Maurice Meredith

From left, Dr. Will Ross, Alumni Endowed Professor of Medicine, Nephrology, and Associate Dean for Diversity at Washington University School of Medicine, Dr. Nathaniel Murdoch and Brenda Battle, following the Homer G. Phillips Public Health Lecture on Oct. 6, 2023. Battle delivered the keynote address and Murdoch received a Lifetime Achievement Award.

"If we all work together, we can change these neighborhoods. We can become models for the rest of the country and the rest of the world," she said.

The lecture at the Washington University School of Medicine, Eric P. Newman Education Center offered Battle a chance to visit St. Louis and see many friends and acquaintances.

"What an honor it is to come back to my community in St.Louis," said Battle, who has 38 years of healthcare experience and is a nationally recognized healthcare industry leader.

She joined the University of Chicago Medicine in 2012, and now designs and oversees UMC's community transformation and equity strategies. She also develops and implements innovative health and socioeconomic solutions to address inequities surrounding healthcare needs in the communities that UMC serves.

"This is a real privilege, I get to go deep to address structural and systemic inequities in the Chicago area," said Battle.

In addition to Battle's address, renowned board-certified obstetrician-gynecologist Dr. Nathaniel Murdock, MD, who was a former student at Homer G. Phillips, received a lifetime achievement award.

Murdock served on the Washington University School of Medicine staff for more than 45 years, and in leadership roles with the Mound City Medical Forum, the National Medical Association, the St. Louis Gynecological Society, and other organizations.

He joined Mound City Medical Forum in 1969 and served as president in 2001. He served as an alternate delegate to the American Medical Association from 2002-2018.

"The opportunities at Homer G. Phillips afforded me life-changing possibilities," said Murdock upon receiving his award.

Ashley Winters is a Report for America reporter for the St. Louis American.

Salute

Continued from A1

the year.

The eight Excellence in Education Awardees are:

John Carlos Armstead, Sr.
Assistant School Leader of Instruction
KIPP Inspire Academy



Armstead's book, Ratchetdemic: Reimagining Academic Success was just awarded the 2023 American Educational Studies Association (AESA)-Critics' Choice Book Award. "I poured my heart into that book and every recognition of it makes me so grateful."

Dr. Shawn A. Baker
Vice President of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management
Harris-Stowe State University



Baker was recently named one of 22 senior-level higher education professionals selected by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) to participate in its 2022 Millennium Leadership Initiative (MLI).

Brandon Haynes
8th Grade Coordinator - Mathematics Faculty
Whitfield School



Since joining the faculty in August 2018, Dr. Haynes has positively impacted our community with his character, humor, and perspective. In the classroom, he sets high expectations for his students, provides age-appropriate structure and support, and encourages curiosity and independence.

Christopher C. Miller
Dean of Students
Confluence Preparatory Academy

The mission of Confluence Preparatory Academy is to enable and inspire every student to develop fully his or her intellectual capacity and



commitment to active citizenship. "Everything we do is based on our eight core values --- wisdom, justice, courage, Compassion, hope, respect, responsibility, and integrity.

Briana Morales
English Language Arts Teacher
Gordon Bush Alternative Center



Morales was named the 2023 Illinois Teacher of the year. One of 13 finalists, Morales has taught high school English at Gordon Bush Alternative Center in East St. Louis School District 189 since 2018.

Brian Griffin
7th Grade Math Teacher
Ladue Middle School



Griffin was recently honored as one of the Ladue School District's Teachers of the year and serves as a tutor in the district.

Charles Murphy
Teacher
Roosevelt High School



Murphy has been connecting with students in the St. Louis Public School system for 50 years. He has spent a total of 55 years as a teacher, going back to his first job in education in 1967

Kendra Vaughn
Reading Specialist
Brown Elementary (Hazelwood)



Vaughn serves students in grades K-5. After 17 years in the profession – all within the Hazelwood School District – she continues to test out new tactics that get kids reading.

For tickets and information on the Salute to Excellence in Education, visit www.stlamerican.com or call (314) 533-8000.



Harris

Continued from A1

We're all in this together. Their actions, their activities matter. This is not a time to be passive."

Aware that Missouri is dominated by Republican voters, Harris spoke passionately about a variety of issues on next year's ballot including abortion rights, gun safety, and climate change.

She described all as "winners" for Democrats. Her comments about Generation Z were particularly stirring.

Harris mentioned that she and her husband, lawyer Douglass Emhoff, the "Second Gentleman," who received a rousing round of applause when he entered the auditorium before her, have two "20-something-year-olds."

"I love this Gen-Z generation. They are so spectacular. Among their priority issues are the climate crises," she said.

"They have coined a term, "Climate anxiety" to describe how they feel in a very personal lived experience way… "Climate anxiety' is the fear that they have that they should not have children. The fear that they should never have an aspiration to own a home because it could be destroyed by extreme weather," said Harris.

Harris pointed out that Gen Z concerns are consistent with "what we stand for as Democrats."

Harris said gun violence is recognized as a problem in America, regardless of party affiliation.

"The only debate is whether or not elected leaders will have the courage to do something about it."



Photo by Dawn Suggs / St. Louis American

One of the dignitaries in attendance at the Democratic National Conference in downtown St. Louis, Missouri last Friday was Congresswoman Barbara Lee (D-CA 12th District), a candidate in a hotly contested U.S. Senate race in California. She was surrounded by supporters at the end of Donna Brazile's interview of Vice President Kamala Harris, who was the second African American woman and the first Asian American woman to become a U.S. Senator.

Recalling experiences from her "Fight for Our Freedoms College Tour" launched in Sept., Harris said young people are clear on their stance regarding gun regulations.

"This is what they want because it is their lived experience on this issue. It's about a rejection of false choices, which suggests you're either in rejection of the 2nd Amendment or you want to take everyone's guns away.

"We know in our hearts and our souls and our work that the vast majority of us have so much more in common than what separates us. We are the ones who stand against hate. We are the ones who bring people together, unified. We have strength on our side, we have competency on our side. What we are doing is popular with the American people."

Harrison touted the accomplishments of the Biden administration, dating back to his first days in office in January 2021.

"Remember how many Black folk went to their banks to try and get loans and couldn't," Harrison asked?

"Well, this president, from the very start, decided he wanted to change all that, change the formula to make sure that small Black and brown businesses got the loans, too, so they could stay open and pay their employees."

Noting that the 2021 "American Rescue Plan" accelerated the economic recovery to Americans in general, and to Black Americans specifically, Harrison said, "We saw folks getting checks to accommodate people who lost jobs, we saw [COVID-19 vaccination] shots in people's arms, we kept schools open.

"We saw the biggest bi-partisan infrastructure law-the biggest investment in this nation's history… money was dedicated to communities of color and even more specifically to Black communities."

Harrison spoke to the president's efforts to bring the internet to poor communities and his lifetime appointments to the judiciary which, he said, was "more than 30% Black," including the first Black woman appointed to the Supreme Court, Ketanji Brown Jackson.

Harrison listed tackling student loan debt, advancing the economic mobility of African Americans, the investment of billions of dollars in Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and workforce training as other Biden accomplishments.

Of course, because of the U.S. Supreme Court or Republican pushback, Biden hasn't been successful in accomplishing all his endeavors but, as Harrison stressed, "he's kept his commitment to at least try and fulfill his campaign promises to African Americans."

Spence

Continued from A1

But Dr. Cynthia Spence, a sociology professor at Spelman, says her students are affected by the insidious forces of racism, classism, and homophobia, and often don't realize it. While Spelman's sisterhood culture is strong and supportive, she says, toxic forces surface in unexpected ways — including young Black women showing bigotry towards one another.

"Even at a place like Spelman College, you still have these external structural forces that regulate the lives of individuals and tend to define them," Spence says. "We engage in a lot of discussions amongst students around these issues that can cause friction."

Some came to Spelman from posh, predominantly white communities, for example, while others came to Spelman having lived hand-to-mouth in poor Black neighborhoods, having next to no contact with white people.

Still others have backgrounds that include migration to the U.S. with little knowledge of racism — but believing negative stereotypes about Black Americans. And sexual orientation, Spence says, can be a hidden yet contentious issue.

While they ostensibly have race and gender in common, Spence says, Spelman undergraduates have a broad spectrum of attitudes and traumas about race, class, and sexual identity, largely rooted in white supremacy. Those thoughts, she says, can lead students to prejudge or have conflicts with classmates whose lives — and beliefs — aren't like theirs.

"It's important not to assume that all Black people, or all Black women, have the same racialized experience," Spence says. "Many times, those differences divide us because we just don't have the knowledge" or empathy about others' experiences.

Spence recalls an early TRHT session in which she invited Spelman undergraduates, and some white faculty members, to a racial healing circle she arranged at a nearby independent-living home for Black seniors. When the time came for prompts to start the conversation, the professor pulled no punches.

"My first question was, 'When did you first realize that race matters?'" Spence says. "The seniors were talking about their history of being discriminated against — families moving from the South to the North, because of racism.

Coming to visit the South and going to auntie's houses and crosses were burned in their yards. Students talked about being the only black kid at their white school, and what that felt like."

"It was just a beautiful, beautiful experience," she says. For the white faculty, "it was illuminating. In some ways, it was uncomfortable as well."

Building on that experience, Spence plans to take the TRHT program to the next level, with field trips planned to Charleston, South Carolina. and Savannah, Georgia — two major port cities that were central to the slave trade. Residents of both places are wrestling with racial trauma and divisions that have gone unaddressed for generations.

HBCUs "need to do this work as well," Spence says. "We are not monoliths. Our students represent so many different backgrounds, as do our faculty. So it is important that we take on a leadership role, and have these discussions about race and transformation, because that's what we do. We're in that business."

This series was produced in partnership with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.





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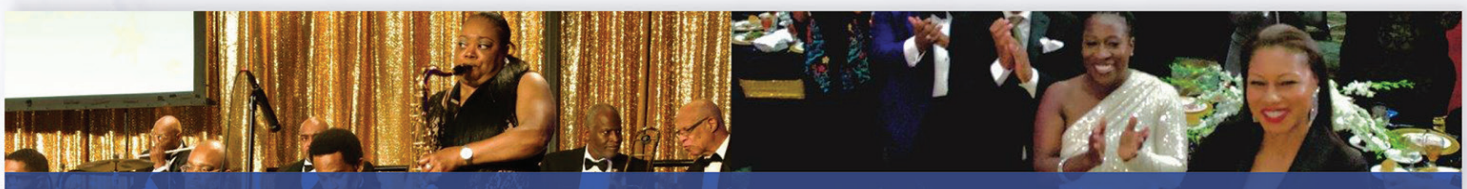
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Food City and Serving Our Communities' initiative extends the application deadline

$150,000 in grants available



Photo courtesy of foodcitystl.org

Food City's stated long-term goal is to "help create a more inclusive, sustainable food ecosystem in the St. Louis Metro Area."

Sylvester Brown Jr.
The St. Louis American

In an interview with the St. Louis American last month, Keisha Mabry Haymore, the new community manager with Food City and its "Serving Our Communities" foundation, announced the agency was offering a total of $150,000 in grants to packaged food brands owned by underrepresented founders and social impact initiatives.

Although the Food City team has received more than 60 grant applications so far, the agency has decided to extend the application deadline to October 16.

According to Darren Jackson, Chief Operations Officer of Serving Our Communities, the decision was based on conversations with applicants and other community members.

"We've talked to a lot of entrepreneurs and organizers who have good ideas but weren't going to apply because they felt they wouldn't be competitive and we're extending the deadline because these are exactly the folks we want to meet and support, and we want to give them some more time to perfect their applications," Jackson said.

Jan Marson, Serving Our Communities Founder, echoed Jackson's thoughts:

"We have talked to a lot of people who have shared that they are used to getting counted out. But in those same conversations we heard really exceptional ideas for products and projects. We encourage everyone to apply," Marson said.

The Food City grants include a $75,000 "Growth" grant, a $50,000 "Innovation" grant, a $20,000 "Food for All" grant and a $5,000 "Environmental Justice" grant.

Starting on November 10, Mabry and the agency's outreach team will start hosting Monthly Gatherings aimed at exploring the offerings and opportunities offered by Food City and Serving Our Communities.

Food City's stated long-term goal is to "help create a more inclusive, sustainable food ecosystem in the St. Louis Metro Area." The group is currently running a community engagement campaign that includes a community survey open through at least December 31, 2023.






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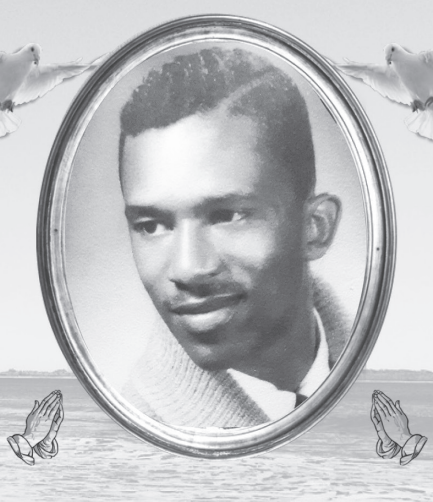
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Memorialize and celebrate your loved ones in The St. Louis American! For more info contact Angelita Houston, ahouston@stlamerican.com or call 314-533-8000



AT&T Opens Connected Learning Center at the Urban League Regional Headquarters & Distributes 300 Laptops to Families in St. Louis to Help Bridge the Digital Divide

On October 10, 2023, AT&T opened a new Connected Learning Center at the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis regional headquarters. This initiative aimed to bridge the digital divide by providing internet access, computers, software and educational resources to those facing connectivity barriers.

In partnership with the Urban League, AT&T distributed 300 laptops to families at the League's Jennings location in North St. Louis County. This program was part of a broader effort to connect more students and families to the internet and computers while teaching them essential digital skills. Following the center's opening, AT&T employees, in collaboration with the Urban League and Compudopt, distributed an additional 300 laptops at the Jennings Center. This was part of AT&T and Compudopt's ongoing efforts in St. Louis, including providing laptops to the Boys & Girls Clubs and the Gene Slay's Girls & Boys Club.

Michael McMillan, President & Chief Executive Officer of the Urban League of Metropolitan Saint Louis, Inc., expressed gratitude to AT&T for expanding access to technology, recognizing its vital role in preparing future leaders for success in the digital age.

Photos & Graphics by: Marcus Allen, Richard K. Davis and DavisProject.com



Your HealthMatters
'Taking Care of You'

Strutting, striding in battle against breast cancer

Black women have higher mortality rate



Photo courtesy of BJ the DJ

More than 6,000 people participated in the 14h SistaStrut in downtown St. Louis on Saturday, Oct. 7, 2023. While the number of breast cancer diagnosis have gone down in recent years, the mortality rate among Black women remains much higher than that of white women.

By Alvin A. Reid
St. Louis American

Positivity and community support vibrated through the chilly morning air during the 14th Annual SistaStrut Breast Cancer Walk and Parade on Saturday, Oct. 7, 2023. More than 6,000 people participated in the morning's events, and many walked the route from 8th and 15th streets to Chestnut Ave. downtown in support of breast cancer patients, survivors, families, and advocates.

IHeart radio has been a sponsor of SistaStrut since its creation, the station's BJ The DJ supports it enthusiastically because of its importance to the community – and breast cancer's impact on him.

"The main thing is to bring awareness of how breast cancer impacts the African American community," he said.

"We want to make sure people are doing self-examinations and are getting mammograms. We want people to get checked out early because early detection is key."

He added that studies are showing breast cancer cases are rising in young women in their 20s and 30s.

"We also want to let survivors know that they are not alone, and let families know that people are working to find a cure and bring that death rate down."

