

Available at your local



Philadelphia
Observer


50 Cents

Speaking Truth to Justice

PhiladelphiaObserver.com

Vol. 29 • No. 32

August 11 – August 17, 2022



**SERENA
WILLIAMS
THE G.O.A.T.**

**SAYS
SHE WILL
RETIRE
FROM
TENNIS
AFTER THE
US OPEN**



CHEVROLET & THE NNPA ARE CHARGING FORWARD WITH YOUNG TALENT!

This HBCU Talent Is Bringing That Energy To *Discover The Unexpected 2022*



ANTONIO ANDREWS II
Tuskegee University
—
CHEVROLET CORPORATE FELLOW



RAZA EL
Tuskegee University
—
CHEVROLET CORPORATE FELLOW



JEVON JAMESWHITE
Howard University
—
CHEVROLET CORPORATE FELLOW



ASHLEY MCJUNKIN
Texas Southern University
—
CHEVROLET CORPORATE FELLOW



JVONTE 'JAY' MORRIS
Prairie View A&M University
—
CHEVROLET CORPORATE FELLOW



MENRA MAPFUMO
Clark Atlanta University
—
NNPA FELLOW



ASIA ALEXANDER
Howard University
—
NNPA FELLOW



FREDERICK HARRELL
Grambling State University
—
NNPA FELLOW



DERRELL GREEN
Morehouse College
—
NNPA FELLOW



LEYHA WILLIAMS
Howard University
—
NNPA FELLOW



LEALER SIMS
Southern University
—
NNPA FELLOW

FOLLOW THE DTU FELLOWSHIP STUDENTS ON THEIR JOURNEY!
chevydtuverse.com

f t i d YouTube #ChevroletDTU



CHEVROLET

Serena Williams announces retirement from tennis

Philadelphiaobserver.com

We use the term G.O.A.T. a lot when talking about superstar athletes. In case you're unfamiliar, it stands for Greatest of All Time. Very few actually live up to this description, but one person who exemplifies this standard is Serena Williams.

After 23 Grand Slam titles—the first of which she won at age 17—Serena has announced she's "evolving away from tennis." The seven-time



Wimbledon champion wrote about her decision in a cover story for the September issue of Vogue.

"I have never liked the word retirement. It doesn't feel like a modern word to me. I've been thinking

of this as a transition, but I want to be sensitive about how I use that word, which means something very specific and important to a community of people," she wrote.

"Maybe the best word to describe what I'm up to is evolution. I'm here to tell you that I'm evolving away from tennis, toward other things that are important to me. A few years ago I quietly started Serena Ventures, a venture capital firm. Soon after that, I started a family. I want to grow that family."



FBI raids Donald Trump's resort in Florida

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA

The FBI on Monday executed a search warrant of former President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort in Palm Beach, Florida.

"My beautiful home, Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach, Florida, is currently under siege, raided, and occupied by a large group of FBI agents," Trump said in a statement first sent to CNN.

It wasn't immediately clear what the FBI was looking for and what spurred the raid.

However, the Department of Justice recently acknowledged it had launched an investigation into Trump's actions leading up to Jan. 6.

Multiple outlets cited several individuals familiar with the investigation in their reports.

The outlets noted that prosecutors had asked witnesses before a grand jury about conversations with Trump.

"Some of the questions focused on substituting Trump allies for electors in states President Joe Biden won and on a pressure campaign on then-Vice President Mike Pence to overturn the election," the Washington Post reported earlier this month.

The newspaper said the Justice Department obtained aides' telephone records, including former Trump chief of staff Mark Meadows.

The Department of Justice, a Trump spokesperson, and a lawyer for Meadows did not respond to requests for comment.

In a NBC Nightly News inter-



view last week, U.S. Attorney Gen-

husband, Jared Kushner, testified *Donald Trump speaking with supporters at a campaign rally at Veterans Memorial Coliseum at the Arizona State Fairgrounds in Phoenix, Arizona. (George Skidmore / Wikimedia Commons)*

eral Merrick Garland said "anyone" would be held accountable.

"We will hold accountable anyone who was criminally responsible for attempting to interfere with the transfer, legitimate, lawful transfer of power from one administration to the next," Garland said.

