

OUR TIME PRESS

THE LOCAL PAPER WITH THE GLOBAL VIEW

| VOL. 21 NO. 22

Since 1996

June 1 - 7, 2017 |

Excellence is Rewarded at Brooklyn School



Principal Lena Gates of PS 5, fifth from left, is one of only 4 in the nation honored by the National Principal Leadership Institute with the Innovation and Change Award. School also is awarded \$810,000 for STEM programming by BP Adams. (Left to Right) - CB3's Henry Butler; Amalgamated Bank's Andrea Magnus-Thorpe; NYS Senator Velmanette Montgomery's Community Liaison Jason Salmon; National Principal Leadership Institute Founder Lew Smith; PS5 Principal Lena Gates; Community Connect's Melissa Plowden-Norman; District 16 Superintendent Rahesha Amon; Educators Dr. Renee Young & Dr. Lester Young; NYC Material for the Arts Director of Education John Cloud Kaiser and CB3 Chair Richard Flateau. Page 3

View From Here

■ By David Mark Greaves

There is a profound sadness living in this time of Donald Trump, knowing that we will have him, an uncontrollable, dangerous and evil man, occupying valuable space in our consciousness for the foreseeable future, and perhaps for the rest of our lives. We are trapped in his delusions and victims of his tweets until the investigations conclude and we move on to the next level of difficulty, either impeachment and having the sinister Vice President Mike Spence given the power, or he continues in office, continues to tweet and we will continue to fight back. We have to confront the many disasters of his Administration, not least of which is his proposed budget. It will never pass, but it does give insight into the essence of the man and his most crafty supporters.

Like the sheriff of Nottingham demanding the serf's last pig for the king, it doesn't matter how little you have, this budget demands, in one way or another, that you make do with less. Less health care, less food, less housing, just less in general. It means having to have a side

hustle to go with the two jobs that can't make ends meet, and arguing in the kitchen about not having enough money.

And if you're rich, it means having more. And to be fair to rich people, they're all not like DT. He's a compulsive liar and pathological about money. He'll take it from a poor man's cup and he'll slit the pockets of a sleeping commuter, but the Russia connection is on a whole different level. Why are so many people around Trump having meetings with Russians and why do they all "forget" to report them?

Were they advising the Russians on how to enhance their efforts on Trump's behalf? Perhaps Trump's team was convinced of his losing and were just in it to be paid for the assist in complicating the election and then the plan was to fade away. But now, like the duo in Mel Brooks' "The Producers", they've found themselves with a hot potato on their hands and their problems are just beginning.

And top presidential advisor, son-in-law Jared Kushner will speak to Congressional committees. And then we will know what assumption of privilege sounds like.

Public Schools Growing Leaders, Trees and Community



Photo: Winston Wharton
The Eubie Blake School PS 5 gets new trees, Page 6.

Michelle Obama criticizes Trump administration's school lunch policy

Washington (CNN)Former first lady Michelle Obama expressed concern Friday over the Trump administration's decision to scale back school meal nutritional requirements. "You have to stop and think, 'Why don't you want our kids to have good food at

school? What is wrong with you, and why is that a partisan issue?" Obama said at the annual summit of the Partnership for a Healthier America, a nonprofit that works with the private and public sectors to fight childhood obesity. "Why would that be political?"

Obama's comments come a little over a week after Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue signed a proclamation that relaxes standards for the upcoming school year in three key areas: whole grains, salt and milk.

Under the new proclamation, states will be able to grant exemptions to schools experiencing hardship in meeting the 100% whole-grain-rich standard. Schools will no longer need to hit the strictest target for lowering sodium in foods offered to

students. And meal programs will be able to serve students 1% flavored milk instead of fat-free flavored milk.

The policy change loosens school meal standards Obama advocated as first lady through Let's Move!, her signature public health campaign aimed at combating childhood obesity.

Obama -- who did not mention President Donald Trump or first lady Melania Trump by name -- emphasized that it's important to make sure parents think about the importance of healthy school lunches.

"Moms, think about this," she said. "I don't care what state you live in. Take me out of the equation; like me, don't like me, but think about why someone is OK with your kids eating crap."

Obama said she will continue to fight for the cause. "My commitment to these issues is real," she said. "I picked this issue because there was deep passion for it as a mother. ... I'm going to continue working on this."



Photo: New York Foundation for Senior Citizens

HOME SHARING

By Selma Jackson

What's old becomes new again. Remember when you moved to New York or you heard stories from your parents about moving to New York? Your relatives would read every letter that you sent back home. They were so intrigued they would ask if they could come to New York and follow in the family members' footsteps. The family would say sure come on up and stay with us until you can get on your feet. Sometimes you had an extra room or you just made room available in your place to give an opportunity to another family member. That seemed so long ago--bygone days! That was when we were starting out; now in our twilight years, we need that family-friendly support again.

Then I heard the term Home Sharing and I said hmmm! Lo and behold, it's just a new name and repurposing what we did for family in days gone by!! But now that families are distances apart and individuals are not interested in relocating how do we serve a population in need?

Home Sharing is a program of the New York Foundation for Senior Citizens who have partnered with the Age-Friendly Neighborhood Advisory Board, a group of local leaders whose mission is to help older adults age in place. "For seniors who can no longer afford to remain in their homes, Home Sharing can be an affordable option that will allow them to remain in their community and maintain the ties that bind: friends, church and familiar places of business," says Richard Truth, Executive Director of Brooklyn Neighborhood Services. Truth, along with Michelle Grimes of Quincy Senior Residence and Kenya Johnson of Benenson Capital Partners, are the committee members focused on addressing the housing needs of seniors.

How did they get to this point?

1. Older adults live on a fixed income, and in most cases, just Social Security.
2. The cost of living has outpaced the minor increases in Social Security. Seniors find themselves choosing between rent, medicine or food. Their income does not always cover these three basics.
3. An 18% increase in property taxes on homes is challenging to many older adults. In some cases, properties have been taken over by the government for nonpayment.
4. Some have applied for senior housing, which offers affordable rents, but the waiting lists are long, as many as three or four years. This waiting list delay is attributed to the baby boomers, coupled with longer life spans of the greatest generation, who are living into their nineties or becoming centenarians!!
5. Finally, family members aren't around or they are the only surviving member of the family.