While it is less common for men to have breast cancer, it does occur. The disc jockey felt a lump in his breast area several years ago and had a mammogram. He would undergo a lumpectomy, which further drives his support for the event.

SistaStrut teamed with Siteman Cancer Center at Barnes-Jewish

See CANCER, A13

Score big with a healthier approach to snacks

By Dr. Graham A. Colditz

This time of year, many sports are calling for our attention. From college and pro football to postseason baseball and soccer, it's likely a lot of us will spend hours watching a game or match – whether in person or on TV.



Dr. Graham A. Colditz

And almost as important as watching the game is having snacks on hand while doing so, whether we're cheering our kids from the sideline or hosting friends to watch the big weekend matchup.

Unfortunately, many traditional game day snacks aren't the healthiest choices. Foods such as chips and dip, nachos, chili, pizza, and sweets may be filled with flavor but are far from ideal when it comes to nutrition. Often, they're high in calories, sugar, salt, red and processed meat and unhealthy fats.

Sunday, when most NFL games are played, is the most popular day for pizza consumption.

Super Bowl Sunday is the most popular day to eat pizza, with pizzerias seeing an average increase of 35% in sales. New Year's Eve, Halloween, Thanksgiving's Eve, and New Year's Day round out the top 5 pizza sales days of the year.

■ Foods such as chips and dip, nachos, chili, pizza, and sweets may be filled with flavor but are far from ideal when it comes to nutrition.

Of course, snacks and snacking by themselves aren't unhealthy. In fact, they can absolutely be part of healthy eating, said Lauren Gallen, a registered dietitian at Siteman Cancer Center in St. Louis.

And if we're going for a long time between meals – as we might during a game or match – snacking can give us energy and keep us from feeling

See COLDITZ, A13

Black moms need more transparency to avid mistreatment

Finding information is difficult

By Sarah Kwon
Kaiser Family Foundation

When Selam Solomon Caldwell and her husband learned she was pregnant last year, the stakes for finding the right OB-GYN felt high. Caldwell, a Black woman, had heard stories from family and friends of maternity care providers who ignored their requests or pressured them into cesarean sections without clear medical justification.

As a relative newcomer to Los Angeles, the recruiter, now 31, knew few Black people who could recommend doctors who had treated them with respect. She combed review sites, including Google reviews and Healthgrades, but couldn't find how nearby physicians and hospitals might treat a Black woman like her.

"It's hard to tell if it's a fellow Black person who's giving the review," Caldwell said.

Consumer ratings sites rarely identify patient experiences by race or ethnicity and hospitals are under no obli-

■ Mothers of color, especially Black women, report that they do in fact experience discrimination.

See BLACK MOMS, A13



Photo by Lauren Justice / KFF Health News

While pregnant with her son, Selam Solomon Caldwell of Los Angeles combed review sites for an OB-GYN but couldn't find how nearby physicians and hospitals might treat a Black woman like her.

Missouri Foundation for Health is building a more equitable future through collaboration, convening, knowledge sharing, and strategic investment. Working in partnership with communities and nonprofits, MFH is transforming systems to eliminate inequities within all aspects of health and addressing the social and economic factors that shape health outcomes.

Your Health Matters is provided in partnership with Missouri Foundation for Health

Black moms

Continued from A12

gation to reveal the racial and ethnic breakdowns of their patient satisfaction scores. Yet that information could be instrumental in holding maternity care providers and hospitals accountable for treating patients inequitably and could empower expectant mothers like Caldwell in finding quality obstetric care.

You can't change what you don't see," said Kimberly Seals Allers, founder of Irth, an app allowing Black and brown women to find and leave reviews of maternity care providers. She's one of a few entrepreneurs developing new tools for collecting feedback from mothers of color.

A steady drip of new research over the past several years has spotlighted racial discrimination by maternity care providers and the role it may play in one of the country's most vexing health disparities: Black women experience the worst birthing outcomes, a gap not explained by income or education, according to a KFF analysis. In 2021, they were nearly three times as likely to die of pregnancy-related causes as white women.

Mothers of color, especially Black women, report that they do in fact experience discrimination. They are more likely than white women to say that their care providers ignored them, scolded them, or pressured them into treatments they didn't want. The extent to which discrimination is reported varies widely by survey, but one recently published report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found roughly 30% of Black, Hispanic, and multiracial women reported mistreatment during maternity care, compared with 20% of women overall.

It's unclear how many hospitals track survey responses by race, and, even if they do, they rarely reveal that information. And the federal government requires generic reporting on how patients say they were treated, making it difficult to pin down and address incidents of bias in maternity care.



Photo by Lauren Justice / KFF Health News

Women of color like Selam Solomon Caldwell can't see whether hospitals or physicians discriminate. A few entrepreneurs are developing new tools for collecting feedback from mothers of color.

Currently, the results of the industry's standard patient experience survey, known as the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems, are made publicly available by the federal government to help patients compare hospitals. They incentivize hospitals to improve care and are included in the rankings of many hospital ratings sites, such as U.S. News & World Report's Best Hospitals. But it doesn't ask about maternity care or discrimination and has low response rates, particularly among people of color.

Amid growing interest in health equity, traditional ratings sites are grappling with how much to share with the public. For its birthing hospital ratings, U.S. News & World Report recently started assessing whether hospitals tracked racial disparities in maternity outcomes measures, but it withholds actual results. Healthgrades is taking time to think through how to collect and display sensitive information publicly, said spokesperson Sarah Javors in a statement.

Some Black women are trying to fill the void by creating new feedback mechanisms that could be more trusted by the community. Allers said she created Irth after a traumatic birth experience as a Black mother at a highly-rated hospital left her feeling failed by mainstream ratings.

On the app, verified users answer questions, from whether they felt respected by their doctor to if they experienced certain types of mistreatment such as dismissal of pain. Irth currently has 10,000 reviews of hospitals, OB-GYNs, and pediatricians nationally, according to Allers.

"Our data is for the community," said Allers. "They know their feedback has value to another mom or family."

Irth also offers analysis of the reviews to hospitals and leads campaigns to collect more reviews for them. But Allers said many hospitals have expressed little interest

Digital strategy & audience engagement editor Chaseedaw Giles contributed to this report.

Cancer

Continued from A12

Hospital and Washington University to provide screenings and breast cancer information throughout the day.

Female breast cancer is the most diagnosed cancer in the world, according to a 2020 Global Cancer Statistics report, and among Black women it has surpassed lung cancer as the leading cause of cancer death.

In the U.S., breast cancer is the most common cancer in women except for skin cancers. More than 300,590 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in 2023. In Missouri, an estimated 5,700 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed.

An estimated 290,560 people will be diagnosed with breast cancer in 2023, including 2,710 men. While there is positive news in the fight against breast cancer, it has all but missed Black women with the disease.

The death rate from breast cancer dropped by 42% from 1989 to 2019. Early detection, mammography screening, and advances in treatment played a role.

However, Black women are 41% more likely to die of breast cancer than white women overall and are twice as likely to die if they are younger than age 50. There were 6,800 Black women's breast cancer deaths in 2022, according to the American Cancer Society.

Making Strides event oct. 21

Black patients and family members will be among the hundreds of St. Louisans who will participate in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 21, 2023, at Union Station downtown.



Photo courtesy of SistaStrut facebook

BJ the DJ of IHeart radio has been an enthusiastic supporter of SistaStrut since its creation 14 years ago. While breast cancer occurs rarely in men, the disc jockey felt a lump in his breast when he was younger, underwent a mammography, and underwent a lumpectomy.

"Over the past two decades, MSABC walks have collectively grown into the nation's largest and most impactful breast cancer movement – providing a supportive community for courageous breast cancer survivors and metastatic breast cancer thrivers, caregivers, and families alike," Amy Haynes, ACS North Region marketing director, states in a release.

"In Missouri alone, there are an estimated 5,700 new cases of breast cancer diagnoses and 810 estimated deaths from breast cancer in 2023."

A reason that Black women have a higher breast cancer mortality rate is because they are less likely to be screened for the disease.

Research shows that uninsured and underinsured individuals are less likely to get screened for cancer and are more likely to be diagnosed at an advanced stage.

The ACS has not backed away from the national – and local – Medicaid debate in its effort to expand access to quality, affordable health insurance coverage.

"A top priority for the ACS Cancer Action Network [ACS CAN] is expanding access to care through Medicaid, especially in the 11 states that have not yet expanded," said Haynes.

Many Americans rely on Medicaid for health care, and its expansion has been linked to increased screening rates across cancers.

A 2021 ACS study found that breast cancer patients living in states with the lowest income eligibility for Medicaid had a 31% greater mortality risk than patients in states that had expanded Medicaid programs to cover more people.

In 2022, ACS CAN worked and lobbied during the crafting of the Inflation Reduction Act to ensure that expanded and extended tax credits to purchase health care plans were included.

"Passage of this bill [in August 2022] marks one of the most significant extensions of affordable health coverage to millions of Americans, including cancer patients, survivors, and their families, in more than a decade," according to Haynes.

ACS CAN also protects existing funding and advocates for increased state and federal funding for effective cancer control efforts like the Center for Disease Control and Prevention National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP).

The program that provides community- based breast and cervical cancer screening, diagnosis, and treatment to lower-income, under- and uninsured women, is a high priority for ACS CAN each year.

Ensuring adequate funding for the NBCCEDP will preserve a critical safety net for those who continue to lack access to lifesaving screening and diagnostic and treatment services for breast and cervical cancers. The NBCCEDP has provided over 15.64 million screening exams to more than 6 million eligible people since 1991 but, due in part to funding challenges, cannot service all eligible individuals.

In 2022, ACS CAN successfully advocated to increase or protect funding for breast and cervical cancer early detection programs in 40 states and the federal government.

The Making Strides Against Breast Cancer in St. Louis is sponsored by Heubel Shaw Material Handling, Inc., and "it is a celebration of courage and hope, and a movement that unites communities to end breast cancer as we know it, for everyone."

Over the past three decades, Making Strides Against Breast Cancer' walks have become the nation's largest and most impactful breast cancer movement.

The walks provide a supportive community for survivors, caregivers, and families. The events also fund lifesaving breast cancer research and the ACS commitment to advancing health equity through programs and services.

Registration for the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk is at 8 a.m. Saturday, October 21, 2023, at Union Station, 1820 Market Street, downtown. The Walk begins at 9 a.m.

Colditz

Continued from A12

so hungry that, when we finally sit down for a full meal, we eat too fast and overdo it.

"Balanced snacks are usually more satisfying, so a good blueprint to follow is to choose options with two components," Gallen said. "Include something with carbs – crackers, rice cakes, fruit, chips, pretzels – and something with protein and/or fat – hummus, cheese, peanut butter."

When it comes to more traditional game day snacks, some simple changes can really help improve the way we eat without really sacrificing much, if any, taste and our overall enjoyment.

Instead of replacing foods with "healthified" versions, try choosing smaller portions and boost those by adding some healthier choices to your plate, such as fruit, vegetables, pretzels and grilled chicken. "Starting with smaller amounts of our favorites allows us to assess whether we feel satisfied and comfortable after that portion or if we are still hungry for additional food," Gallen said.

This approach to improving our game day snacking can be an easy way to improve the health of our overall eating too. We don't need to give up foods we really enjoy, even if they aren't very nutritious. Instead, maybe we eat those dishes less often, or we choose smaller portions, adding in whole grains and vegetables as a healthier side dish. Or instead of regularly having a beer or glass of wine, we choose an alcohol-free version or bottle of fizzy water more often.

Whether it's a game day snack or our weekly menu, these small updates to how we eat can lead to big scores for our health. Game on.

It's your health. Take control.

Dr. Graham A. Colditz, associate director of prevention and control at Siteman Cancer Center at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, is an internationally recognized leader in cancer prevention.

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Simmons Bank Announces New Branch at Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis Headquarters

On October 5th, Simmons Bank and the Urban League of Metropolitan Saint Louis, Inc. (ULSTL) held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to inaugurate a new full-service Simmons Bank branch located on the first floor of the Urban League headquarters at 1408 North Kingshighway. Construction began in early 2022 and was completed in 2023, resulting in a 2,600 square-foot branch offering a wide range of banking products and services, including a drive-thru banking lane and an ATM with deposit capabilities. Tom Lally and Allan Ivie, Missouri metro division leaders for Simmons Bank, expressed pride in the partnership, emphasizing its role in providing financial resources and empowering the community. He highlighted the branch's significance in contributing to the urban redevelopment along the Kingshighway corridor.

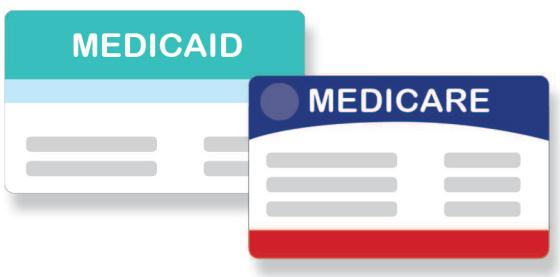
In 2020, Simmons Bank provided financing for ULSTL's headquarters acquisition, leading to the proposal and establishment of this new branch. As part of theceremony, Simmons Bank donated $50,000 in support of ULSTL's Restoring Hope Capital Campaign. Michael P. McMillian, President and CEO of the Urban League Metropolitan St. Louis, acknowledged the branch's importance in providing essential financial services to the community, aligning with their mission of promoting economic stability and social equality.

The new branch was designed and built by many minority-owned businesses including Grice Group Architects and KWAME Building Group, which have a history of collaboration with ULSTL. Simmons Bank also played a role in financing the Community Empowerment Center of Ferguson, constructed by KWAME Building Group in 2017, which houses an ATM from Simmons Bank.

Photos & Graphics by: Marcus Allen, Richard K. Davis and DavisProject.com







We get it — Medicare can be complicated. If you have Medicare and Medicaid coverage, you may need more from your plan. With an Aetna® Dual Eligible Special Needs Plan (D-SNP), you can get additional benefits. And a dedicated care team to help you manage your care and get the most from your plan. Plus, you won't lose any of your Medicaid benefits. Get benefits like:

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Prescription drugs
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Dental coverage
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Vision coverage
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Don't miss Medicare's Annual Enrollment Period (AEP) from October 15, 2023, to December 7, 2023.

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A licensed agent will answer your questions.

AetnaMedicare.com/DSNPCare2

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St. Louis American NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION
Planting the Seeds for Success!

The weekly Healthy Kids page provides health tips on nutrition, exercise and more.

SCENSION HEALTH PRESENT: BJC HealthCare℠ Missouri Foundation for Health

Healthy Kids

Nutrition



Nutrition Challenge:

One way to make sure you're getting the nutrition your body needs is to have a goal of (at least) 5 servings of fresh fruits and vegetables — every single day! Each serving is only about ½ cup, so it's easier than you think! Here are a few tips.



> Start off your day with a piece of fruit!

> Try new fruits and vegetables each week.

> Why not add fruits or vegetables to your fall baking? You can boil and puree many different kinds to add to cakes, breads, etc.

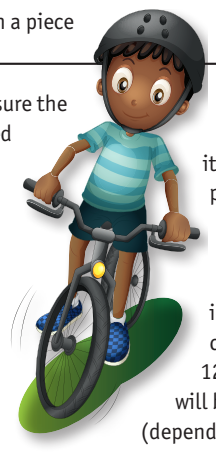
> What are some other ways to add fruits/vegetables to your diet?