The former President declared the election as fraudulent "right out of the box on election night before there was any potential of looking at the evidence," former U.S. Attorney William Barr said in a taped deposition played by Committee members in June.

Matt Morgan, the Trump campaign's general counsel, provided a videotaped deposition in which he noted that "the law firms were not comfortable making arguments that (lawyer and advisor) Rudy Giuliani was making publicly" about election fraud.

One lawmaker described Giuliani as "apparently inebriated."

At the same time, Trump's daughter Ivanka Trump and her

that the former President waited in the White House in a room with advisers while awaiting election results.

Meanwhile, Trump's former campaign manager Bill Stepien, said his boss disagreed with those who suggested it was too early to call the election.

"They were going to go in a different direction," related Kushner, who admitted telling Trump that "it was not the approach I would take if I were you."

Following Joe Biden's election win, Trump publicly declared himself the victor, and the Big Lie began.

He told supporters at the White House, including Barr, that a big vote dump had occurred in Detroit.

"I said, 'Did anyone point out to you – did all the people complaining about it point out to you, you actually did better in Detroit than you did last time?'" Barr stated.

The former attorney general declared, "there's no indication of fraud in Detroit."

Senate Dems pass huge climate, health and tax bill

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire

Senate Democrats took a critical step toward reducing inflation and the cost of living by passing the Inflation Reduction Act.

Proponents said the measure would make a big difference for many Americans by locking in savings on health insurance premiums and reducing the cost of prescription drugs by allowing Medicare to negotiate lower prices.

The bill, when signed by President Joe Biden, should also lead to creating family-sustaining jobs and cutting energy costs by making the most significant investment in history in combating climate change, Democrats have claimed.

The country will pay the bill's \$739 billion price tag by making corporations pay their fair share. Those making less than \$400,000 annually won't see tax increases.

Vice President Kamala Harris cast the tie-breaking vote in a deadlock Senate to ensure passage.

"I'm thrilled we were finally able to pass this historic, once-in-a-generation investment in our country's future that will lower costs for Georgians, create clean energy jobs and reduce the deficit all at the same time," said Georgia Democratic Senator Reverend Raphael Warnock.

"I'm especially proud the legislation includes two provisions I introduced to cap insulin costs for Medicare patients at \$35 a month and to limit the cost of prescription drugs for seniors. This bill will strengthen health care access and lower health care costs for people across Georgia."

Warnock said the legislation would make a real change in people's lives.

"From saving seniors money by allowing Medicare to directly negotiate drug prices, to expanding vital health care subsidies, to greening the economy, this legislation will make a lasting impact on Georgians' lives," Warnock stated.

Experts and economists said the Inflation Reduction Act would save American households thousands of dollars.

"This bill will reduce the cost of prescription drugs, make health insurance more affordable, cap out-of-pocket costs, reduce your energy bill, reduce the federal deficit, and bring down inflation,"

Florida Democratic Rep. Val Demings said.

"As the daughter of a maid and a janitor, every dollar mattered in our household, and I'll always fight to protect working families."

Demings said the deal builds on work she did in the House to allow Medicare to negotiate the cost of prescription drugs, bring down energy costs, and create significant new jobs by fighting climate change.

"Senate Republicans tried and failed to block this legislation because it takes on their biggest backers: prescription drug companies, fossil fuel companies, and billionaire tax cheats," Demings remarked.

"I'm going to put Florida families first and support policies to bring down costs for working people even if it cuts into the profit margins of these special interests."

Senate Republicans, all of whom opposed the package, lashed out.

"This is not about inflation reduction. This is all about Democrats spending on things they want to spend money on," Utah GOP Sen. Mitt Romney asserted.

"It's another taxing and spending bill," he insisted.

Biden said he ran for president promising to make government work for working families again, and that is what this bill does.

"This bill caps seniors' out-of-pocket spending for prescription drugs at \$2,000 per year – no matter what their drug bills would otherwise be, seniors will not have to spend more than \$2,000," Biden stated.