For all of the above reasons, Home Sharing becomes a way for individuals who are at risk of losing their residences to remain in a community they call home or have a reentry into Bed-Stuy.

→ Continued on page 4

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Chess Exhibition Sat., June 24, 2017

20 chessboards played simultaneously by Rochelle Ballantyne at the Putnam Triangle in Brooklyn, located at Fulton St. & Grand Ave.

Rochelle Ballantyne is 22 year old chess player and she is best known for appearing in the 2012 documentary "Brooklyn Castle." Her USCF rating is 1988, putting her in the 99th percentile of American junior players. Her FIDE rating is 1912, with her highest rating achieved being 1954 in January 2012. Ms. Ballantyne is currently the African-American female in the United States who is closest to achieving the chess title of "Master." According to the USCF's rating system, she is currently an "Expert" or "Candidate Master."

Rochelle Ballantyne

"When I push myself, then nothing can stop me."

- Free to play and free to watch!
- First 20 challengers to register in advance, or on-site on exhibition day, will play Rochelle.
- Challengers, please bring your own chess set and board!
- Check-in and registration 10:00am until 10:45.
- Exhibition starts at 11:00am.
- Sun shade will be provided.
- In case of rain, arrangements have been made to play anyway.
- Trophies go the best games played by an adult, a junior under 18 years old and best game played by a female.
- Register in advance by calling Bob Ali at 917-886-6718 or email him at seabeaking@aol.com
- Near B25, B26, Franklin Ave. or Clinton-Washington "C" train stop.
- Proudly sponsored by the FAB Alliance (Fulton Area Business Alliance) and the Kingsmen Chess Club.



If you plan to play, email Bob Ali to let him know at:
seabeaking@aol.com

DBG MEDIA Publishers of
Our Time Press, Inc.
358 Classon Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11238
(718) 599-6828
Web site: www.ourtimepress.com
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DBG MEDIA

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MBE Certified in NYC, NYS
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Member: New York State Press Association

PS 5 Principal Lena Gates Receives National Principal Leadership Institute School Innovation & Change Award



NYC Mayor's Office Brooklyn Borough Director Tahirah A. Moore (left) presents PS5 Principal Lena Gates with citation from Mayor Bill DeBlasio

The National Principal Leadership Institute recently presented Dr. Ronald E. McNair Public School 5 with its 2017 School Innovation and Change Award (SICA). "I am tremendously excited about this award today because it is going to a school that is a model of what this award is all about," shared Dr. Lew Smith. "[Dr. Ronald E. McNair] proved what can be done. He proved it in his own life and the school named after him is proving it as well." The prestigious award is given annually to recognize schools that rose from underperforming to exemplary. In the 18 years that the award has been in existence over 950 schools from across the 48 states have been awarded. This year, PS5 was 1 of 4 schools to receive the special honor.

The student-led ceremony took place in the school auditorium. It opened with a warm welcome by Ivan DeJesus. Fourth-grade student Ramona Sealy took on the challenge of introducing Dr. Lew Smith and providing the history of the award. Her introduction was preceded by a formal reading from Adelaide Sanford Oratory Contest participant Cheyenne Walker entitled, "In Honor of Teachers" by Charles Blow.

New York State Senator Velmanette Montgomery was unable to attend. However, she arranged for Community Liaison Jason Salmon to present a proclamation. The honor was followed by a performance by PS5 Dance/Theater Troupe choreographed by dance instructor Chris Cooper and directed by instructor Waliak Crandall. District Superintendent Rahesha Amon was present. She shared with the audience how "committed Principal Gates is to all her students".

Brooklyn Deputy Borough President

Diana Reyna concluded with an exciting announcement that PS5 was selected as one of the schools to receive STEM Education and Technology capital funding of \$810K. Attending community leaders included Community Board 3 District Leader Henry Butler, Community Board 3 Chair Richard Flateau, Drs. Renee & Lester Young, Amalgamated Bank's Andrea Magnus-Thorpe, Material for the Arts Director of Education John Cloud Kaiser and community organizer Melissa Plowden-Norman.

Immediately following the presentation, guests were invited to attend a luncheon where NYC Office of the Mayor, Brooklyn Borough Director Tahirah A. Moore presented Principal Gates with a personalized letter of citation from Mayor de Blasio. "I am proud to join in applauding the ways this vibrant academic community is working towards a brighter future in giving young New Yorkers a gift of education to receive their fullest potential," stated the citation.

Four years ago PS5, under the leadership of Principal Lena Gates and Assistant Principal Keshia Townsel, set out on a journey to improve the school's test scores and provide a congenial learning environment for its students and teachers. With a dedicated staff of educators, committed parents and staff the school joined forces with various community organizations in providing a variety of experiential learning services to its students. This includes the Adelaide Sanford Learning Center that provides peer educational tutoring, a campus book store where students exchange their own McNair Buck currency, dance classes and instructions, a new music program, financial literacy workshops and much more.



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Queens Borough President
QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT

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MORE DETAILS AT queensbp.org/OnlyInQueens



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EVENT

International support provided in part by the NYC & Company Foundations

WHAT'S GOING ON

■ By Victoria Horsford

THE MONTH OF JUNE

June is a busy month! It is Caribbean-American Heritage Month in the United States. It is Black Music Month. It is the Wedding Month. Everyone conversant with American history knows about Juneteenth, the source of countless celebrations in the US South and the major Great Migration cities. June also gives birth to the summer solstice.

Caribbean Week NY will be observed from June 3 to 20 at the Wyndham New Yorker Hotel, located at 481 Eighth Avenue, Midtown Manhattan, and beyond. More than 30 Caribbean nations will showcase aspects of their tourism and business sectors in NY. Tourism officials, industry executives, media elites and the Diaspora will converge in quest of more knowledge about the paradise-like Caribbean culture up close and personal. Caribbean Week NY is innumerable with networking opportunities. [Visit Caribbeanweek.com]

The following is a list of Caribbean-Americans in local and national politics: US Senator **Kamallah Harris**, a 2020/2024 Democratic Presidential hopeful; Cordell Cleare, NYC City Council hopeful; NYS Senator Brian Benjamin; former Congressman Charlie Rangel; Congressman Adriano Espaillat; Keith Wright, Manhattan Democratic leader; NYS Speaker of the Assembly Carl Heastie; Senator Leroy Comrie; NYC Councilman Jumaane Williams; Roy Paul, 2016 NYS Assembly hopeful.