Learning Standards:
HPE 1, HPE 2, HPE 3, HPE 5, NH 1, NH 5

Exercise



Calories are a way to measure the amount of "energy" gained from eating something. So if you eat a medium apple (about 100 calories), that'll provide the energy for you to do a simple physical task such as walk around the block. Calories aren't the bad guys; extra weight happens when we consume (eat) more of them than we need. That's why it's important to stay physical and burn those calories throughout the day. Here are some ideas, and the calories an average 125-pound person will burn in 30 minutes (depending on speed).



> Walking = 120-150

> Running = 180-300

> Biking = 240-300

> Mowing = 135

> Watching TV = 23

Visit http://www.calorieking.com/foods for an excellent guide to the calories in the foods you eat.

Learning Standards:
HPE 2, HPE 5, NH 1, NH3

And...



One of the best ways to protect yourself from getting sick is to wash your hands. Think about surfaces that are touched by many people: door handles, computer keys, telephones, stair railings and sports equipment. If the person using it before you is sick and then you touch it, you could catch their illness from the germs they leave behind. So practice washing your hands multiple times a day, especially before eating, to stay healthier!

Learning Standards:
HPE 2, HPE 3, NH 1, NH 7

Healthy Snacks

Flav-O-Pop



Ingredients:
Low-Fat or Air-Popped Popcorn

Flavorings: Taco Seasoning, Parmesan Cheese, Hot Pepper Flakes, Garlic Powder, Italian Seasoning, etc.

Directions: Prepare popcorn. Sprinkle your favorite flavoring on top and shake, shake, shake! Experiment with different combinations to create a delicious snack!

Healthcare Careers



Debra A. Wren, Therapist

Where do you work? I am the owner and therapist of Renew With Wren Counseling.

Where did you go to school? I graduated from Central High School in Helena, Arkansas. I then earned a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Arkansas, and a Master of Counseling from Webster University, St. Louis.

What does a therapist do? I provide counseling services to individuals, couples and families who need help in dealing with struggles that they may have. I help them with things like depression, anxiety, and other issues.

Why did you choose this career? I chose this career because helping others is my passion. Becoming a therapist has allowed me the opportunity to help others learn better ways to cope with what is going on in their lives.

What is your favorite part of the job you have? My favorite part of my job is being able to witness the positive changes that my clients are making. Seeing their growth reminds me of why I became a therapist. I love what I do!

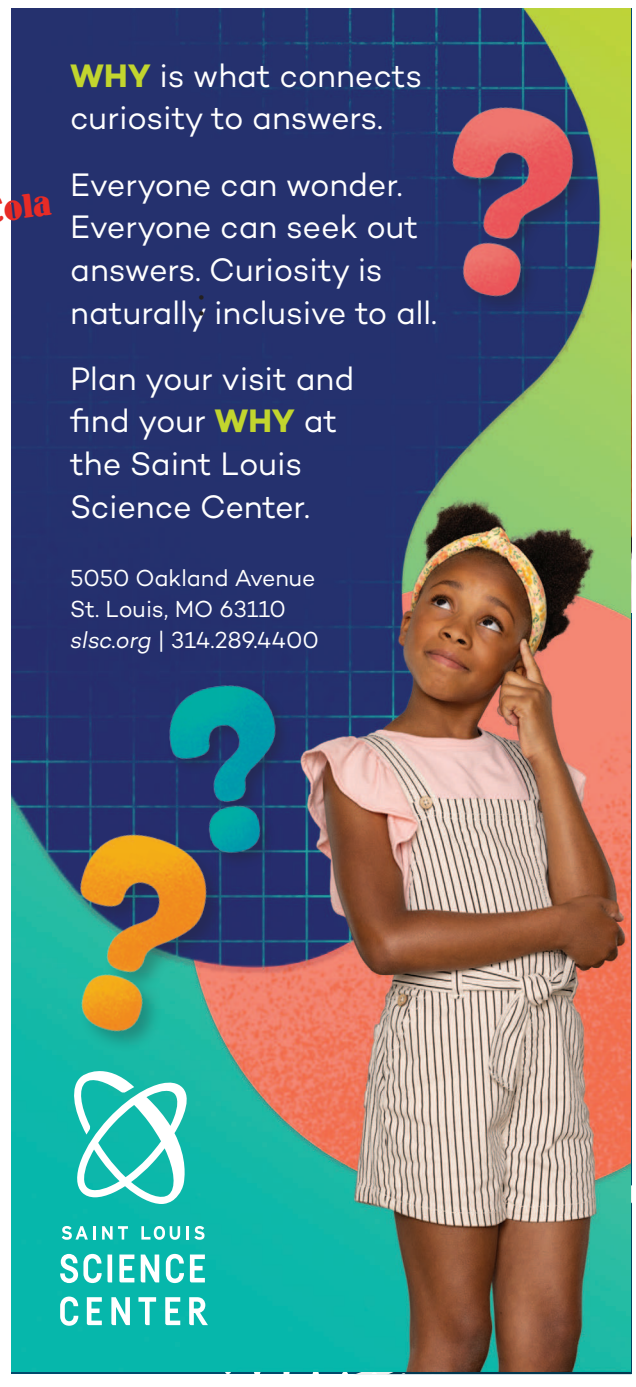
Learning Standards: **HPE6, NH3**

"Questions or comments? Contact Cathy Sewell csewell@stlamerican.com or 618-910-9551

Content—Cathy Sewell • Design—Beth Sharpe

COMMUNITY PARTNERS







St. Louis American NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION
Planting the Seeds for Success!
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The St. Louis American NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION

The St. Louis American's award winning NIE program provides newspapers and resources to more than 8,000 teachers and students each week throughout the school year, at no charge.

STEM
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Questions or comments? Contact Cathy Sewell
csewell@stlamerican.com or 618-910-9551

CLASSOOM SPOTLIGHT

At the St. Louis American's 2023 Summer Science Academy, participating students select their supplies to use in an engineering project to build a roller coaster out of recycled items.

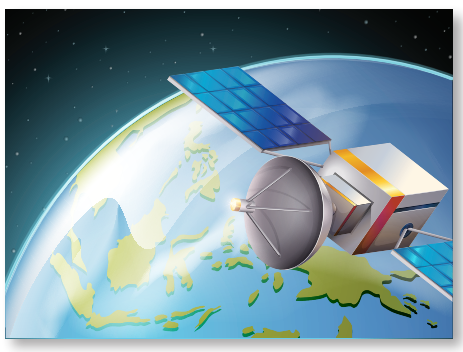


Teachers, if you are using the St. Louis American's NIE program and would like to nominate your class for a Classroom Spotlight, please email: nie@stlamerican.com.

SCIENCE CORNER

Meteorology Is All About the Atmosphere!

Meteorology is the study of the atmosphere and is used for weather forecasting. But did you know that meteorology is more than looking at weather maps? It involves some pretty advanced scientific and mathematical concepts. Meteorologists study physics, chemistry, algebra, calculus and computer science. In addition to having an analytical mind, meteorologists must have strong communication skills to speak and write effectively. They study wind velocity, temperature, humidity and air pressure using satellites, weather balloons, radars, sensors and weather stations. Many industries, such as agriculture, shipping, forestry, fishing and transportation depend on accurate weather forecasts. More than just the weather forecast, meteorologists have an impact on such topics as air transportation, global warming, pollution control, ozone depletion, droughts, forestry, and agriculture.



To Learn More About Becoming A Meteorologist, Visit: http://www.weatherwizkids.com/career-becoming-meteorologist.htm.

Learning Standards: I can read nonfiction text for main idea and supporting details.

SCIENCE INVESTIGATION

MAKE IT RAIN!

Background Information:
In this experiment, you will see condensation in action.

Materials Needed:

• **Large, Wide-Mouth Container** (such as a mayonnaise jar) • **Hot Water** • **Ice Cubes** • **Small Plate** (to hold ice cubes) • **Index Card**

Process:

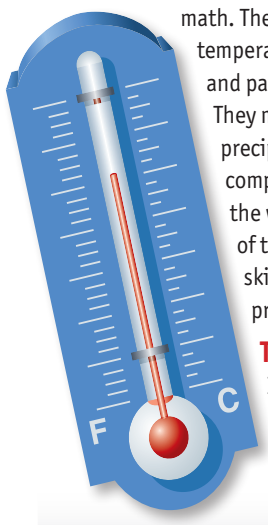
1. Pour two inches of very hot tap water into the glass container and cover with the plate. Allow water to sit for a few minutes.
2. Place ice cubes on the plate.
3. Watch what happens.
4. Analyze—how does this relate to weather? How does this compare to what happens when warm air rises and meets colder temperatures high in the atmosphere?



Learning Standards: I can follow sequential directions to complete an experiment. I can analyze the results.

MATH CONNECTION

METEOROLOGY MATH!



Meteorologists use a lot of math. They analyze temperature and patterns. They measure precipitation. They compare trends in the weather. All of these skills are skills that you can practice now.

Temperature:
If it is 64 degrees at 7 a.m. and is 25 degrees below the predicted high, what temperature has been predicted? _____

The high temperatures recorded for the week were 67, 51, 42, 38, 71, 41 and 54. What is the average high temperature? _____ What was the difference from the lowest and the highest of the high temperatures? _____

If the temperature is dropping three degrees each hour, how many degrees will the temperature drop in 6 hours? _____

Precipitation:
Last week we got 4.5 inches of snow. Six-tenths of an inch melted before another storm added 6.3 inches. Since then we have lost 3.2 inches to melting or evaporation. How may inches of snow are left on the ground? _____

Darrell read that an average snowfall of 10 inches yields 1 inch of water when melted. If there was 4.1 inches of snowfall, what was the actual amount of water that fell during the storm? Round your answer to the nearest tenth. _____ inches

Learning Standards: I can add, subtract, multiply, and divide to solve a problem.

DID YOU KNOW?



- Antarctica gets less precipitation than any other continent.
- The fastest wind speed ever recorded was 231 miles per hour on Mount Washington, New Hampshire, on April 12, 1934.
- The tropical rain forest gets 80 to 400 inches of rain per year, sometimes up to two inches of rain per hour.



SCIENCE STARS

AFRICAN AMERICAN METEOROLOGIST:

E. Don Sarreals



On September 22, 1931, E. Don Sarreals was born in Winston Salem, North Carolina. While he was young, Sarreals' family moved to New York, where he graduated from Bronx High School of Science in 1949. Six years later, he earned a bachelor's degree in meteorology from City College of New York. Three years after that, he earned his master's degree in meteorology from New York University.

Sarreals first served in the US Army before becoming a meteorologist. Sarreals became a weather radar supervisor in the National Weather Service (NWS) New York Forecast Office, in 1961. In 1976, he accepted a job with the National Broadcasting Corporation in Washington, D.C., then worked for the NWS Headquarters from 1976 to 1980. Sarreals served as president and consultant of Storm Finders, Inc. and developed NOAA Weather Radio, which was the nation's first government funded radio system. In 1984, he was chosen to be chairman of the Working Group for Doppler Radar Meteorological Observation.

Sarreals wrote the "Federal Meteorological Handbook No. 1: National Weather Radio Operations." He was selected to be in the Who's Who Among Black Americans and received the Ward Medal for excellence in meteorology. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Meteorological Society.



Learning Standards: I can read a biography about a person who has made contributions in the fields of science, technology, and/or mathematics.

MAP CORNER



Use the newspaper to complete these activities to sharpen your critical thinking skills.

Activity One —
Tone: Choose a news story to evaluate. What is the tone of the author's writing? Lighthearted? Hopeful? Discouraged? Highlight words that create that tone. Rewrite the story changing those words. How does word choice change the tone?



Activity Two — Pollution
Problem: Find a news story about a problem created by pollution. Analyze the problem. Could it be prevented? Can it be eliminated? What factors created the problem?

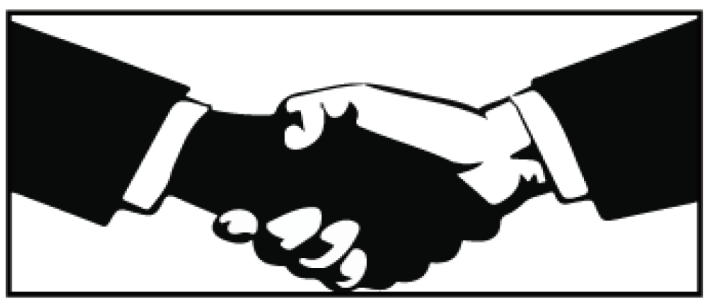


Learning Standards:
I can use the newspaper to locate information. I can analyze problem and solution, word choice and tone.

Content—Jennifer Wirthwein • Design—Beth Sharpe

This special Newspaper In Education initiative is made possible, and delivered to classrooms, through The St. Louis American Foundation and its NIE Corporate Partners:

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NORTH NEWSTEAD ASSOCIATION PRESENTS :

SAFETY AND OUR SURROUNDINGS

An educational working session designed to explore how built environment and infrastructure affects safety in our neighborhoods, discover the latest crime prevention initiatives in St. Louis, and learn how to take advantage of available resources to improve safety in your community.



SATURDAY | OCTOBER 28, 2023
9AM-12PM
O'FALLON PARK YMCA
4343 WEST FLORISSANT AVE

8-9am | Networking Coffee Hour
9am-12pm | Summit Program
12-1pm | Close Out and Resources
snacks, drinks, and a light lunch will be provided to registered participants, as supplies last

REGISTRATION ENCOURAGED, NOT REQUIRED:
HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/SAFETY-SUMMIT

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US AT (314) 385-4343 OR AT CASEY@NORTHNEWSTEAD.ORG

This activity is financed through an allocation of Community Development Block Grant funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the City of St. Louis' Community Development Administration.

CRIME PREVENTION SUMMIT 2023

Branching out

Urban League now home to Simmons Bank branch



Photo by Maurice Meredith

From left, Allan Ivie, Simmons Bank Regional Trust president, Sharon Raiford, Financial Center manager, Mike McMillan, Urban League president and CEO, George A. Makris Jr., Simmons Bank CEO, state Sen. Karla May, and St. Louis Mayor Tishaura Jones celebrated the opening of a Simmons Bank branch in the Urban League building on Oct. 5, 2023.

By Alvin A. Reid
St. Louis American

Upon saying "this has truly been a fulfilling journey," Michael McMillan, Urban League president and CEO joined Simmons Bank executives, elected officials, and community members in grand opening ceremonies for a full-service branch in the Urban League headquarters at 1408 N. Kingshighway on Oct. 5, 2023.

The $2 million, 2,600 square-foot branch is located on the first floor of the building and offers a range of banking products and services, including a drive through banking lane and ATM with deposit capabilities.

In addition, the branch's construction included sizeable minority business participation.

It was designed and built by minority-owned businesses Grice Group Architects and Kwame Building Group. The Grice Group Architects also designed the Centene Ferguson Training Facility in collaboration with The Urban League and Centene Corporation.

Kwame Building Group also constructed the 13,500 square-foot Community Empowerment Center of Ferguson in partnership with the Urban League in 2017.

TD4 Electrical, and other African American owned companies played prominent roles with the project.

"The staff of the branch is also 100% African American. This is an example of St. Louis doing it the right way," McMillan said.

Mayor Tishaura Jones said the Simmons Bank branch is part of the continued effort to spread financial and economic empowerment opportunities, including retail banking for residents, to the city's northside.

"Thank you, Michael, for continuing to deliver," she said of McMillan and the Urban League's focus on empowerment.

Before the opening, there was a four-mile stretch along Kingshighway from Vandeventer Avenue on the south, to Natural Bridge Avenue on the north, without a bank branch.

"Locating the branch at our headquarters is a significant step in helping serve the under-banked residents and small busi-

See SIMMONS, B2

KC lawsuit could widen racial homeownership gap

By Nate Johnson

The rate of homeownership in the Black community hovers around 45%, a stark contrast to nearly 75% for white households. There are lawsuits, including a federal case scheduled for trial in Kansas City this month, that could make this gulf even greater.



Nate Johnson

Strong, dynamic local real estate marketplaces in St. Louis are a cornerstone of community development and economic growth. Local broker marketplaces – in which real estate agents share all listings openly and transparently with all other agents – help foster healthy competition.

Meanwhile, compensation rules that allow a home buyer's real estate agent to be paid out of the proceeds from the home sale – instead of out of the buy-

See LAWSUIT, B2



Photo courtesy of U.S. Housing and Urban Development

The happy times of Black families purchasing houses could be reduced if plaintiffs in two lawsuits are successful. The suits seek to require buyers to pay for the services of their real estate agent directly, rather than having the buyer's agent fee paid by the seller's agent at the time of closing.

People on the Move

Diamond Spence joins Kwame

Kwame Building Group recently hired Diamond Spence as project administrator. As project administrator, Spence is responsible for tracking contract changes, submittals and RFIs, creating presentations, managing and maintaining project document control systems and processing invoices for various projects. Celebrating its 30-year anniversary in 2021, the employee-owned company provides estimating, scheduling, project planning, value engineering and other project management services as an independent advocate for owners and developers.



Diamond Spence

Morgan moves up at KSDK 5 On Your Side

Nyoko Morgan has been named associate producer for Show Me St. Louis on KSDK – 5 On Your Side. She previously served as producer in residence. Prior to KSDK, Morgan held the roles of associate producer and then television news producer at KOMU in Columbia, MO. She holds a bachelor of journalism degree in Radio-TV journalism from the University of Missouri-Columbia where she graduated magna cum laude. While attending Mizzou, Morgan was on the Campus Activities Program Board event staff, and was also an entertainment reporter/content writer for Glitter Magazine, Soeurs Media Group.



Nyoko Morgan

Martinez named to transit board

Sal Martinez was recently elected to the board of Citizens for Modern Transit. Martinez serves as CEO of Employment Connections, whose mission is "To assist individuals with limited opportunities to self-sufficiency." Prior to that appointment in 2018, he served as executive director of the North Newstead Association and earlier Community Renewal and Development, Inc. Previously he chaired the St. Louis Housing Authority. Martinez holds a bachelor's degree in urban education and leadership from Harris-Stowe State University.



Sal Martinez

Lane-Norful new project engineer at Kwame

As project engineer, Lane-Norful is responsible for assisting project managers with quality control, project budgets and cost reports, reviewing and coordinating submittals and RFIs, subcontractor management and maintaining communication with the client and entire project team. Lane-Norful brings two years of industry experience having previously served as a Project Manager and Estimator. He also holds Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering and Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Missouri University of Science & Technology.



Kodey Lane-Norful

Promotion, board appointment, new hire, award... please submit your People on the Move item (including photo) to kjones@stlamerican.com.

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Please join us for a spectacular evening of dinner, entertainment and community empowerment.

Venue — Red Bird Club at Busch Stadium

Date — Thursday, November 16th

Time — 6 o'clock in the evening

Attire — Semi-Formal

To RSVP, please go to **givebutter.com/c/carestlhealthgala** or scan here

For sponsorship and tickets, contact

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Lawsuit

Continued from B1

er's pocket upfront – help expand access to homeownership and increase the pool of buyers for sellers' homes.

However, the pending lawsuits could upend these vital local marketplaces. The suits seek to require buyers to pay for the services of their real estate agent directly, rather than having the buyer's agent fee paid by the seller's agent at the time of closing. If successful, such a verdict would significantly increase the transaction costs of buying a home – with major repercussions for local economies.

When the commission is shared between the seller's broker and the broker who brings the home buyer, it gives first-time and low-and middle-income buyers a better shot at affording a home. If buyers had to pay the agent themselves, it would make it harder for many, especially first-time, minority and low/middle-income buyers, to afford a home because they would need more money upfront for the down payment, closing costs and agent fees.

Today, at a time when current high mortgage rates and increasing home prices are keeping aspiring homebuyers on the sidelines, additional out-of-pocket fees would only push homeownership further out of reach for many. If our commission model were to significantly change and buyers were forced to begin paying their agent out-of-pocket, it would create an additional barrier to homeownership for Black, first-time homebuyers who may already struggle to afford a down payment, ultimately worsening the racial homeownership gap in St. Louis and across America.

In St. Louis, white residents are nearly twice as likely as Black residents to be homeowners. As a result, Black first-time homebuyers have a 50% chance of being a first-time, first-generation homebuyers. This means that they may not have family and friends to rely on for homeownership advice.

These buyers critically need a real estate agent to help them navigate the homebuying process since their parents may not be able to offer financial assistance or guidance. Unfortunately, if the lawsuits are successful for the plaintiffs, Black homebuyers will be the people who are most vulnerable to not having representation throughout the homebuying process.

Requiring buyers to pay their agent out-of-pocket would require an estimated $6,765 in additional assets to purchase a $250,000 home. The burden of this commission payment in addition to a down payment will only push homeownership further out of reach for income-restrained buyers and discourage them from seeking professional representation due to the cost of working with a real estate agent.

At the crux of the lawsuit, plaintiffs argue that because listed-for-sale homes are publicly available online, buyers don't need a real estate agent, which is a shortsighted opinion. Anyone who has purchased a home for the first time knows it often isn't a straightforward undertaking – things don't always appear as they seem – and the process can be overwhelming without support.

History shows that consumers who do not have professional representation always suffer the most. Looking back at the 2008 recession, people of color were disproportionately affected, in part due to lenders who offered predatory loans. Predatory lenders specifically targeted these communities because they were more likely to not have professional representation.

If the trial verdict results in homebuyers having to pay commissions out-of-pocket, it would significantly increase the transaction costs of buying a home – with major repercussions for local economies:

• Income-restrained buyers will be more likely to forgo professional representation when making the biggest financial decision of their lives.

• The rate of homeownership in the Black community will remain stagnant or decline.

• Significantly increasing the up-front transaction costs of buying a home would deter some potential buyers and slow the pace of home sales.

The magnitude of this trial and the devastating impact it could have on aspiring homebuyers in St. Louis and beyond, cannot be understated.

If the plaintiffs were to win, the greater economy would be largely impacted and further divide the racial wealth gap in America. NAR data shows that significantly fewer low-income households and households of color own their home and are able to build wealth compared to other income and racial/ethnic groups. There should be no reason why we adopt compensation rules that would further exacerbate this issue.

Nate K. Johnson is Real Estate Solutions Group @ Redkey Realty Leaders president and served as St. Louis Association of Realtors president in 2011.



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Photo by Alvin A. Reid / St. Louis American

With the assistance of branch manager Sharon Raiford, Urban League President and CEO Mike McMillan opened an account at the new Simmons Bank location in the Urban League building at 1408 N. Kingshighway.

Simmons

Continued from B1

nesses, especially those along the Kingshighway corridor," McMillan said.

Allan Ivie, Simmons Bank Regional Trust president and Urban League board member, noted the special partnership between the Urban League and the bank.

It includes Simmons Bank financing the purchase of the former Sears Building in 2020, its transformation into the Urban League headquarters, and providing seed money for the Save Our Sons/Save Our Sisters initiatives.

Shortly after, Simmons Bank approached the Urban League about an addition of a branch at this location, and the project has come to fruition.

Simmons Bank also presented the Urban League with a $50,000 donation in conjunction with their Restoring Hope Capital Campaign. Restoring Hope is raising funds to "establish an accessible hub for programs and services that foster continual self-improvement, vibrant neighborhoods, and equitable opportunity for all," according to the Urban League website.

"We truly care about the communities where we operate, and the Urban League is the most effective organization in the St. Louis area," Ivie said.

State Sen. Karla May called the branch opening "an extraordinary moment in history."

"It's important that [Simmons Bank] is helping get individuals in the community not only into banking, but also all the financial products you offer including small business loans."

While there were no bank branches in the area, Alderwoman Shameem Clark Hubbard reminded the audience that "an institution that took advantage of the community with predatory lending" had been in operation.

"This is truly restorative economic development. Simmons Bank, you are showing people [you are sincere]," said Hubbard.

McMillan said St. Louis is "grappling with how to include Black-owned and female owned business into the business community."

"We can be the Atlanta of the Midwest. As the mayor said, poverty is the father of crime. Give people a decent paying job and upward mobility and they will not end up on the way to prison."

McMillan said the branch wants to reach $30 million in deposits and called on the community to do its part to reach that financial investment – and he launched the effort by opening a new account moments before a ribbon was cut and the branch officially opened for business.

"I don't think you want to see us again. It might be a little bit worse."

– Deebo Samuel responding to comments by Cowboys' Micah Parsons after the 49ers beat Dallas 42-10.



Prep Football Notebook

By Earl Austin Jr.

Make room for Jeremy Maclin on Mizzou Ring of Honor

Jeremy Maclin was honored last Saturday before Missouri's game against LSU when Mizzou and The National Football Foundation (NFF) and College Hall of Fame welcomed Maclin to the Ring of Honor.

"It puts everything into perspective," Maclin told reporters during the ceremony.



Earl Austin Jr.

"I came a long way from a little kid growing up in [Kirkwood]. Just to see it come full circle and to see everything I went through to get to this point."

Maclin played for Missouri in 2007 and 2008 and racked up 2,315 receiving yards and 22 touchdowns. Maclin was drafted 19th overall in the 2009 NFL Draft and he played for the Philadelphia Eagles, Kansas City Chiefs and Baltimore Ravens from 2009 to 2017. He ended his career with 6,835 yards and 49 touchdowns.



Photo by Bill Greenblatt / St. Louis American

Former Kirkwood High star and University of Missouri All-American Jeremy Maclin poses with his name, now on the wall inside Memorial Stadium in Columbia, Missouri on October 7. Maclin played eight years in the NFL and is a newly-elected member of the College Football Hall of Fame.

A showdown Saturday

A pair of undefeated teams will clash on Friday night when Cardinal Ritter hosts Hillsboro in a big non-conference game between 7-0 teams.

Southwestern Conference rivals East St. Louis and Edwardsville will meet in their annual showdown on Friday night at Edwardsville.

The Cardinal Ritter and Hillsboro tussle is a rematch of last year's exciting contest that was played in Jefferson County. The Lions trailed Hillsboro 14-13 in the fourth quarter, but scored twice in the final frame to take a 26-14 victory. Ritter went on to win the Class 3 state championship.

Cardinal Ritter has a balanced attack with its talented dual quarterback rotation of Carson Boyd and Antwon McKay, Jr. Both hand off to running back Jamarion Parker, who has scored 10 touchdowns this season. Wide receiver Dejarrion Miller has 22 receptions for 397 yards and seven touchdowns.

Hillsboro features a dynamic duo of brothers Preston and Payton Brown. Preston Brown is a talented dual-threat quarterback who has passed for 1332 yards and 19 touchdowns and rushed for 548 yards and six touchdowns. Payton Brown has rushed for 772 yards and 15 touchdowns.

The East St. Louis-Edwardsville game will decide who wins the Southwestern Conference title as is the case in most years. East Side is led by quarterback Robert "Pops" Battle, who has passed for 1,118 yards and 11 touchdowns while rushing for 401 yards and five touchdowns. Running back TaRyan Martin has rushed for 345 yards and 10 touchdowns.

Host Edwardsville (7-0) is led by quarterback Jake Curry, who has passed for 969 yards and 15 touchdowns. The Tigers preserved their undefeated season last weekend with a big come-from-behind 49-45 victory over Belleville East.

Top Performers from Week 7

• Running back **Dierre Hill** of Althoff rushed for 218 yards on 25 carries and three touchdowns in the Crusaders' 41-22 victory over Mater Dei.

• Quarterback **Preston Brown** of Hillsboro completed 10 of 14 passes for 213 yards and three touchdowns in the Hawks' 42-0 victory over DeSoto.

• Running back **Thomas Pulliam** rushed for 117 yards on eight carries and two touchdowns in the Crusaders' 45-7 victory over Duchesne.

• Running back **Elijan Stevens** rushed for 190 yards on 17 carries and two touchdowns in the Hawks' 49-7 victory over Oakville.

• Running back **Johnny Harrison** of Jennings scored two rushing touchdowns on runs of 53 and 43 yards in the Warriors' 42-25 victory over Affton.

• Quarterback **Ayden Sullivan** of Wentzville Holt completed 17 of 23 passes for 310 yards and four touchdowns in the Indians' 44-7 victory over Fort Zumwalt East.

• Running back **Xavier Moore** rushed for 146 yards in the Greyhound 24-21 victory over Riverview Gardens.

• Running back **Justin Jackson** of Marquette rushed for 235 yards on 43 carries and two touchdowns in the Mustangs' 21-7 victory over Ritenour.

• Wide receiver **Andrew Martin** of Francis Howell Central had six receptions for 104 yards and a touchdown in the Spartans' loss to Fort Zumwalt West.

• Running back **D.J. Burgess** of Parkway Central scored five rushing touchdowns in the Colts' 48-7 victory over Northwest Cedar Hill.

• Quarterback **Robert "Pops" Battle** of East St. Louis passed for 150 yards and three touchdowns in the Flyers' 59-0 victory over Alton.

Sports Eye

With Alvin A. Reid

Dennis Gates flooding Mizzou basketball with talent

Missouri basketball coach Dennis Gates quickly improved his team's fortunes in his first year on the job.

He has now quietly assembled one of the best recruiting classes in the nation.

Missouri returned to the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament last March after a three-year absence and won a game before losing in the second round. Gates received a raise and contract extension. Refusing to rest on his laurels, the young, Black coach is determined to make Mizzou a perennial NCAA Tournament participant.



Alvin A. Reid

His 2024-25 class of incoming players will put the school on this path.

Like most SEC schools, the athletic fan base at Missouri is so wrapped up in football that it is paying little attention to basketball.

How else could Gates land five-star wing Annor Boateng in September with little fanfare? Boateng plays for Little Rock Central and he chose the Tigers over Arkansas, Auburn, Georgia Tech and LSU. He is the No. 10 small forward in the class and the top prospect from Arkansas, according to 247Sports.

Last week, the Tigers added four-star center Trent Burns from PSAT XEA Academy in Houston. He is listed as the No. 13 center in the 2024 class, the No. 79 recruit in the nation, and the No. 4 player from the state of Texas.

During his online announcement, Burns credited Gates and his coaching staff for continued communication throughout the recruiting period and pledged to work with him to excel in college and then professionally.

He called Missouri "Somewhere where I can keep expanding my game and call home."

247Sports ranks Missouri's 2024 class as No. 1 in the nation because it also includes four-star recruits center Peyton Marshall, and guards Marcus Allen and Antonio "T.O." Barrett.



Photo by Kyle Terada / USA Today

Missouri Tigers head coach Dennis Gates guided his team to the NCAA Tournament in 2023.

Following last season's turnaround, Gates could enter the 2023-24 season taking bows for his first-year accomplishments. He told KMIZ in Columbia his team underachieved when it came to its preseason goals.

"We lost the goal of winning the regular season championship, the postseason SEC championship, and getting a national championship trophy here in Colombia," he said.

To reach those standards, a team needs talented players and a driven coach. Missouri suddenly has both and the sky is the limit.

Missouri opens its season Nov. 6 at home against the University of Arkansas – Pine Bluff.