THE UNITED STATES

The NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People), the nation's oldest, largest and most respected grassroots-based civil rights organization, has ousted its President/CEO Cornell Williams Brooks when his contract expires this year. Why, he seemed competent enough? The NAACP Board wants to re-envision itself to determine how best to confront "head-on the many challenges of today's volatile, political, media and social climates". This announcement had to be processed with consternation.

In her NY Times Op-Ed, **HOW TO SAVE THE NAACP**, Professor **Melissa Harris-Perry detonates a bomb**. Initially, she gives a brief history of the storied 108-year-old organization and cites the 40s, 50s and 60s as its "bloody years". Today, she laments that of its 2000 local chapters,

only North Carolina, under the leadership of **Rev. William J. Barber**, is "home to the only branch that has mounted a sustained social movement with a national impact for years". She notes that Barber recently announced his departure from the NAACP to organize a Poor People's campaign. She accurately notes that he "successfully challenged the NC monster voter suppression law". She says that Barber believes that his "social justice work could not be done with the framework of the NAACP".

Throughout the essay, Harris-Perry repeats that the NAACP is "inconsequential". She adds, "Today the NAACP carries the weight of history and burden of bureaucracy". Her suggested survival options are 1) move aside gracefully and have emeritus status, 2) prepare to return to its "bloody years". She advises that the NAACP must look for its new president, not in the highest places, but rather in the lowest places... to get back to its "bloody years". Melissa is getting ready for a long, hot summer with the NAACP and probably preparing a return to some TV platform.

NEW YORK

Polls reflect that Mayor de Blasio enjoys 70% favorability among African-Americans. None of my Black friends have been polled. A NY Times article, "Why Have So Many Women Made an Exit from Mayor de Blasio's Team", is a good read. The piece references that a disproportionately large number of Black and Latino women were among those who exited. Then there is the mayor's benign neglect of Harlem Democrats, whom have not been shown that much love during his first term. Hizzoner, will stop to African-American enclaves in Harlem and Brooklyn be on your "getting to know your itinerary" akin to those made in Staten Island and the Bronx before the reelection campaign goes full throttle?

GRADS AND JOB OPPS.

For recent HS and college graduates and others, please check out the City of NY presents the 17th Annual Diversity Employment/Career Fair and Roundtable on June 1, 11 am to 3 pm at the Watson Hotel, located at 440 West 57th Street, Manhattan. Business attire and resumes necessary. Ages 18+ only. Participating companies include Amalgamated Bank, NY Urban League, NYPD, Brooklyn Community Housing and Services, FBI, Deutsche Bank, NYS

Correction Services and many more. Send resumes to Fastrack@citycareerfair.com or visit citycareerfair.com.

ARTS AND CULTURE

Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture acquires saxophonist **Sonny Rollins'** personal archives. Rollins, 86, is a Harlem native son. The archives include hundreds of recordings from Rollins' rehearsals and practice sessions from the 70s and 80s. Last month, Schomburg acquired writer James Baldwin's personal archives. Like the Baldwin acquisition, Schomburg did not disclose a dollar value of the archives.

BOOKS: The ImageNation Foundation hosts the Annual Black Pack Book Party in Harlem, against the backdrop of BOOK EXPO 2017; the special guests/discussants are Troy Johnson, AALBC; Clarence Reynolds, Center for Black Literature; and Ron Kavanaugh, Mosaic Literary Magazine. The party will be held on June 1 at 6 pm at Raw Space, located at 2031 Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Blvd., 121st-122nd Street, Harlem. [Visit info@imagenation.us]

Harvard History Professor Dr. **Khalil Muhammad**, author of "CONDEMNATION OF BLACKNESS: Race, Crime and the Making of Modern Urban America", returns to the Schomburg on June 6 at 6:30 pm for a talk with historian Ibram X Kendi about his book, "Between the Lines: STAMPED FROM THE BEGINNING: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America". Ibram chronicles the entire story of anti-Black racist ideas and their staggering power over the course of American history.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

AFRICA: Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos is calling it a day and will not run for reelection this year. He is Africa's second-longest-serving head of state with almost 38 years at the helm. Angola is Africa's biggest oil producer. One of his son's heads Angola's sovereign wealth fund. His daughter, **Isabel dos Santos**, is arguably Africa's richest woman.

Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari, 74, missed the 2nd Anniversary Celebration of his tenure. He is back in London "for a medical vacation".

Buhari has not disclosed the nature of his medical disorder.

A Harlem-based media consultant, Victoria Horsford can be reached at [Victoria.horsford@gmail.com](mailto:victoria.horsford@gmail.com).

HOME SHARING

→ Continued from page 2

How does this work? Home Sharing is a match of hosts and guests. The hosts are individuals who have extra space either in a home or apartment. They are willing to share with compatible guests.

The guests are individuals who can no longer afford their present housing accommodations. Both hosts and guests are interviewed individually by Home Sharing staff, which includes social workers. Included in the interviews will be financial assessment and social interactions. Think of this as a "marriage". After hosts and guests are interviewed there is a meeting of both groups and the matches are developed from that meeting.

What does the Home Sharing provide?

- ☒ Companionship for host and guest
- ☒ Ability for guests to remain in a long-time neighborhood that feels like home
- ☒ Affordable rent for guests and modest income for hosts

How can you participate as a host or guest?

If you know someone in need of housing please share this information.

If you have space at your residence please consider offering a guest an opportunity in your home.

Communities continually work at being connected. Home Sharing reminds us to take care of our own.

For more information or to sign up for the Home Sharing program, please call (718) 919-2100 or e-mail rrtruth@bnsdc.org.

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'A Historic Mistake': Trump Expected to Withdraw From Paris Agreement

■ By ecowatch.com

It was widely reported this morning that Donald Trump intends to withdraw the U.S. from the Paris climate agreement. According to the terms of the agreement, no country can begin the withdrawal process until three years after the agreement enters into force.