The Reid Roundup

After leading the American women's gymnastics team to a gold medal on Oct. 4, 2023, at the World Championships in Antwerp, Belgium, **Simone Biles** finished first in the individual all-around, balance beam, and floor events, while finishing second in the vault and fifth in the uneven bars. Her performance gives her a record 37 medals in world championship and Olympics competition… **Luther Burden III** had 11 catches for 149 yards, 85 of those yards came after the catch, in Mizzou's disappointing 49-39 loss to LSU. It was Burden's fifth-100-yard or higher effort in a row… St. Louis product **Jameson Williams** made his season debut in the Detroit Lions' 42-24 win over Carolina last Sunday. His six-game suspension due to violation of NFL gambling regulations had been reduced to four games. Jameson dropped one pass and caught two for a total of two yards…**Bradley Beal** made his preseason debut with the Phoenix Suns on Sunday. He tallied 11 points on 3-of-5 shooting (4-of-4 from the free-throw line), four rebounds and three assists in a 130-126 win over the Detroit Pistons…**Jayson Tatum** also opened his preseason with a big game. He recorded 13 points, 10 rebounds, five assists and a steal in a 114-106 win over Philadelphia… **Tiger Woods** returned to a golf course as a player last weekend, completing a round with his son, **Charlie**, on The Hay, a short golf course at Pebble Beach. There is a chance Woods could return to competitive golf on Nov. 30 in the 20-golfer field at the Hero World Challenge in the Bahamas…I know a fantasy football owner that benched quarterback **Dak Prescott** in favor of Geno Smith just two games into the season. I'm that owner, and I was forced to use Prescott this week because Smith was in his bye week. Disaster.

Business Briefs

Haynes is new VP of KAI Build

KAI Enterprises announced the promotion of Gyasi Haynes to vice president of its con-struction division, KAI Build. Haynes joined KAI in June 2021 as director of project man-agement.

Haynes' career consists of more than 20 years of construction industry experience. In his new role as vice president, Haynes will take on a wide range of responsibilities, including working closely with the project management teams to promote safety, quality and client satisfaction. Additionally, he will be involved in managing the business operations, including assisting with budgeting, staffing and profit and loss.



Gyasi Haynes

At KAI, Haynes has led the Build team on numerous construction projects including its work with Target and its dozens of store remodels across the Midwest.

"At KAI, our core values breathe life into community transformation. As a third-generation construction professional, I've readied myself for advocacy and trusted advisory roles. Our goal is to foster a community-valuing team that takes care of and protects our customers, reinforcing accountability and accessibility," said Haynes.

Pinela to lead office of new Americans

Mayor Tishaura O. Jones announced her appointment of Gilberto Pinela as the director for the Office of New Americans. In her 2023 State of the City address, Mayor Jones highlighted her priority to create this new office to streamline resources to welcome immigrants and refugees making their way into the city. Since 2021, St. Louis has welcomed more than a thousand new residents from Ukraine, Afghanistan, and more through partner organizations like the International Institute.



Gilberto Pinela

Pinela joins city government after serving as Communications Manager for Cortex Innovation Community since 2017.

JPMorgan Chase & Co.

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Five tips to get ahead of holiday debt

The holiday season is fast approaching, and most people find themselves spending a little – or a lot – more than usual during these festive final months of the year.

Americans spend more than $1,450 each year on holiday-related purchases – from gifts and travel to decorations and entertainment. These costs layered into your monthly expenses can significantly strain your budget.



You don't have to break the bank to celebrate the season. Smart planning can get you ahead of the holidays and leave you with funds for merry-making the way you want. Consider these five tips to minimize holiday debt.

Save, save, save

While solid advice for any time of year, it can take on more importance during the holidays. One way to save is to set up a separate savings account for holiday expenses. Start saving at the beginning of the year, and vow not to withdraw any money until it's time for holiday shopping.

Make your holiday plans now

Set guidelines for your holiday spending. Make a list of your expected holiday expenses and estimate the costs to see if they fit into your overall budget. Adjust your list as needed.

Build a holiday budget—then stick to it

Once you've made your list, commit to staying within your budget. With so much pressure surrounding gift-giving, it's easy to spend more than you planned. Shop online to ensure you're getting the best deal, or search for coupons and deals to help lower costs. Get family and friends on board with your plans by suggesting a gift swap instead of buying gifts for everyone; opt for handmade gifts or even pitch in for a group gift. If you're hosting a holiday dinner, shop in bulk for food items.

Scope out major deal days

In addition to the deal-hunting tips, take advantage of Black Friday and Cyber Monday sales. Look up retailers' deals ahead of time to see if you find goods and services you planned to purchase anyway at lower prices. Many retailers start big holiday sales as soon as Nov. 1, so do some homework now on the gifts you have your eye on so you can spot and take advantage of online and in-person deals before the holiday rush.

Pick up a short-term gig

Even the best-laid budget plans can still fall short of your available funds. If your schedule allows it, take on a temporary job to bring in some extra income. Many retail or dining establishments need additional workers to handle the holiday rush, and demand often increases for ride-booking and delivery services as well. Or take up a side hustle selling crafts for example.

These are just a few ways to help you get a handle on holiday debt, but there's so much more that savvy consumers can do to save. See if your credit cards have special offers at your favorite stores or for your favorite purchases, and look for special cash back deals. Be flexible and keep an open mind in general – if you can't get a good deal on the gifts you originally planned to buy, see if any of the special offers you qualify for might be good substitutes.

The bottom line

Putting financial parameters in place can help you feel more confident and less stressed about your holiday spending. Have fun with your planning, saving and budgeting – it's a great way to get into the holiday spirit early.

To learn more about budgeting, visit chase.com/financialgoals.

Sponsored content by JPMorgan Chase & Co.









Photo by Taylor Marrie / St. Louis American

Hip Hop artist Big Freedia helped The Grove neighborhood celebrate its annual Grove Fest on Oct. 7, 2023. The annual street festival included merchant and food villages, street performers, and main stage entertainers. A New Orleans native, Big Freedia performed hits including "3rd Ward Bounce" and "NOLA Babies."

St. Louis applauds Kym Whitley



Comedian Kym Whitley received a well-deserved Lifetime Achievement Award from the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis.

Powering the local economy with style

By Kenya Vaughn
The St. Louis American

Saint Louis Fashion Fund kicks off 10th year, unveils robust anniversary agenda

Not even an audience full of fashionistas would take offense to Susan Sherman being singled out as the best dressed person in the room. As usual, such was the case three Tuesdays ago when the Saint Louis Fashion Fund team brought together influencers within the style community to the Missouri History Museum to announce programming for their upcoming 10th anniversary.

Sherman wore a power dress in the shade of saffron. A turtleneck with a sleeve that transited into black beads just above the elbow – a bold color and a risky sleeve that paid off with dividends. She beamed as sponsors, corporate and community partners shared what can be expected while offering a sneak preview of what SLFF has in store for its milestone.

"It's not going to be a one-night celebration, It's not going to be a one weekend celebration – it is going to be a one-year celebration of St. Louis fashion – past, present and future," said Dr. Jody Sowell, President of the Missouri Historical Society. "Ten amazing events happening throughout the year."

In addition to the kickoff, The Missouri History Museum will be the designated venue for Threads on April 13. Contemporary fashion designers will peruse the Missouri Historical Society's textile collection – one of the largest in the country – select an inspiration and develop a garment based on what inspired them. The ensembles will be showcased at a fashion show that is part of the

See Style, C8

Redd Foxx played role in career

By Dana G. Randolph
For The St. Louis American

Comedian, producer, and director Kym Whitley first felt the love of St. Louis when kind words from one of the region's greats helped send her on a path to stardom.

She felt its warmth again recently when friends gathered on Sept. 23, 2023, at the St. Louis Art Museum Panorama Restaurant to honor her.

Co-hosts Ms. Robbie Montgomery, former owner of Sweetie Pie's restaurants, Areva Martin, Esq., and St. Louis Mayor Tishaura Jones were among the guests, who also toured "The Culture: Hip Hop and Contemporary Art in the 21st Century" exhibit.

Jones and other sorority sisters gifted Whitley with some beautiful Delta Sigma Theta swag.

Whitley is a Fisk University graduate and holds an honorary doctorate degree from the University of Virginia - Lynchburg.

■ It's fitting that Whitley was feted in St. Louis because a prominent late former resident (Redd Foxx) played an instrumental role in her career.

Whitley was visiting Saint Louis to not only reach out to friends, but to receive a well-deserved Lifetime Achievement Award from the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis.

The award was presented during the Urban League Guild of Metropolitan St. Louis Salute to Women in Leadership Gala. While at the St. Louis Art Museum, guests were able to browse the amazing exhibit; The Culture: Hip Hop and Contemporary Art in the 21st Century.

It's fitting that Whitley was feted in St. Louis because a prominent late former resident played an important role in her career.

Whitley was born in the Cleveland suburb of Shaker heights, Ohio, but raised in Khartoum, Sudan.

According to her biography, she knew early on that she had the ability to make people laugh.

She would have a chance encounter with comedian, television and movie star Redd Foxx, who told her "[you] had the comedic goods."

That endorsement convinced her to take on the challenge of being a stand-up comedian in Hollywood. She soon became Hollywood's "go-to-girl" as a talented, comedic actor on numerous TV shows.

She has starred in ABC's "My Wife

See Whitley, C8

The Green Book on the Greenway

By Ashley Winters
The St. Louis American

Noir Book Shop owner Ymani Wince, partnered with Great Rivers Greenway to share the history of the Negro Motorist Green-Book and its connection to local Black-owned businesses.

The two-part event began with a presentation at the bookshop on Wednesday, October 4, with Wince examining the "Green-Book" significance to Black travelers and Black-owned businesses in the Mill Creek Valley neighborhood.

On Saturday, October 7, Elizabeth Simons, community program manager of Great Rivers Greenway, hosted a one-mile tour along Market Street in the former neighborhood, highlighting former Black-owned businesses featured in the "Green-Book."

Mill Creek was later demolished, and most of its 20,000 residents and businesses were forced to vacate.

After learning of the Brickline project, spanning from Tower Grove South to Fairground Park, Wince said she wondered how the many diverse neighborhoods between south city and north city would be impacted.

Out of sheer curiosity, she called Greenway and because of that first conversation, 'Green-Book on the Greenway' became an event.

"I started to think about all of the different locations in St. Louis that are a part of the Negro Motorist Green Book," said Wince.

They include the DeLuxe Restaurant, Alice Beauty Parlor, and the Pullman Club, all located in the 2300 Block near the new soccer stadium site.

"Having the Great Rivers Greenway on board to tell the history of these locations in St. Louis is a way not to forget the community of Mill Creek Valley. This ties into the work of the Noir Book Shop," Wince said.



Photo by Ashley Winter / St. louis American

St. Louisans visit at Pillars of the Valley: A Tribute to Mill Creek Valley Monument.

Simmons said, "These places along the Greenway hold a story that shapes the past, present, and future of our region."

"I hope this makes the stories of the people and places that once stood here more real."

"The Green Book" was a tool that helped provide safety during legalized seg-

See Greenway, C8

St. Louis American Calendar

STL SITES & SOUNDS

CONCERTS AND LIVE SHOWS

BLKBOK W/ CONCERT BLACK
10/13/23, 8:00pm
Born and raised in Detroit's inner-city, BLKBOK (born Charles Wilson III), grew up in a music-filled house and by the time he was 8, BLKBOK was an acclaimed piano prodigy, winning statewide accolades and college-level competitions.
City Winery
St. Louis
3730 Foundry Way,
Suite 158
St. Louis, MO
$18.00 to $22.00

ALL-BLACK AFFAIR WITH CUPID
10/14/2023 6:00pm
Von & Dat Dude Present: All-Black Affair ft. Cupid (the creator of The Cupid Shuffle) Ages 21+ only
The Big Top
501 North Grand Blvd
St. Louis, MO

DHORUBA COLLECTIVE & ISH ENSEMBLE
10/14/23, 8pm
City Winery
St. Louis
3730 Foundry Way,
Suite 158
St. Louis, MO
$20.00

& N9ne Tour 2023
10/16/2023 7:00pm
17105 North Outer 40 Road
The Factory
St. Louis, MO
$39.50 - $49.50

Wheel Of Fortune Live!
10/16/2023 7:00pm
The Family Arena
2002 Arena Pkwy
St. Charles, MO
$35.00 - $65.00

Damien Escobar
10/13/2023 8:00pm
Sheldon Concert Hall.
3648 Washington Blvd
St. Louis, MO
$51.00

DINE & DISCOVER FEAT. DEE JAZZ
10/13/2023 8:00pm
The Grandel
3610 Grandel Sq.
St. Louis, MO

The Legends of Hip Hop The Legends include Juvenile, 8ball & MJG, Goodie Mob, Scarface, Bun B, DJ Quik, and Tha Dogg Pound
10/13/2023 8:00pm
Chaifetz Arena.
1 South Compton Ave
St. Louis, MO
$64.00 - $255.00

LBB Presents: Alex Squadron - Life in the G
10/14/2023 5:00pm
Pi Pizzeria
6144 Delmar Blvd.
St. Louis, MO

Marvin F. Cockrell and Focus 17th Annual Smooth Jazz Concert
10/14/2023 8:00pm
3648 Washington Blvd
The Sheldon
St. Louis, MO
$75.00

MercyMe Together Again Tour
10/14/2023 7:00pm
2002 Arena Pkwy
Family Arena
St. Charles, MO
$20.00 - $80.00

Pedrito Martinez
10/14/2023 8:00pm
Jazz Series
The Sheldon
3648 Washington Blvd
St. Louis, MO
$50.00

THE ISH ENSEMBLE: NEXT LEVEL Live from The Dark Room
10/15/2023 9:00pm
The Grandel
3610 Grandel Sq.
St. Louis, MO

The American Musical
10/18/2023 10:30am
The Sheldon
3648 Washington Blvd
St. Louis, MO
Free

Through The Roots
An American reggae rock and pop band based out of San Diego, California
10/18/2023, 8pm
Central Stage
3524 Washington Ave
St. Louis, MO

FAIRS, FESTIVALS AND MARKETS

Tower Grove Farmers' Market
10/14/2023 8:00am
4257 Northeast Drive
St. Louis, MO

Edera Night Market
10/14/2023 6:00pm
St. Louis, MO

Beginner Bird Walk - Youth & Family
10/15/2023 8:30am
4257 Northeast Drive
St. Louis, MO

TALKS & LECTURES

McLeod Lecture on Higher Education at TBD
10/12/2023
Lorgia García Peña presents The Future Is Now and the co-director of Archives of Justice. She writes and teaches in English and Spanish about the intersections of blackness, colonialism and migration, centering Black Latinx lives.
1 Brookings Dr
St. Louis, MO

Who Am I? and Who are we?:
A Panel Discussion with Latine Poets
10/12/2023 4:30pm
1 Brookings Dr
St. Louis, MO
Free

NIGHTLIFE

Geeks Who Drink Trivia Night at City Park Grill
10/12/2023 8:00pm-10:00pm
3157 Morganford Rd
St. Louis, MO
Free

RuPaul's Drag Race - Night of the Living Drag
Sashay into The Twilight Zone this Halloween with the queens of RuPaul's Drag Race for the 12th Annual Night of the Living Drag Tour at Stifel Theatre in St. Louis on October
12!VENUE
10/12/2023 8:00pm
Stifel Theatre
400 Market Street
St. Louis, MO
$32.00 - $126.50

Midtown Community Services Lip Sync Battle
10/13/2023 6:00pm
The Schlafly Tap Room
2100 Locust
St. Louis, MO
$50.00

ART ACTIVITIES, EXHIBITS AND MUSEUMS

October special: Half-off adults tickets to The Culture
10/12/2023 11:00am
The Culture: Hip Hop and Contemporary Art in the 21st Century
One Fine Arts Drive
St. Louis, MO

SciFest - Eclipse Expo
10/14/2023 9:30am
The Science Center's FREE and popular ScFest program features activities and engagement in areas such as space, nature and agriculture, and includes partial eclipse viewing opportunities using solar telescopes outside the Planetarium.
5050 Oakland Ave
St. Louis, MO
Free

Freedom Village Gathering
10/15/2023 2:00pm
Faye Dant-Jim's Journey: Huck Finn Freedom Center
Hannibal, MO
Roberta Rogers-Historical Society of Brooklyn, IL
Gwen Moore-Missouri History Museum
Basmin- Performance Artist
7917 State Street
East St. Louis, IL
Free

SLICE: St. Louis Independent Comics Expo
10/14/2023 10:00am
3648 Washington Blvd
St. Louis, MO
Free

Convergence: Creative Play & Storytime
10/14/2023 10:00pm
Explore an exhibit through a youth tour and storytim
5080 Delmar Blvd
St. Louis, MO
Free

Family Sunday
10/15/2023 1:00pm
Saint Louis Art Museum
One Fine Arts Drive
St. Louis, MO
Free

Feast Your Eyes: Matthew Daughaday of 21c St. Louis
10/16/2023 6:00pm
3750 Washington Blvd
St. Louis, MO

COMMUNITY

Jeske Park Neighborhood Association
10/12/2023 7:00pm
333 N. Florissant Rd
Ferguson, MO

5th Dist Community Outreach Meeting
10/12/2023 7:00pm
St. Louis, MO

Arts & Letters Commission Meeting
10/12/2023 7:00pm
Bill #7567, Ordinance #5453
975 Pennsylvania Ave
University City
University City, MO

City Plan Commission
10/12/2023 7:00pm
415 Elm Grove Lane
Hazelwood, MO

2023 WellEducator STL
10/14/2023 7:00am
A **wellness sessions** like yoga and art; connect with your community at a **vendor and resource fair**;
St. Louis, MO
Free

FSBD Board of Directors Meeting
10/17/2023 5:30pm
701 S. Florissant Rd
Ferguson, MO

Parks Commission Monthly Meeting
10/17/2023 6:30pm
975 Pennsylvania Ave
University City
University City, MO

City Council Meeting in person at City Hall
10/17/2023 7:00pm
Black Jack, MO

Businesses and Economic Development Meet and Greet
10/18/2023 5:30pm
Jennings MO
2120 Hord Ave
Jennings, MO

Residential Housing & Zoning Committee
10/18/2023 5:30pm
5949 Kingsbury Ave
St. Louis, MO

U.S. Chess Championships Closing Ceremony
10/18/2023 5:30pm
Chase Park Plaza Sonesta
St. Louis, MO
$25.00

Plan Commission Meetings
10/18/2023 6:00pm
110 Church Street
Ferguson, MO

SDCHC Meeting
10/18/2023 6:00pm
St. Louis, MO



MISSOURI HISTORY MUSEUM
MISSOURI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

First Baptist Church and John Berry and Mary Meachum



Missouri Historical Society Collections.

First Baptist Church, ca. 1915.

By Gwen Moore,
Missouri Historical Society

First Baptist is the oldest extant Black church in the city of St. Louis. Its storied history dates to 1817 when two white Baptist missionaries—John Mason Peck of Connecticut and James E. Welch of Kentucky—arrived in St. Louis to establish schools and churches, with orders from their missionary convention to pay particular attention to "the Fox, the Osage, the Kanses and other tribes of Indians."

Seeing an additional need for religious instruction for persons of African descent, Peck and Welch divided their Western Mission Academy into three departments, one of which was dedicated to establishing a Sabbath School for Negroes. The school initially opened with 14 students. In just two months that number had increased to nearly 100 students, ranging in age from 5 to 40 years. Most were enslaved persons whose admittance was contingent on permission from their enslavers. It's unclear whether women were in this first cohort, as it seems that Peck's wife intended to open a school for "Negro women" at her home.

One student was a free Black man named John Berry Meachum, the founder of First Baptist. Born enslaved in Virginia in 1789, he was taken to Kentucky. By the time he was 21 he had earned enough money to purchase his freedom and shortly thereafter returned to Virginia to purchase his father's freedom as well.

From Virginia, he and his father made the 700-mile trek back to Kentucky on foot to free John's mother and siblings. The rest of the family settled in Harrison County, Indiana, but John remained in Kentucky, where he met and married an enslaved woman named Mary. When she was taken by her enslaver to Missouri, he followed her, arriving in St. Louis in 1815 nearly penniless. Due to his many skills—he was a cabinet-maker, cooper, and carpenter—he soon amassed enough money to purchase the freedom of his wife and children.

John's father was a Baptist preacher who had a profound influence on his son's faith. It was only natural that John would gravitate toward the mission church and school founded by Peck and Welch. He developed a particularly close relationship with Peck that evolved into a lifelong friendship. In 1821, John began preaching; one year later, he headed a separate "colored branch" of the church and school. He was ordained by Peck in 1825. By that time virtually all the churches in the city had divided along racial lines, and John established First African Baptist. It became independent in 1827, and two years later the first church building was erected on Almond (now Market) Street, near the present-day Gateway Arch grounds.

By the mid-1840s the church had more than 500 members, with a Sunday school attendance of 150 to 300 people. First Baptist had a tremendous impact on the history of St. Louis and Missouri. Among the hundreds educated there was James Milton Turner, who went on to become the first US minister to Liberia in 1871 and found what is now Lincoln University.

Previously the Meachums had established a day school for Black people, called Candle Tallow, under the guise of a Sunday school. According to lore, when the Missouri Assembly outlawed the instruction of "negroes and mulattos" in 1847, the Meachums outfitted a steamboat with a library and started a school on the Mississippi River, beyond the state's jurisdiction. Their "Freedom School" gained national attention.

A year after John's death—fittingly, at the pulpit—in 1854, it was discovered that he and Mary were actively involved in assisting men and women seeking escape from slavery. Their house (last known address 136 N. Second St.) was found to be a station on the Underground Railroad. Both the *Missouri Republic* and the *Missouri Pilot* reported in their May 22, 1855, editions the arrest of several "runaway slaves" who disclosed that their rendezvous site was the home of "Mrs. Meachum," one of the few instances of solid documentation of the clandestine railroad. Mary was arrested and jailed. However, the final outcome of her case is unknown, as the pages of the court record book were removed. Her efforts in assisting those who escaped enslavement are commemorated in the Mary Meachum Freedom Crossing, a National Park Service historic site.

The Missouri Historical Society's African American History Initiative is proud to partner with the Mary Meachum Freedom Crossing for its 21st annual celebration on Saturday, October 14 (12–4pm). This year's theme is St. Louis Black music history. For more information, visit marymeachum.org.

ARTFUL MESSAGES

from your

SAINT LOUIS ART MUSEUM



Renee Brummell Franklin,
Chief Diversity Officer

Exhibition highlights Nigerian cloth and clothing



Robe, Yoruba artist; "Man's Robe (agbada)", late 19th century; silk (alaari), cotton; 49 × 92 in. (124.5 × 233.7 cm); Saint Louis Art Museum, Funds given in memory of Pauline E. Ashton 12:2023

An exhibition of ceremonial and celebratory Yoruba textiles from the early 19th to late 20th century opened on September 29 at the Saint Louis Art Museum. The free exhibition "Aso Oke: Prestige Cloth from Nigeria" highlights a fabric, aso oke (ah-shō ōkay), handwoven by Yoruba weavers in southwestern Nigeria.

There are three elemental types of aso oke—"sanyan" (undyed raw silk), "alaari" (magenta-dyed silk) and "etu" (indigo)—form the foundation upon which weavers have created abundant material and design innovations.

The exhibition is comprised of textiles from the Art Museum's permanent collection, alongside recent acquisitions of agbada men's robes and mid-20th-century cloths from a local collector, demonstrate unique weaving techniques, including ikat, openwork, carryover threads and mixed strip assemblage. Late 20th-century cloths utilize new materials such as Lurex, rayon and more that evoke a luminous effect while maintaining the integrity of the fundamental aso oke triad.

Nigerian studio-based artist Nengi Omuku is inspired by sanyan, Omuku paints directly onto cloth collected from markets in Nigeria. A complimentary painting by Omuku is on view in the museum's East Building. Visitors will be introduced to Omuku's specific engagement with aso oke that asserts presence for both her painted compositions and the cloth itself.

We invite you to visit the "Aso Oke" exhibition on view in the Carolyn C. and William A. McDonnell Gallery 100 through March 10 and see Nengi Omuku's painting on display in the Gary C. Werths and Richard Frimel Gallery 248.

"Aso Oke" is curated by Nichole N. Bridges, the Morton D. May Curator of the Arts of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas, with Shaka K. Myrick, the 2021-2023 Romare Bearden Graduate Fellow.

Romare Bearden Graduate Museum Fellowship

The Saint Louis Art Museum created the Romare Bearden Graduate Museum Fellowship in 1992. As one of the oldest and most robust museum programs in the country, it is dedicated to offering institution-wide training for individuals from diverse backgrounds seeking careers in the museum field. The primary focus of the Fellowship is to increase the number of professionals from historically disadvantaged or underrepresented groups working in museums by providing comprehensive training, experience, and mentorship to outstanding candidates.

Applications for the 24-month fellowship will open in November. For more information and qualifications, visit slam.org or email renee.franklin@slam.org.

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20th

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Medicare Annual Enrollment is from October 15th – December 7th!

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Black churches helping bridge broadband digital divide



Photo courtesy of RNS

U.S. Rep. Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., right, hands a Bolton-Edwards Elementary/Middle School student a new laptop during a celebration hosted by media and technology company, Comcast, announcing that they completed a broadband expansion effort in the neighboring towns of Bolton and Edwards, Tuesday, Aug. 22, 2023, in Bolton, Miss. Nearly 400 laptops were donated to students of the two schools as part of the celebration.

Religion News Service

In the riverfront city of New Bern, North Carolina, Peletah Ministries, like many houses of worship since COVID-19 struck, offers Sunday services to those who can't get to church for health or other reasons. But in these days of Zoom and other internet-based communications, the stay-at-home congregants still dial in to the service via a conference call on the ministry's toll-free 800 number — a landline.

"People still call it, and they still do church services that way," said Dawn Baldwin Gibson, the ministry's executive director. "They still do their Bible studies that way. A lot of people just don't have devices in their homes, or they don't have access to the internet."

Early in the pandemic, Black churches often struggled to make the switch to remote services for lack of broadband in their area. Even if a church had the wherewithal to livestream services or hold meetings on video platforms, congregants lacked the connections to take advantage. A 2020 Pew Research Center study showed that while 92% of evangelical Christians and 86% of mainline Protestants could watch services online, only 73% of worshippers in the historically Black traditions said the same.

Today in the rural South, 38% of Black households do not have access to broadband, compared with 23% of white households, according to the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies.

Black clergy and faith leaders in the rural South have been working for years to bridge the digital divide in their communities and congregations, and a pandemic-era federal program gave those efforts a boost by offering discounted internet access. But fewer than half of the estimated 49 million Americans who are eligible have enrolled, and now questions loom about the program's long-term funding by Congress.

The Federal Communications Commission's Affordable Connectivity Program offers discounted internet access and one-time discounts on laptop, desktop or tablet purchases. Any household whose income amounted to less than 200% of the Federal Poverty Line qualifies, as do those earning above that line but who receive any of a variety of public benefits. To date, more than 21 million households have enrolled in the program.

In North Carolina, the state's Department of Information Technology has set a goal of enrolling 1 million state residents in the ACP by year's end, said Cristalle H. Dickerson, spokesperson for the department's Broadband and Digital Equity division. So far, more than 850,000 households have signed up.

To that end, it is partnering with faith-based organizations such as Peletah to get the word out. Other faith networks, including The Balm in Gilead and the National African American Clergy Network as well as national Black denominations are working on these efforts, which include pleas to members of Congress to replenish funding for the program, which could be depleted by early 2024.

Gov. Roy Cooper has also encouraged internet service providers in the state to lop an additional $30 from the monthly fees of individuals who qualify for the ACP.

In many areas, urban or rural, Black communities depend on their churches for more than spiritual uplift; members and nonmembers turn to local Black-led churches for everything from child care to medical services. During the pandemic, Black churches were crucial partners with government agencies in providing COVID-19 vaccines and testing.

Fallon Wilson, vice president for policy of the nonpartisan Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council, said that the model forged in the pandemic can be replicated to bridge some of the gaps in digital access that were exposed in 2020.

Wilson's organization helped create Black Churches 4 Digital Equity to build that potential among Black clergy. The group brings pastors together with FCC and state broadband officials while also holding events where community members are invited to sign up for the ACP. After launching "ACP Days of Action" last year, the initiative's partners have held similar events this summer across a dozen and a half mostly Southern states and the District of Columbia.

Wilson said: "Our churches just see it as a way to, number one, reduce the cost of internet because it is really expensive but also a way to get devices into the hands of their community members." Anyone who has a Pell grant or receives benefits through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program can get a $30 subsidy toward an internet bill and $100 discount for a personal computer.

This reporting is part of a collaboration with the Institute for Nonprofit News' Rural News Network, and the Energy News Network, Flatwater Free Press, Mississippi Free Press, New Mexico In Depth, Religion News Service and Sierra Nevada Ally. Support from the Walton Family Foundation made the project possible.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® Gamma Omega Chapter Ivy Alliance Foundation Awards $53,181.00

39th Annual FASHIONETTA™ Scholarship Cotillion

Miss Nyla Symone Bentley Crowned Miss FASHIONETTA™ 2023



The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® Gamma Omega Chapter presented its 39th Annual FASHIONETTA™ Scholarship Presentation on Sunday, May 28, 2023.

Thirteen extraordinary young ladies were presented and escorted by 13 remarkable young men:

FASHIONETTA™ is a trademark of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® and a fundraising activity for the chapter's philanthropic endeavors of the Ivy Alliance Foundation (IAF). Debutantes and Escorts participated in an eight-month experience, which included college preparation workshops, community service, overnight retreat, entrepreneurial workshops, church service, and a Mother-Daughter Luncheon.

Debutantes and Escorts received over $53,000 in monetary and scholarship awards at the Presentation.

Miss Nyla S. Bentley was crowned Miss FASHIONETTA™ 2023 and received a scholarship of $9,641. Nyla is the daughter of Kevin and Nicole Bentley. Nyla is an honors graduate of Cardinal Ritter College Prep. She will attend Xavier University of Cincinnati to pursue a Bachelor of Science in biomedical sciences with a pre-med/dental concentration. Nyla's career goal is to become a pediatric orthodontist.

The First runner-up is Miss Paige Trichelle Peyton, the daughter of Patrick and Krista Peyton. Paige is an honors graduate of Incarnate Word Academy. She will attend Xavier University of Louisiana in the fall and pursue a Bachelor of Science in chemistry/pre-med. Paige's career goal is to be a physician.

The Second runner-up is Miss Ava Nicole Hamilton, the daughter of Zachary and Latresa Hamilton. Ava is the 2023 valedictorian of Belleville East High School. Ava will attend Northwestern University to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. Her career goal is to be a sports psychologist.

The Third runner-up is Miss Kayla Rollins, the daughter of Nita Rollins and Lynard Zingale. Kayla is a graduate of Marquette High School. She will attend the University of Missouri-St. Louis to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Education. Kayla's career goal is to be an elementary school teacher while dabbling in creative writing.

The Fourth runner-up is Miss Kaelyn Nicole Malone, the daughter of LaShonda Malone and the late Pastor Christopher Malone. Kaelyn is an honors graduate of Belleville East High School. She will pursue a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry at Jackson State University. Her career goal is to be an orthodontist.