The agreement, which entered into force on Nov. 4, 2016, has been formally joined by more than 145 nations, and dozens of countries—including India, China and the EU—have reaffirmed their commitment.

A recent Yale Program on Climate Change Communication poll found that nearly 70 percent of Americans, including a majority in all 50 states, support the U.S. participating in the Paris agreement.

Donald Trump has made a historic mistake which our grandchildren will look back on with stunned dismay at how a world leader could be so divorced from reality and morality. Trump has abandoned the standard of American leadership, turned his back on the what the public and the market demand, and shamelessly disregarded the safety of our families just to

→ Continued on page 11

The Urban Knights Support

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"Empowerment Through Unity"

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Saturday, June 3, 2017 - 1:00 PM
The Concord Baptist Church of Christ
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The Reverend Dr. Gary V. Simpson, Senior Pastor
Lunch will be served. Donation: \$35.00

Co-Chairs
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John Harris, Wilbert Taylor and George Combest
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PS 25 Welcomes Spring

Earlier this month, the entire student body of P.S. 25/The Eubie Blake School participated in a tree-planting on a patch of earth adjacent to the schoolyard. A community leader shared words of hope and books; children's voices rang out through the

neighborhood; and community leaders, corporate representatives and a major nonprofit stood as guardians of the moment with Principal Anita Coley and her staff and faculty.

Perhaps the most poignant moment occurred off-camera. During the last few moments of P.S. 25's "Salute to Spring", every child, grades Kdgt. to 5th, moved forward for the chance to give the two dogwoods -- supplied by community partner the Magnolia Tree Earth Center -- water.

In the face of ambivalent, despairing, dream-destroying messages from the Capitol,

millions of educators still believe in growing the future; and millions of children believe in planting seeds; millions of families, neighborhoods, public schools understand the value of nourishing faith and positive action in large ways and small. Winston Wharton's photos tell the story of that special day. This Saturday, June 3, several public schools are hosting open houses.(BG)



Principal Anita Coley watches over young readers.



BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT ERIC L. ADAMS

in partnership with

STATE SENATOR JESSE HAMILTON, COUNCIL MEMBER LAURIE A. CUMBO DISTRICT LEADERS GEOFFREY DAVIS AND SHIRLEY PATTERSON

presents



Central Brooklyn Arts & Culture Weekend

Eric Adams @BPEricAdams



MOVIE NIGHT UNDER THE STARS

VENUE: BROOKLYN MUSEUM PARKING LOT (bring blankets and chairs)

SATURDAY

JUNE 10, 2017

6:00 PM



SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2017

11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Eastern Parkway between Flatbush and Washington avenues

CHILDREN'S PLAYLAND AT RONALD MCNAIR PARK Live Entertainment, Cultural Vendors, Giveaways, and MORE

1:30 PM HONORING BROOKLYN'S OWN FABOLOUS AND JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT WITH "KEYS TO THE BOROUGH"

PLUS...DANCE PARTY AT GRAND ARMY PLAZA

BROOKLYN-USA.ORG

Community Advisory

EVENTS

Saturday, June 3:

**Bed-Stuy Beautiful
District 16 SCHOOL SCRAWL OPEN
HOUSE**

P.S. 5, P.S. 25, P.S. 26, M.S. 57, P.S. 81, M.S. 681, Boys & Girls H.S., New Beginnings, Brooklyn Academy of Global Finance, Ember Charter School
Starts 10am: 1010 Lafayette Ave. (Malcolm X & Lafayette)
718-574-2834
10:00am-1:00pm

Saturday, June 3

Tribute to a Queen: Leola Maddox
Mannion Stonebridge Hall
139 Chauncey St. (bet. Stuyvesant & Malcolm X Blvd.)
4:00pm-7:00pm

Sunday, June 4:

Tribute to Ghana's 60th Anniversary of Independence
International African Arts Festival
Blitz the Ambassador and Asase Yaa.
Restoration Plaza Tent-1368 Fulton St./718.636.6700
Tickets: \$15. Visit: www.iaafestival.org
4:00-10:00pm

Tuesday, June 6:

Purelements: An Evolution in Dance in collaboration with Boys & Girls High School present Plan for Paradise2.0, a concert performance featuring Brooklyn-based Hip-Hop duo, Soul Science Lab, with special guests Raii and Whitney Smith. Visit www.soulsciencelab.com Boys & Girls H.S./ 1700 Fulton St./

RSVP: planforparadise20.splashthat.com
6:00pm-Doors Open/ 6:30pm - Performances

Saturday, June 10:

28th Annual Tribute to the Ancestors
Coney Island Boardwalk @ W. 16th St. (Ancestors Circle)
Producers: Tony Akeem Productions, People of the Sun Middle Passage Collective
Medgar Evers College Student Government Association
12:00 noon to Sunset

Saturday, June 10:

BP Eric Adams Movie Night Under the Stars
Brooklyn Museum Parking Lot
Washington Avenue near Eastern Parkway (Bring blankets and chairs)
6:00pm

**Saturday, June 10 and
Sunday June 11:**

Brooklyn Borough president Eric L. Adams' "Central Brooklyn Arts & Culture Weekend."
Eastern Parkway bet. Flatbush and Washington Avenue
11:00a-3:00p

Saturday, June 17:

**17th Annual Fort Greene Brooklyn
JUNETEENTH ARTS FESTIVAL**
Cuyler Gore Park, Greene Avenue @ Carlton.
Underground Railroad tours, Arts & Crafts, Dance, Music and Vocal Performances, Art Exhibitions, Awards & Honors, Men's Fashion Designers, Refreshments, Face Painting, Spoken Word and more.

Saturday, August 12:

Universal Hip Hop Parade for Social Justice
Promote your art, business or cause along mile-plus parade route:
718-635-1801 or visit: uhhparade.org

An Opening Celebration for the 46th Annual

INTERNATIONAL AFRICAN ARTS FESTIVAL

LIBATION: A Tribute to Ancient & Modern Ghana
Celebrating Ghana's 60th Anniversary of Independence

Sunday June 4, 2017 • 4:00pm-10:00pm

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Also Appearing:
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(Near New York Avenue in Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn)

TICKET INFORMATION
\$10 (In advance until May 26th only) \$15 (Beginning May 27th and at the door)
Buy Tickets Today Online at www.libation2017.eventbrite.com
Or at IAAFestival Headquarters located at
1360 Fulton Street, Suite 401, Brooklyn, NY 11216

For more information call 718.638.6700 or email info@iaafestival.org
Visit www.iaafestival.org

Connect With Us on Facebook | Twitter | Instagram
#Libation2017 | #IAAFestival

This program is supported in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs
in partnership with the New York City Council with support from NYC Council Member Louise Cumber
& The New York City Department for the Aging.

"I know my zone
and have a family
communications plan."

ZONE 3

Mark QUEENS



Visit NYC.gov/knowyourzone or call 311 to find out what to do
to prepare for hurricanes in NYC **#knowyourzone**

NYC
Emergency
Management



■ By Eddie Castro

The high school postseason has kicked off with many of our local Brooklyn teams battling to achieve championship supremacy. Last Tuesday, the young men from Poly Prep High School got another step closer to compete for a city title with an unlikely hero setting the tone with a sharp performance.

Poly Prep's junior pitcher Ethan Ehrenburg pitched quite the gem keeping

Ready When It Counts

the boys of Riverdale unbalanced all afternoon. Although he had three walks in the game, Ehrenburg tossed a complete game three-hitter to go along with four strikeouts. The junior pitcher almost did not get a chance to pitch. It was his fellow teammate and ace pitcher Oliver McCarthy who was the original planned starter for the game, but due to a rain out, Poly Prep Manager Matt Roventini elected to go with Ehrenburg who kept himself poised and prepared leading his team to a 3-0 victory. When asked about his performance, Ehrenburg said, "It felt great. The important thing was just to get to the championship game for our seniors. They all want it and we want it for them. We're just really happy to come here and get this win". With his mixture of pitches, Ehrenburg was able to silence Riverdale's bats. He did, however, make it

quite interesting when he put two runners on base with no outs. Without breaking a sweat, he kept throwing and got the big outs he needed, including a tailor-made double play that got him into and out of trouble. From there, the Blue Devils' offense was just enough to back up his pitching performance. The bottom half of their lineup (7, 8, 9) contributed to all three of the runs, which was highlighted by two hits from senior second baseman Nic Multitz.

Moving forward, the Blue Devils remain focused on the task at hand without the mindset of thinking ahead. The program has had a history of a winning culture and looks to add on to that by clinching yet another State Championship.

Sports Notes: (High School Sports) Poly Prep's baseball program is not the only one

turning heads. Last Tuesday, the softball team cruised to a 7-1 win over Horace Mann in the Ivy League Semifinals to clinch a championship appearance.

Hats off to Brooklyn Law and Tech senior Naomi Brown who became the first Division I female athlete to come out of a Bedford-Stuyvesant school to become a collegiate athlete committing to Morgan State University. **(NBA Basketball)** For the first time in NBA history there will be a trilogy in this year's NBA Finals to determine the 2016-17 NBA Champions. Last year, the Cleveland Cavaliers, led by LeBron James and Kyrie Irving, down three games to one, came back to defeat the Golden State Warriors. The year before that, it was Steph Curry and Klay Thompson who got the best of the Cavs as they were crowned champions. This year, they meet again in the rubber rematch. Game 1 begins tonight. Don't miss it!

Families Insure Their Children Against the Changing Sands of Education

■ By Margo McKenzie

Ariel Gill, a 2013 New York City high school graduate, will defy the odds and graduate from Oswego State University in June 2017 after four years. According to a New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) website, 78,721 students entered a high school at the same time Ariel did in 2009. Of that group, she was among the 51,970 students who earned a high school diploma in 2013. Another NYCDOE report indicates only 22% of those same diploma recipients were considered college-ready. That is to say that 88% of Ariel's peers who earned a high school diploma would have to enroll in noncredit-bearing CUNY remedial classes.

When Ariel graduated from high school four years ago, she and all other New York State graduates had to take the following course load: 8 credits in English, 8 credits in history (4 in American and 4 in global, 1 in economics and 1 in government), 6 in math, 6 in science, 2 in foreign language, 2 in art/music, 7 in physical education and 7 electives. In addition, Ariel was required to pass a minimum of 5 regents exams with at least a 65%: English, Global, American History, Math, Science.

Four years of reading and writing in high school served Ariel well. The same could not be said for most of her peers who, according to CUNY standards, were not ready for college and therefore were required to take remedial classes and pass a test to continue their studies.

"This is demoralizing for some students," according to Beverly Marshack, a former CUNY adjunct professor who taught remedial reading and writing. "Sometimes students fail these exams two or three times. They become frustrated and develop an attitude making it



In Madison Wisconsin, sophomores William Lemkuil, center, and Demetrius Kigeya, right, listen to Danaejuh Sheppard during a roundtable discussion with other students from Madison Memorial High School's Black Student Union in August. Sheppard, a senior, discusses a proposed mentoring program at the high school that would partner younger students with older students. Photo: Joseph W. Jackson III / Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism

more difficult to learn from their instructors." Some students are in denial and will say, "I don't belong here. I just didn't have enough time." Others are aware of their gaps and are ashamed. "When students get their diploma, it should mean their college-ready."

Lori Bennet, former NYC middle school principal and local instruction superintendent who now serves as Outside Educational Expert, assesses high school in the Greater

New York area and agrees with Marshack. When a student graduates high school, they should be prepared to embark on the next step in life. When she assesses schools, she looks for "rigor and high expectations." She likes to see students work, "but I also like to see what the students were required to do." She is heartened when she visits schools that provide college readiness and career readiness. During one school visit, a student boasted that

when he graduates from his automotive high school he can obtain an entry-level position at a BMW. He'll have the skills to attend college, but he'll also be prepared to enter a work world that exists.