Here are the other debutante and escort participants and college choices for Fall 2023

Raven Le'Ann Addison
King University;
majoring in Biology/Kinesiology

Jaidyn Raind Carrier
Prairie View A&M University,
majoring in Nursing

Shawnti Darreyel Coleman
Jackson State University,
majoring in Nursing

Kennedy Alexandria Crisp
- Spelman College;
majoring in Economics

Charity Faith Edney
Howard University;
majoring in Architecture

Jalise Lynnette Grimes
- University of Missouri- St. Louis;
majoring in Nursing

Lauren Haven Sutton
Harris Stowe State University;
majoring in Biology

Kylee Madeline Walls
Southeast Missouri State University;
majoring in Nursing

Escorts:

Daniel Alexander Allen - Morehouse College; majoring in Psychology
Thomas Edward Anderson - Savannah College of Arts and Design; majoring in Fashion Design
Dijon Jailan Askew - St. Louis University; majoring in Biomedical Engineering
Tayres Alton Bluett - Morehouse College; majoring in Civil Engineering
Eric Byas, Jr. - Hampton University; majoring in Chemical Engineering
Douglas Edward Clark - rising senior at Marquette High School
Stephone D. Cody, lll - Morehouse College; majoring in Computer Science
Grant Bernard Gaskin - Undecided currently; majoring in Technology Development
Kyle Allen Gray – Fisk University; majoring in Architecture
Matthew John-Milton Hankerson – University of Washington-Tacoma; majoring in Computer Science
Ivan Jerard Kelly – Joining his family business in Operations and Development
Myles Avery McCallum – Trade College; to become an Electrician
Travin Jamal Wells - Maryville University; majoring in Business Administration

The Chairman for the FASHIONETTA™ 2023 is Michelle Sanders. The Co-Chairmen are Barbara Champagne and MaShylla Gunn-Minor.

Betherny Williams is the President, and Carla Baker is Vice-President of the Gamma Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and the Ivy Alliance Foundation, respectively.

Event and souvenir journal presently available @AKAGOSTL.com.

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POLICE OFFICER

Maplewood Police Department Hiring for police officer position Must be POST Class A certified $66,081-Five year top $94,896

FIREMEDIC

Pattonville Fire Protection District is accepting applications for a FIREMEDIC position. Must meet minimum qualification, please see website www.pattonvillefd.com for details. Applications can be picked up at the Fire District Administration Building; 13900 St. Charles Rock Road, Bridgeton, Missouri, 63044; from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., October 13th, 2023 through October 27th, 2023.

DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY

Kirkwood School District is hiring a Director of Technology with the following experience:

• 4 year college degree or equivalent in Management or Computer Science

• 5+ years equivalent and related experience

• 3+ years of supervisory experience.

For more information and to apply, please visit www.kirkwoodschools.org/jobs

GUARDIAN AD LITEM – FAMILY COURT - JUVENILE DIVISION

Family Court (Juvenile Division) of St. Louis County is seeking an attorney to serve as guardian ad litem (GAL) in the Family Court to handle juvenile matters/ parent attorney. A GAL who serves the Court must commit to serve on various Family Court (Juvenile) cases on an as needed basis for a monthly retainer to be paid by public funds. The current retainer is in the amount of $2,300.00 per month. Payments for time expended in adoption, guardianship of minor, and termination of parental rights matters may be made over and above the retainer fee.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from an accredited law school, possession of a current license to practice law in the State of Missouri, up to three (3) years of trial experience preferred; preferably in juvenile or family law (additional years of trial experience and guardian ad litem experience are highly preferred), and completion of necessary guardian ad litem training as required by the Supreme Court of Missouri. Note: This position is subject to continued availability of funding.

To apply, please send a current resume, along with a cover letter, to SLCCourtJobs@courts.mo.gov or to the following address (application materials must be postmarked by **October 20, 2022**): Family Court of St. Louis County, Attn: Human Resources Department, 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton, MO 63105. EOE. Please contact the Human Resources Department at 615-4471 (voice) or RelayMo 711 or 800-735-2966 if you need any accommodations in the application process, or if you would like this posting in an alternative form.

ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR

In the role of Accounting Coordinator you will be part of our critical Accounts Receivable team. You will work closely with others in the Account Services Premium Audit, Client Engagement and Accounts Payable teams. By efficiently and tactfully billing and collecting payment from clients and brokers, you directly impact Safety National's bottom line revenue goals.

To apply, please visit: https://www.safetynational.com/careers-page/

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT AND CAMP RANGER

Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri is now recruiting for two full-time positions: Executive Assistant to the CEO and Camp Ranger. For more info and to apply, visit www.girlscoutsem.org. We are a proud Equal Opportunity Employer, and we encourage applicants from diverse backgrounds to apply.

COMMUNITY CARE LIAISON

Community Care Liaison, LifeWise StL dba Kingdom House, St Louis, MO. Bilingual Eng/Span. B.S. public health or Bach. in Social Work required. Valid driver's license required. Travel within St Louis Cty/County to clients & agencies. Background check conducted. Send cover letter & resume to jobs@lifewisestl.org with "Community Care Liaison" in the subject line.

Washington University in St. Louis

Washington University in St. Louis offers rewarding opportunities in various fields at all levels, with positions in engineering, nursing and health care, research, administration, technology, security and more.

JR73427 Maintenance Technician II - Real Estate

Performs maintenance services and /or repairs in two or more areas of skill including but not limited to plumbing, machine servicing and electrical repairs or installations for the properties maintained by Quadrangle Housing Company. The maintenance Technician II will complete these repairs and preventive maintenance as required for the general upkeep of the properties of Quadrangle Housing Company. The ideal candidate will meet the following required qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent high school certification or technical school diploma or equivalent. Required/Licensure/Certification/ Registration: Certain departments, based on job duties, may require Missouri Class E Driver's license and Missouri Class B CDL required within six months of employment.

LPN Nursing Openings

Washington University currently has several LPN openings in highly sought after outpatient clinical departments. We offer competitive wages and outstanding employee benefits. ***LPNs with clinic or hospital experience; Epic charting experience are highly preferred.***

- Orthopedic Surgery in Central West End and Progress West Clinic Locations
- Urologic Surgery Clinic
- Outpatient Dialysis in Forest Park or North County Locations (Dialysis Experience Required)
- Facial Plastic Surgery Clinic
- Gastroenterology Clinic

Resumes accepted: tracey.faulkner@wustl.edu

Staff Therapist or Clinical Social Worker (Part Time)

The Division of Child Psychiatry at Washington University is seeking to hire two part-time Staff Therapists for its Adolescent Intensive Outpatient Program (AIOP). The position will involve a combination of direct clinical interventions and group care to adolescents and/or their caregivers and the therapists will collaborate closely with a multidisciplinary team to implement novel models of care delivery and measure outcomes.

- Equivalent of a master's degree in social work.
- REQUIRED LICENSURE/CERTIFICATION/REGISTRATION
- AAMFT, ASLPC, LCSW, LPC, CPC, LMFT or licensed Psychologist in the state of Missouri

Resumes accepted: tracey.faulkner@wustl.edu

For a full description of these positions and other career opportunities, please visit https://jobs.wustl.edu/ to apply. Click search jobs and enter the job ID number.

We seek people from diverse backgrounds to join us in a supportive environment that encourages boldness, inclusion and creativity. EO/AA/VET/Disability Employer

RECREATION SUPERVISOR - RENTAL SERVICES

The City of Richmond Heights is accepting applications for the position of Recreation Supervisor - Rental Services $54,338 - 58,321. To apply go to https://richmondheights.applicantpro.com/jobs/

CHIEF ENGAGEMENT & BELONGING OFFICER

Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri is recruiting for an exceptional and inclusive leader to serve as the Chief Engagement & Belonging Officer. The CEBO will support the mission of the GSEM Council by working with the CEO and other key stakeholders to promote a strong sense of belonging for all. Apply at https://www.girlscoutsem.org/en/discover/our-council/careers.html. We are a proud Equal Opportunity Employer, and we encourage applicants from diverse backgrounds to apply.

Webster UNIVERSITY — GEORGE HERBERT WALKER School of Business & Technology

VISITING AND ADJUNCT FACULTY

Webster University's Walker School of Business & Technology is hiring Visiting and Adjunct Faculty in IT Management. Benefit from a 9-month extended contract for full-time roles or **9-week courses for adjunct positions.** A master's degree and 5+ years of IT experience preferred. Apply now: (https://recruiting.adp.com/srccar/public/RTI.home?c=1180715&d=ExternalCareerSite&r=5000855786606#/

MAINTENANCE WORKER

The City of Maplewood is seeking a qualified person for the position of maintenance worker. The position is responsible for maintaining streets, parks, sewers, swimming pool, and city buildings. Must be available for occasional evening and weekend work. The city offers a comparative salary and benefits package. Starting salary is negotiable based on qualifications and experience. For an application please go to www.cityofmaplewood.com or contact the Public Works Department at (314) 645-3600. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

SENIOR CLIENT SERVICE MANAGER

In the role of Senior Client Service Manager, you will work closely with department leadership and team members internally, and with our clients and broker partners externally. Your contributions to compile user stories, facilitate client awareness and use of resources, while developing and organizing a K-12 school risk management advisory board, will be felt throughout Safety National. To apply, please visit: https://www.safetynational.com/careers-page/

The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc. is seeking an Architecture/Engineering firm for services to create an Exhibition Design for the interior build-out of a new cultural center inside of the Urban League Headquarters facility at 1408 North Kingshighway.

Submission of Proposals

To be considered, proposals must be received no later than Friday October 20th, 2023 at 3:00 PM CST.
Proposals received after the deadline identified above will not be considered.

The entire RFP can be found on the Urban League's website at www.ulstl.com.

Questions about this RFP should be sent by email only to mmcclain@kwamebuildinggroup.com.

Schedule:
Questions Submitted by Thursday October 12th, 2023.
Questions Answered by Thursday October 16th, 2023.
Submission of Proposals by Friday October 20th, 2023.

Any answers to questions will be provided to all interested parties and released as an addendum to this RFP and sent to all parties accordingly by email, after the indicated date above.

Electronic proposals should be sent by email to mmcclain@kwamebuildinggroup.com.
Mail to:
Kwame Building Group, Inc
ATTN: Michael McClain
1204 Washington Ave, Suite 200
St. Louis, MO 63103

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

PARIC Corporation is requesting proposals for the following workpackages on Missouri University of Science and Technology's new Protoplex Research Facility located in Rolla, Missouri. The scope of work we are seeking proposals for include Early Release Mechanical Equipment, precast and metal panels packages, glazing/curtain wall package and roofing packages. You can find additional design guidelines on UM system website here: https://www.umsystem.edu/ums/fa/facilities/guidelines/ (Click on Section 3 Design Guidelines and then click on Division Guidelines hyperlink). If you have questions or would like further information on this project, please contact Chris Lucas (clucas@paric.com) at 636-561-9794.

Construction is slated to start October 2023 and be substantially complete by June 18, 2025.

Bids are due 11-10-23 at 10:00am

PreBid meeting will be held on 10-23-23 at 10:00am

The project is tax exempt, and has MBE and WBE goals according to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 11.4% Minority participation and 6.9% Female participation in each trade. Structural Steel will be subject to the Build America, Buy America Act.

The Project will be subject to prevailing wages per Missouri Division of Labor Standards Annual Wage Order for Phelps County.

All bids should be delivered to Paric via e-mail (bids@paric.com) or fax (636-561-9501).

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SEALED BIDS

Bids for Re-Bid Renovate Interior & Exterior, Project No. T2209-01will be received by FMDC, State of MO, **UNTIL 1:30 PM, November 14, 2023**. For specific project information and ordering plans, go to: http://oa.mo.gov/facilities

SEALED BIDS

Bids for Second Floor Annex Hvac Unit Replacemen, MSHP General HQ Complex, Jefferson City, Project No. R2314-01 will be received by FMDC, State of MO, **UNTIL 1:30 PM, 11/2/23**. For specific project information and ordering plans, go to: http://oa.mo.gov/facilities

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District Requests for Quotes, Bids and Proposals are posted online for public download. Please navigate to www.msdprojectclear.org > Doing Business With Us > View Bid Opportunities

Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

REQUEST FOR BIDS

Great Rivers Greenway is seeking bids for Mississippi Greenway: Trestle Repair. Go to www.greatriversgreenway.org/jobs-bids/ and submit by November 15, 2023.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

LEAD SAFE ST. LOUIS PROGRAM

The City of St. Louis Department of Health seeks applications for its Lead Safe St. Louis program. Request for Proposal application requirements may be obtained beginning October 9, 2023, by downloading from the City of St. Louis website at www.stlouis-mo.gov/health. The deadline for submitting proposals is November 27, 2023, by 5:00 p.m. to Bobie Williams, 1520 Market Street, Suite 4051, St. Louis, MO 63103. Please see the website for application specifics. Late or incomplete proposals will not be accepted. The Department of Health reserves the right to reject any or all responses with or without cause.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Great Rivers Greenway is seeking bids for Park Maintenance, Operations, and Conservation. Go to www.greatriversgreenway.org/jobs-bids and submit by October 13, 2023.

REQUEST FOR BIDS UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI – ST. LOUIS THOMAS JEFFERSON & MERCANTILE LIBRARY

Interface Construction Corporation is seeking Subcontractor/Supplier bid proposals for UMSL Project Number SC008238, Thomas Jefferson & Mercantile Library. The project consists of extensive interior renovations and an additional new entrance canopy.
Bids for this work are due to Interface Construction by 9:00 A.M. on October 19, 2023.
For further information or to receive an electronic version of the bidding documents please contact Mr. Doug Schneider of Interface at 314/522-1011 or email (preferred) at dougs@interfacestl.com.

There is a Supplier Diversity Participation goal of:
(25% MBE) ; (10% WBE,DBE and Veteran) ; (3% SDVE for this project)

INVITATION TO BID FERGUSON-FLORISSANT SCHOOL DISTRICT WATER TESTING DISTRICT WIDE

Sealed bids are being requested from the Ferguson Florissant School District and will be received and publicly opened on Tuesday, October 24th @ 1:00pm cst at the Operation and Maintenance dept. located at 8855 Dunn Rd. (REAR) Hazelwood, MO 63042. Bid specs must be obtained at http://new.fergflor.k12.mo.us/facilities-rfq. Contact Matt Furfaro @ mfurfaro@fergflor.org or Terry O'Neil @ toneil@fergflor.org for further information/questions.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Great Rivers Greenway is requesting Qualifications for Annual Auditing Services. Go to www.greatriversgreenway.org/jobs-bids and submit by November 03, 2023.

REQUEST FOR BIDS

Great Rivers Greenway is seeking bids for Boschert Greenway: Signage Improvements. Go to www.greatriversgreenway.org/jobs-bids and submit by November 9, 2023.

WAITING LIST

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NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

BID DATE EXTENDED TO OCTOBER 26, 2023

Paric Corporation is seeking proposals for the following project: Operation Food Search Interior Renovation and Building Addition.

The scope of work includes but is not limited to demo, concrete, site work, casework, drywall and finishes, kitchen equipment, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire protection.

This project has a diversity participation goal of 10% MBE and 10% combined WBE, DBE, Veteran Owned Business and 3% SDVE.

Bids for this project are due on October 26 at 3:00 p.m. For any questions or would like to find out more detailed information on this opportunity, please contact Matt Davis at 636-561-9531 or msdavis@paric.com.

All bids should be delivered to Paric via e-mail (bids@paric.com) or fax (636-561-9501).