A New York Times article (March 20, 2017) indicated CUNY is taking measures to reduce the number of students needing remedial courses. The headline read, "CUNY to Revamp Remedial Programs, Hoping to Lift Graduation Rates (March 20, 2017)." The plan is to drop Compass, one placement test and replace it with ACCUPLACER to determine readiness for college in addition to considering students' high school grades in "relevant classes... or grade point averages." Compass placed students in remedial courses when they may not have needed them after all. The damage was done, however. The article admits, "Many students, frustrated that they are sitting in class without progressing toward a degree, drop out." By fall 2018, CUNY will implement their new system for assessing high school graduates. "Over the thirty years I've worked for CUNY, the standards have changed at least three times," says Marshack.

Parents of school students who have long been weary of moving standards have established a system of their own as a hedge against the changing currents in education. Dr. Brenda



→ Continued on page 10

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Valerie Durrah, President/CEO Neighborhood Technical Assistance Clinic Brooklyn, N.Y.

NTAC SALUTES NYC NONPROFITS

If it is June in Brooklyn there are two groups –the NTAC and the Caribbean-American organizations - to watch. June is the time when the NTAC Salute to the NYC nonprofits and the neighborhoods they serve; and when Caribbean-Americans celebrate their culture. The NTAC(Neighborhood Technical Assistance Clinic), itself a nonprofit, will host its 10th Annual Gala

Today, Rev. Dr. Valerie Oliver Durrah enthuses. “I did not know at the NTAC inception that it would come as phase one in my journey as a minister. While researching for my doctoral thesis, ‘Lead Me, Guide Me: Engaging Faith Community for Nonprofit Work’, I learned that men are not developing programs for women in the church.” That info strengthened her resolve to expand the NTAC mission for more inclusion and engagement of women clergy into the world of nonprofits. Rev. Durrah is working on the final edit of her nonfiction book, “AIN’T I A LEADER: Women in The Pulpit”. She wants to see more women create nonprofits and to be more proactive with strategic community work. The Rev. Dr. and the NTAC will partner with colleagues for a major faith-based conference in September at the Interfaith Center of New York. She acknowledges that her doctoral studies at Union Theological Seminary exposed her to unlimited resources, blessings and opportunities. [Visit Neighborhoodclinic.org]

honoring New York City luminaries on June 13th at Giando On the Water, located at 400 Kent Avenue, Brooklyn. Event honorees include Patrick “Johnny” Gomes, Antiguan- born pan musician, Caribbean Man of the Year; Yolanda Lezema, Caribbean Woman of the Year; National Council of Women in America (NYC), Nonprofit of the Year, accepted by Saideh Browne; MACY’s, Corporate Partner of the Year; and William (Bill) Howard, Shirley Chisholm Lifetime Achievement Award. Previous NTAC honorees include: Dr. Roy Hastick, Dr. Roscoe Brown, Dr. Lamuel Stanislaus and Rev. Sylvia Kinard(Esquire).

The NTAC Gala casts a wide net, managing to salute the city’s highly diverse people, businesses and organizations, including Caribbean-Americans. This year’s gala beneficiaries are the John Step Toe Foundation, the American Foundation for the University of the West Indies, the Staten Island Liberian Community Association, CodyCares for Kids, Morningside Retirement & Health Services, Inc.; Judah International Center and the Negril Education Environment Trust, to name a few.

Founded 25 years ago by social worker/visionary Valerie Oliver Durrah, the NTAC serves the needs of philanthropic individuals and organizations in their efforts to develop, support and maintain effective outreach to community and faith- based programs. NTAC also helps nonprofits improve programs and organizational capacity to better address the needs of low-income and service-starved neighborhoods.

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NEW BUSINESS FORMATIONS

NYC/VTR LLC Notice of formation of **NYC/VTR LLC** Arts. of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/21/2017. Office location, County of Kings. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: LEGALINC Corporate Services, Inc. 1967 Wehrle Drive, Buffalo NY 14221, STE 1 # 086. Purpose: any lawful act.

Notice of formation of **PROGRESS THROUGH PROCESS LIFE COACHING, LLC**, a Limited Liability Company (LLC). Certificate of registration filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 5/16/2017. NY office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process

against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC at 671 Monroe Street, Brooklyn, New York 11221. Purpose all lawful activities.

Notice of formation of **BRANKER & BRANKER LLC** Arts. of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/31/2016. Office location, County of Kings. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 125 S. Oxford St., Brooklyn NY 11217. Purpose: any lawful act.

Notice of Formation of **MIYO'S ENTERPRISES LLC** Arts. of Org. filed

with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/17/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to United States Corporation Agents Service Inc., 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228 Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of **Ackee Jamaican Grill, LLC** Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/28/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to United States Corporation Agents Service Inc., 7014 13th Avenue, suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228 Purpose: Any lawful activity.

SE7EN IMAGES, LLC Arts. of Org.

filed with the SSNY on 4/11/2017 Office: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, c/o United States Corporation Agents, Inc. Suite 202, Brooklyn NY 11228. Purpose: to engage in any and all business activities

Notice of Formation of **LOPEZ DECORATING LLC** Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/13/17. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207, regd. agent upon whom and at which process may be served. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE OF OWS REMIC TRUST 2015-1, Plaintiff, Against Index No.: 509325/14 CARLOS LIRIANO, JASSON LIRIANO, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, duly entered in the Kings County Clerk's Office on 4/6/2017, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on 6/29/2017 at 2:30 pm, premises known as 905 Belmont Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11208 and described as follows: ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York and designated on the tax maps of the Kings County Treasurer as Block 4228 and Lot 40. The approximate amount of the current Judgment lien is \$506,616.14 plus interest and costs. The premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale; Index # 509325/14. Dominic J. Famulari, Esq., Referee. STIENE & ASSOCIATES, P.C. (Attorneys for Plaintiff), 167 Main Street, Northport, NY 11768 Dated: 4/12/2017 File Number: 201401018 SLC

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS HSBC Bank USA, National Association as Trustee for Nomura Asset Acceptance Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2007-1, Plaintiff AGAINST Luan Dzafa; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated November 24, 2014 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on June 29, 2017 at 2:30PM, premises known as 18 Brighton 4th Terrace, Brooklyn, NY 11235. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block: 7262 Lot: 30. Approximate amount of

judgment \$788,195.69 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 2136/2013. Steven Cohen, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: May 3, 2017 45988

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS, FIRST MORTGAGE STRATEGIES GROUP, Plaintiff, vs. CLETUS PASCAL, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly filed on April 22, 2015, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on July 06, 2017 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 953 Ashford Street, Brooklyn, NY. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block 4403 and Lot 49. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 661/09. Regina Darby, Esq., Referee Law Offices of Alan J. Waintraub PLLC, 97-17 64th Road, 3rd Floor, Rego Park, New York 11374, Attorneys for Plaintiff

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS, CITIMORTGAGE, INC., Plaintiff, vs. DWAYNE N. MCKAY, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly filed on April 13, 2016, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on July 06, 2017 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 966 Madison Street, Brooklyn, NY. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block 3366 and Lot 19. Approximate amount of judgment is \$779,050.85 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 507058/13. William D. Bowman, Esq., Referee Knuckles, Komosinski & Manfro, LLP, 565 Taxter Road, Ste. 590, Elmsford, NY 10523, Attorneys for Plaintiff

PROBATE CITATION File No. 2015-1271 **SURROGATE'S COURT - KINGS COUNTY CITATION THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK**, by the Grace of God Free and Independent TO: unknown persons whose names or parts of whose names, and whose place or places of residence are unknown and cannot after due diligent inquiry, be ascertained, distributees heirs at law and next of kin of said Millicent Brown A/K/A Millicent Viola Brown and if any of the said distributees, heirs at law or next of kin of deceased, be dead, their legal representatives, their husbands or wives, if any, distributees and successors in interest whose names and or places of residence and post office addresses are unknown. A petition having been duly filed by Joseph Scantlebury, who is domiciled at 3829 Cullingworth Rd., Burtonville, MD 20866. YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, KINGS County, at 2 JOHN STREET, ROOM 319, BROOKLYN, New York, on July 11, 2017 at 9.30 o'clock in the fore noon of that day, why a decree should not be made in the estate of Millicent Brown A/K/A Millicent Viola Brown lately domiciled at 984 Lincoln Place, admitting to probate a Will dated January 5, 2010, a copy of which is attached, as the Will of Millicent Brown A/K/A Millicent Viola Brown deceased, relating to real and personal property, and directing that Letters of Testamentary issue to: Joseph Scantlebury. Dated, Attested and Sealed, May 19, 2017 HON. Margarita Lopez Torres, Surrogate and Doreen A. Quinn, Chief Clerk Attorney for Petitioner Sonja M. Tanksley Telephone Number 914-479-5804 Address of Attorney 377 Ashford Avenue, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE OF OWS REMIC TRUST 2015-1, Plaintiff, Against Index No.: 509325/14 CARLOS LIRIANO, JASSON LIRIANO, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, duly entered in the Kings County Clerk's Office on 4/6/2017, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on 6/29/2017 at

2:30 pm, premises known as 905 Belmont Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11208 and described as follows: ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York and designated on the tax maps of the Kings County Treasurer as Block 4228 and Lot 40. The approximate amount of the current Judgment lien is \$506,616.14 plus interest and costs. The premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale; Index # 509325/14. Dominic J. Famulari, Esq., Referee. STIENE & ASSOCIATES, P.C. (Attorneys for Plaintiff), 167 Main Street, Northport, NY 11768 Dated: 4/12/2017 File Number: 201401018 SLC

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC AUCTION Supreme Court of New York, Kings County. SRMOF II 2012-1 TRUST, U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE, Plaintiff, -against- CLEO CHARLES-PHILLIPS; ROBERT PHILLIPS; CITY OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU; CITY OF NEW YORK TRANSIT AUTHORITY TRANSIT ADJUDICATION BUREAU; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION & FINANCE; SOPHIA JOHNSON, Index No. 2713/2013. Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated, February 21, 2017 and entered with the Kings County Clerk on April 6, 2017, Gregory Laspina, Esq., the Appointed Referee, will sell the premises known as 553 Lenox Road, Brooklyn, New York 11203 at public auction at Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on June 15, 2017 at 2:30 P.M. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings and State of New York known as Block: 4845; Lot: 28 will be sold subject to the provisions of filed Judgment, Index No. 2713/2013. The approximate amount of judgment is \$1,047,226.32 plus interest and costs. FRIEDMAN VARTOLO, LLP 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, Attorneys for Plaintiff.

Families Insure Their Children Against the Changing Sands of Education

→ *Continued from page 8*

Williams-Harewood, former principal of PS 20, studied these parents for a dissertation. She compiled a list of students who consistently achieved 3's and 4's on state exams and visited their homes and interviewed the parents and their children. She wanted to know the secret of their success and recorded her findings in a book she wrote with James Reed Campbell entitled "Parents as Talent Developers."

According to Harewood and Campbell, if parents or guardians adopt identified values and practices, they can protect their loved ones from the vicissitudes of the educational system and be assured their children are ready for college or career. Every parent or guardian of elementary school students can implement some or all ninety-two nuggets of wisdom she presents in her book. One "kernel" or value she talks about is getting across the idea, "Your job is school." If students understood this idea

to its core and parents upheld it, students would succeed. When necessary, "Parents should step in when children get their priorities out of line."

Parents Irmin Wilford and her husband did just that and established their own Wilford Summer Academy. She required her children to read four books, complete an hour of math and a grade-level grammar book. "The rest of the day was theirs." In high school, the Easter break became Wilford Regents Week. She purchased regents review books for her

children to complete. Today, Wilford's children, a doctor and aspiring lawyer, still laugh about those days in their parent's academy.

When Ariel graduates in June 2017, she will be the first in her family. Why was she successful? When she looked at a truncated list of Harewood's kernels, she discovered she was raised on seventeen of twenty of them. Schools are important but "Parents have to pay attention to what's happening with their children's education."

Obituary: Ms. Vera Winn

Vera Winn was born in Fayetteville, NC on February 16, 1936 to the late Saludy Murphy and Herbert Partridge. On May 13, 2017, she departed this earthly life to be with the Lord in Heaven.