PARIC CORPORATION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

CERTIFIED MBE/WBE/SDVE SUBCONTRACTORS

WHITING-TURNER

The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company is soliciting bids from Minority Business Enterprises (MBE), Women Business Enterprises (WBE), and Service-Disabled Veteran Enterprises (SDVE) for

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
PROJECT NUMBER CP230631
THOMPSON CENTER FOR AUTISM AND NEURODEVELOPMENT- NEW BUILDING

&

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
PROJECT NUMBER CP230501
CENTER FOR ENERGY SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND POLICY – NEW FACILITY CONSTRUCTION

Located on the campus of The University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri

The bid solicitations include but are not limited to Flooring, Paint, Tile, Exterior Envelope, Structural Concrete, Structural Steel, Masonry, Earthwork, Site Utilities, Framing, Drywall, Concrete Paving, Landscaping, miscellaneous specialties, and Miscellaneous General Trade Packages that will be available in phases starting in October 2023 through the end of 2024.

Interested parties should access documents on the UM System website http://operations-webapps.missouri.edu/pdc/adsite/ad.html or contact THE WHITING-TURNER CONTRACTING COMPANY 2519 Madison Avenue, Suite 200 Kansas City, MO 64108 Phone: 816-921-0100 for access to bid packages or further information

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

BSI Constructors Inc., 6767 Southwest Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63143 (314-781-7820), is bidding as a General Contractor on the WUSM MMSB 9th Floor DOVS Research Labs Renovation project and is interested in receiving subcontract bids and/or material quotations from qualified subcontractors and qualifying Minority and Women's Business Enterprises on any or all portions of the contractual work scopes. Scopes of work include: Selective Demolition, Concrete, Masonry, Misc. Steel and Metal Fab, Carpentry Labor, Rough Carpentry Material, Architectural Woodwork & Countertops, Re-Roofing, Sheet Metal, Firestopping, Joint Sealants, Doors, Frames, and Hardware, Aluminum Storefronts & Frames, Glass Films, Metal Framing & Drywall, Ceramic Tile, Acoustical Panel Ceilings, Concrete Floor Sealing, Resilient Floor and Wall Base, Resinous Flooring, Carpeting, Painting & Wallcovering, Insulation, Toilet Compartments and Bath Accessories, Cubicle Curtains and Track, Metal Partitions, Wall and Door Protection, Fire Protection Specialties, Residential Appliances, Laboratory Fume Hoods and Small Steam Sterilizers, Horizontal Louver Blinds, Roller Window Shades, Mobile and Wood Laboratory Casework, Plastic Laminate and Solid Surface Countertops, Controlled Temperature Rooms, Fire Sprinklers, Plumbing, HVAC, Electrical and Systems. It is the intent of BSI and the Owner to encourage qualified Minority owned firms to participate in the execution of the work. Please contact BSI Constructors for access to bidding documents.

Project Name	Requested Bid Date & Time
WUSM MMSB 9th Floor DOVS Research Labs 4565 McKinley Avenue St. Louis, MO 63110	Monday, October 16th TIME: 12:00 PM

Architect: Lawrence Group

BSI IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Phone: 314-781-7820
Fax: 314-781-1354

SEALED BIDS

Bids for RE-BID Replace Sewer Lines and Infrastructure, Ozark Correctional Center, Project No. C1907-01 will be received by FMDC, State of MO, **UNTIL 1:30 PM, 11/16/23**. For specific project information and ordering plans, go to: http://oa.mo.gov/facilities

SEALED BIDS

Bids for Rebuild Cooling Tower, Building 7, Project No. C2303-01 will be received by FMDC, State of MO, **UNTIL 1:30 PM, November 2, 2023**. For specific project information and ordering plans, go to: http://oa.mo.gov/facilities

SEALED BIDS

Bids for Campground Renovation and Upgrade Big Lake State Park Craig, MO, Project No. X2218-01 will be received by FMDC, State of MO, **UNTIL 1:30 PM, 10/19/23**. For specific project information and ordering plans, go to: http://oa.mo.gov/facilities

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Sealed bids for the Buckley Road Bridges No. 528 & 528-P project, St. Louis County Project No. CR-1772 will be received electronically thru the County's Vendor Self Service portal at https://stlouiscountymovendors.munisselfservice.com/Venclors/default.aspx, until 2:00 PM on October 25, 2023.

Plans and specifications will be available on **September 25, 2023** from the St. Louis County Web Site (www.stlouiscountymo.gov) or by contacting Cross Rhodes Print & Technologies, 2731 South Jefferson Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63118 (314) 678-0087.

DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ST. LOUIS, COUNTY

CDA

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION
CITY OF ST. LOUIS

Notice of Public Comment Period and Public Hearing

City of St. Louis - Community Development Administration (CDA)

2024 CDBG Funding Recommendations

The Community Development Administration (CDA) will publish Funding Recommendations for the 2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) priorities/activities on **Friday, October 6, 2023**, to solicit public comments.

Public Comment Period/Written Comments
The public comment period will begin on October. 6, 2023. The views of citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties are strongly encouraged. Written comments or suggestions should be addressed to Community Development Administration, 1520 Market Street, Suite 2000, St. Louis, MO 63102 or via email at **CDBG@stlouis-mo.gov**.
Written comments will be accepted until November 6, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

Documents Available for Review
2024 CDBG Funding Recommendations will be available for review as of October 6, 2023, at CDA, located at 1520 Market Street Suite 2000.
Copies of documents may be downloaded at:
www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/community-development/documents/2024-cdbg-home-funding-recommendations.cfm

Public Hearing
The public is invited to attend a Public Hearing in person or virtually to provide comments and feedback.
10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 1520 Market Street, SLDC Boardroom, St. Louis, MO 63103
In-person and Zoom information will be available at:
https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/events/eventdetails.cfm?Event_ID=40914

CITY OF ST. LOUIS ST. LOUIS LAMBERT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT®

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Service: Support Services of the Microsoft Dynamics 365 Finance and Operations Software Solution

Pre-Proposal Meeting Date: October 3, 2023 11:00 AM Meeting will be held via Zoom. See RFP for details.

Question Due Date: October 6, 2023

Bid Due Date: October 26, 2023

M/WBE Goals & Incentives:

MBE goals: 25%
WBE goal: 5%.

A 15% M/WBE incentive credit shall be applied to the evaluation of professional service prime consultant who are currently certified MBE -African American, Hispanic American, Asian American, Native American and WBE-Women owned Business Enterprises

Point of Contact: Gigi Glasper – gxglasper@flystl.com

Proposal documents may be obtained at **St. Louis Lambert International Airport®, Airport Properties Division**, Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., or by calling (314) 890-1802. This RFP may also be obtained by visiting our website at www.flystl.com/business/contract-opportunites.

Robert Salarano
Airport Properties Division Manager

SEALED BIDS

Sealed Bids for Food Service Contract are being requested from Saving Our Children for the preparation and delivery of meals for 12 locations. Bids will be obtained, received and publicly opened on Tuesday October 12, 2023 @ 11am at 222 South Meremac Ave, Ste 201, Clayton, Mo, 63105. Contact Kwilliams@savingourchildrenmo.com for further information/ questions.

SEALED BIDS

Bids for Replace Generator & Automatic Transfer Switch at Higginsville Habilitation Center, Project No. M2317-01, will be received by FMDC, State of MO, **UNTIL 1:30 PM, November 2, 2023**, via MissouriBUYS. Bidders must be registered to bid. Project information available at: http://oa.mo.gov/facilities

SEALED BIDS

Bids for Two Rocks Reclamation Project, Henry County, Project No. Y2302-01 will be received by FMDC, State of MO, **UNTIL 1:30 PM, 10/24/23**. For specific project information and ordering plans, go to: http://oa.mo.gov/facilities

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

Advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, imitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial\status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination.
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Call Angelita Houston at 314-289-5430 or email
ahouston@stlamerican.com

INVITATION TO BID

E.M. Harris Construction Company (EMH) seeks subcontractor bids for Fields Place Apartments and Grocery Store located at 4300 Natural Bridge Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63115. Scope of work involves new construction of a four-story apartment building, including, but not limited to, site work, concrete foundations, metal fabrications, carpentry, thermal/moisture protection, roofing, siding, masonry, windows, MEPS, elevator, finishes, specialties, paving, concrete, and landscaping. Minority and Women Business Enterprises and Section 3 Businesses are strongly encouraged to bid. All workers must be OSHA 10 certified. EMH is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Project plans & specifications are available for viewing online through an invitation to bid. All bids due to EMH office by 5 pm, Friday, October 13, 2023. Project contact: Vic Hoffmeister vic@emharris.com or fax 314-436–6691.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The St. Louis County Port Authority requests proposals for qualified legal-services firms to provide outside counsel services, including legal advice, representation, and expertise on various projects and areas of operations on an as needed basis. The requested services shall be for up to a three-year period. A copy of the complete RFP is available at https://stlpartnership.com/rfp-rfq/. To be considered, proposals must be received no later than **3:00 PM CST on Thursday, October 26, 2023.**

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Photo by Maurice Meredith / St. Louis American

Restaurateur Robbie Montgomery, St. Louis Mayor Tishaura Jones, Urban League Lifetime Achievement honoree, comedian Kym Whitley; and civil rights attorney, media personality, and bestselling author Areva Martin.

Whitley

Continued from C1

and Kids", CBS' "Two Broke Girls", Disney's "That's So Raven", TV Land's "Soul Man" and HBO's "Curb Your Enthusiasm."

She also produced her docuseries, "Raising Whitley," which aired on the OWN network.

Whitley has also starred on the big screen in feature films including "Haunted House 2", "We Bought A Zoo", "Fun with Dick and Jane", "College Road Trip", "The Nutty Professor" and "Next Friday" to name a few.

Whitely was nominated for a 2017 Daytime Emmy Award for Outstanding Supporting Guest Actress for her portrayal as Big Candi, in the Emmy Nominated, "The Bay, The Series.'

In addition, Ms. Whitley co-starred with Angela Bassett, in the 2017 Primetime Emmy Winning episode of "Master of None" written by the Emmy Award-winners Lena Waithe, and Aziz Ansari.

And while her face was not on display, she is an accomplished voice-over actor, as well.

She has voiced the character, Honeybee on "Black Dynamite: The Animated TV Series", and the character, Melonee in the Animated feature film, "Rango."

Whitley also has an upcoming voice-over role in the 22nd season of the animated comedy series "Family Guy," which airs on FOX.

Recently, she teamed up with Lena Waithe to produce a scripted audio comedy series that resembles her life entitled KYM on Audible.

She also can be seen and heard regularly on her self-produced, two-time NAACP Image Award-winning podcast Two Funny Mamas alongside Sherri Shepherd.

Whitley recently hosted the Thurgood Marshall College Fund's 36th Annual "Leaders and Legends" Fundraising Gala on Saturday, September 23, 2023, at the Washington, D.C. Hilton Hotel, and she serves on the board of directors for The Special Needs Network of L.A. and The Jefferson Memorial Home for Foster Children.



Style

Continued from C1

Threads programming, which Sowell described as "The Missouri Historical Society's answer to the Met Gala."

"That is just one spectacular event highlighting the vitality of St. Louis' fashion industry that you are going to see this year," Sowell said. "And we are so happy to be a part of it."

Sowell introduced Sherman to the crowd, though every person in the room knew exactly who she was. Sherman, Tania Beasley-Jolly, Sharon Tucci and Elizabeth Tucker founded SLFF in 2014. SLFF supports emerging designers and promotes fashion education in the efforts of revitalizing St. Louis' garment district.

"Susan has many titles – artist and entrepreneur, civic booster and cofounder of the Saint Louis Fashion Fund," Sowell said. "But the title I love most is history maker, and that is what this event is about. It is not just about celebrating history. It is about making history."

Sherman spent her time at the podium thanking the individuals and institutions that have contributed to efforts, mission and goals of the SLFF. She acknowledged the 10th Anniversary Industry Partners, a cohort that has dedicated themselves to be at the forefront of the programming for the year ahead.

"Each of them has committed to being front and center throughout next year with high visibility events that will deliver a powerful community impact to help us reclaim our roots as a fashion epicenter," Sherman said. "It takes a village."

Industry partner Mother Model Management will be presenting its Tribute Fashion show at 7 p.m. on November 17 at The Hawthorn (2231 Washington Ave, 63103)

"Having a global company right in the heart of the city has meant the world to us," said Mary Clarke, who operates Mother Model Management with her husband Jeff Clarke in Midtown.

Not only is St. Louis a good place for fashion, fashion is good for St. Louis.

"One of the reasons Edward Jones is involved in the Fashion Fund – is to get young creatives to come back to St. Louis or to make this their home," said Jeffrey Panchot, retired General Partner for Edward Jones. "And



Photo by Suzy Gorman

Kirven Douthit-Boyd, Artistic Director of The Big Muddy Dance Company with Saint Louis Fashion Fund co-founder Susan Sherman at the SLFF 10th Anniversary Celebration Kick Off on Tuesday, September 26 at The Missouri History Museum.

make it the place where they want to create energy, build momentum and capabilities and work and create jobs in the St. Louis community."

Jason Hall, CEO of Greater St. Louis Inc., said the anniversary comes at a time when St. Louis' civic and economic resurgence is rooted in a deep belief that the city's future can be something bigger and more just than its past.

"There is a confidence that we are building in this region because we are winning again – from rebuilding our profile as a thriving corporate headquarters town, to greater global connectivity," said Hall. "Great cities are not automatic, but they are certainly not accidental either. Susan Sherman and the entire civic community that is the Saint Louis Fashion Fund honor our rich and proud history as a center of fashion, design and art – with a vision to innovate it for what it needs for the future in the 21st century."

Co-owner and chief brand architect for St. Louis City SC Lee Broughton along with Gent! founder and St. Louis City Futures coach Dwight Carter announced that in April St. Louis City SC would host a fashion show that is slated to include members of the team.

"There are two things that I love – as many probably know – and they are soccer and fashion," Carter said. "I think it's going to be a match made in heaven. I am super excited. St. Louis is the soccer capital. St. Louis was the second largest garment district next to New York. Putting them together is going to be exceptional."

Among those ten events is the first-ever fashion lobby day in Jefferson City.

"Note to all of our legislators," Sherman said. "One hundred of us are boarding buses from St. Louis and Kansas City to lobby on behalf of the 3.3. Billion-dollar fashion industry that is right here in St. Louis."

Sherman closed out the afternoon of reveals – which included the announcement that the one and only Michael Kors would headline the 2024 "Speaking of Fashion" lecture and trunk sale event– with a toast.

"Together we will continue to make fashion history," Sherman said. "Fashion is as important to the fabric of St. Louis as baseball, soccer and beer."

For more information and a full list of programming for the 10th anniversary of Saint Louis Fashion Fund and its #10forthetenth, visit www.saintlouisfashionfund.org

Greenway

Continued from C1

regation. Lodging, automobile services, restaurants, and other establishments were listed in the book.

The Great Northern Migration was a catalyst for Black travel, and "The Negro motorist book definitely did something for our community," said Wince.

She believes the automobile provided freedom for many Black families back then, especially when so many were leaving the Deep South and coming north.

According to Wince, by 1962 two million people were reading the "Green Book" across the country. The book was first published in 1937.

Wince also found listings of businesses in buildings that still stand. Some are on Martin Luther King Drive and Vandeventer. She found photos of these Black-owned businesses and archives at the St. Louis Public Library.

"The places along the Green Way hold such great rich stories that are a part of the St. Louis experience," said Simmons.

"To be physically present where the business connects each individual to the community that once was in that same location."

The Green-Book ended in 1966 and, "That was his dream, for us to not need the book anymore," said Wince.

Ashley Winters is a Report for America reporter for the St. Louis American.