Vera Winn's family relocated to the Bronx, NY when she was a child where she graduated from high school. The family later moved to Amityville, NY. Vera received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Empire State College. She was a licensed Dietitian/Nutritionist and worked as a Dietitian for over 30 years at A. Holly Patterson Nursing Home. After she retired, she became a Nutrition Consultant for Recco Health Care Services, Inc. and a Board Member of the NYS Board for Physical Therapy for several years.

Vera was a member, and current President, of Brooklyn Stuyvesant Heights Lions Club and a member of The Brooklyn Club of The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. for many years. Vera received many accolades for her many years of community service. She was a member of Massapequa Full Gospel Tabernacle.



Vera was married to the late Franger Winn, Jr. She leaves two daughters, Franshone and Gale, son-in-law Edward, granddaughter Win, grandson David, brother Robert Wayne, sister-in-law Doretha, nieces (Michelle, Lisa, Diedre, Laura, Marsha and Paulette), nephews (Carl Anthony, William, Robert and John), cousins (Betty, Carol, Bunny, Pat, Shanda, Regina, Vernita, Faye, Gregory, Ruthie, Hermania, Carla, Myra and Stacy), her oldest and dearest friend Luay, and a host of other relatives and friends.



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Trump Watch

Despite 'Everything' Republicans and Trump Still Dangerous in 2020

■ By Grover Norquist

The author is the founder and president of Americans for Tax Reform.

Donald Trump's unexpected victory in 2016 did not lay the groundwork for Republican political dominance. But the March 2011 signing of ACT 10, a dramatic reform of public sector labor laws, by Wisconsin's Scott Walker certainly did. To understate it: If Act 10 is enacted in a dozen more states, the modern Democratic Party will cease to be a competitive power in American politics. It's that big a deal.

Here's what Act 10 did and why it's the model for the 25 states where Republicans control the House, Senate and governorship (public safety officers — primarily police and fire — are exempt from these changes).

No Wisconsin government worker can be forced to join a union as a condition of employment.

No Wisconsin government worker can be forced to pay union dues, "agency fees" or any other payment to unions. (A teacher earning \$50,000 in base salary previously was forced to pay \$1,000 — 2 percent — in annual dues.)

No government entity can withhold union dues from workers and hand the money to unions. Those wishing to join a union must now write a check to the union. In the past, most unions negotiated to have the government collect their dues, and the true cost of dues was hidden in the withholding. Income tax withholding has the same effect in disguising the true cost of taxation for many Americans.

Unions may not negotiate pensions. The city or state has a pension plan, but mayors can no longer be mau-maued to grant pension benefits that would bankrupt the city in 30 years.

Unions cannot negotiate benefits or work rules. Nor can they negotiate wage increases beyond the rate of inflation. Municipalities may put pay increases beyond inflation to the voters by referendum.

Each union must hold an annual vote to see whether members wish to continue to be "represented" by that union. Many local unions have disappeared as a result.

In the five years since Act 10's signing, more than 135,000 government workers — about one-third of government workers — stopped paying dues. At \$1,000 per employee that costs the largest structure in the Wisconsin left \$135 million a year. Over a two-year election cycle, the left in Wisconsin is short \$270 million that once paid for voter ID, voter education and "get out the vote" efforts. Over the past five years, Wisconsin's progressive structures were unable to coerce union dues totaling roughly a half-billion dollars. This is just in one state, and this was just the early years; each year, the number and percentage of government employees opting out grows.

Act 10 Is the New Black

It is the model for all Republican legislatures. Iowa enacted similar legislation this spring after the GOP captured the state Senate. Newly minted unified Republican control in Kentucky and Missouri, led by Govs. Matt Bevin and Eric Greitens, is

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and
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committed to enacting Act 10 as soon as possible.

Today, there are 14.3 million union members in the U.S. — 7.3 million in the public sector and 7 million in the real economy. They take in annual dues of more than \$8 billion every year — \$32 billion over the course of a four-year presidential cycle.

Currently, there are 25 states with Republican control of the governorship and both houses of the legislature. If half of them pass Act 10 or its equivalent, the collapse of union dues cannot be replaced by any collection of progressive billionaires. Before ACT 10, the Wisconsin GOP had majorities consisting of 57 to 38 in the state House and 19 to 14 in the Senate. Today, they have the governorship and larger majorities of 64-35 in the House and 20-13 in the Senate. In short, Act 10 is campaign finance reform. No money taken by force may be employed in politics. Less kindly, but quite accurately, "no stolen money in politics."

Like parallel trench lines approaching a besieged fortress, Act 10 cannot be stopped, and once enacted the state becomes red. No states with Act 10 can continue to be part of the once-vaunted "Blue Wall," and it is difficult to see how a state that enacts Act 10 could repeal it. Of the 28 right-to-work states, only one repealed it, and later re-passed it.

Wisconsin, which had not voted for a Republican candidate for president since 1984, voted for Trump five years after Act 10 passed and re-elected Sen. Ron Johnson, whom Democrats and Republicans believed to be the second most likely Republican to lose in 2016.

Trump's tweets attract attention. Act 10 moves forward. Quietly. Inexorably. Changing the political landscape like a glacier.

'A Historic Mistake': Trump Expected to Withdraw From Paris Agreement

→ Continued from page 4

let the fossil fuel industry eek out a few more dollars in profits. This is a decision that will cede America's role internationally to nations like China and India, which will benefit handsomely from embracing the booming clean energy economy while Trump seeks to drive our country back into the 19th century.

But the world should know that state and local action in the U.S. is moving strongly forward even in the face of Trump's historic mistake. For every terrible decision Trump makes, grassroots activists, frontline communities, local governments and concerned people across the country are fighting to make sure clean energy continues to grow by leaps and bounds. With our allies, Sierra Club members and supporters have helped retire more than 250 polluting coal plants and ensured more than 25 American cities have already committed to getting 100 percent of their energy from clean, renewable sources by 2030.

Our resistance is sustainable and we will serve as a counterpoint to Trump's dangerous policies every step of the way. Like leaders across the world, we aren't going to wait around for our climate denier-in-chief to play catch up. As we win locally, countries across the world are already moving forward on meeting and surpassing their climate commitments. Make no mistake: the Paris agreement was adopted after decades of climate advocacy by concerned citizens across America and around the world, and it certainly will not be derailed by the ignorance of one man.

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