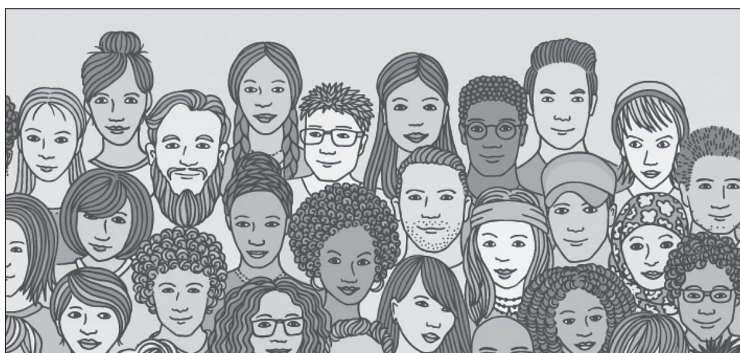
"Additionally, 13 million Americans, covered under the Affordable Care Act, will see their health insurance premiums reduced by \$800."

Biden continued: "This bill tackles inflation by lowering the deficit and lowering costs for regular families. This bill also makes the largest investment ever in combatting the existential crisis of climate change."

"It addresses the climate crisis and strengthens our energy security, creating jobs manufacturing solar panels, wind turbines, and electric vehicles in America with American workers. In addition, it lowers families' energy costs by hundreds of dollars each year."

"Finally, it pays for all this by establishing a minimum corporate tax so that our richest corporations start to pay their fair share. It does not raise taxes on those making under \$400,000 a year – not one cent."

Four Muslim community members murdered in Albuquerque – hate crimes?



*ALBUQUERQUE (KOAT) — Albuquerque police are investigating the killings of four members of the Muslim community in Albuquerque. Police believe all four are connected. Police be-

lieve three recent murders and a murder that happened on Nov. 7, 2021, could be potentially connected.

Albuquerque police say the first homicide happened on Nov.

7, 2021. In that incident, Mohammad Ahmadi was killed outside of a business he and his brother ran at 1401 San Mateo Blvd. Ahmadi was from Afghanistan. Police are working to determine if this murder is connected to three other murders that happened in the city.

Albuquerque police say the second homicide happened on July 26 in southeast Albuquerque. Police identified the victim as 41-year-old Aftab Hussein. Hussein was from Pakistan.

The third homicide happened on Aug. 1. Police say Muhammed Afzaal Hussain was killed in southeast Albuquerque

4 officers involved in Breonna Taylor's death charged, arrested

Philadelphiaobserver.com

Four officers involved in the killing of Breonna Taylor have been charged and arrested. Former detectives Brett Hankison and Joshua Jaynes as well as Detective Kelly Hanna Goodlett and Sgt. Kyle Meany learned their fates on Thursday, *Vice* reports.

Speaking at a press conference on Thursday, Attorney General Merrick Garland said the charges include two counts of deprivation of civil rights against Hankison, who allegedly fired 10 shots through a window and glass door along the side of Taylor's Louisville apartment.

The Department of Justice also confirmed that Jaynes, Goodlett and Meany are being charged for conspiracy for violating Taylor's Fourth



Amendment rights. The officers, according to the department, drafted and submitted a false affidavit used to secure a search warrant for Taylor's residence.

In addition to being accused of falsifying information, the officers face charges for an attempted cover-up afterward.

Man who recorded Ahmaud Arbery's killing sentenced to 35 years in prison

Update (August 8, 2022): William "Roddie" Bryan, the third man involved in the killing of Ahmaud Arbery, was sentenced to 35 years in prison for a hate crime involving the fatal chase, according to AP News.

Bryan's sentencing is less than the life sentences Gregory and Travis McMichael received on Monday.

Bryan recorded a video of Arbery's killing and was previously sentenced to life with a possibility of parole for his involvement in the murder.

Update (August 8, 2022): Gregory McMichael has been sentenced to life in prison plus seven years for a hate crime in Ahmaud Arbery's death, *The Washington Post* reports.

Greg was previously sentenced to life in prison without parole for Arbery's death.

He, alongside his son Travis McMichael, was convicted of attempted kidnapping, a weapons violation and violently interfering with Arbery's right to use a public street because he was Black.

Original (August 8, 2022): Travis McMichael was sentenced to life in prison plus 10 years for federal hate crime charges in connection to the killing of Ahmaud Arbery, *The Washington Post* reports.

McMichael, his father and William "Roddie" Bryan face life sentences for state murder charges that they were convicted of in Nov. 2021.

In February, the three men were found guilty in a separate federal hate crimes trial, *CNN* reports.

During court on Monday, the 36-year-old's attorney filed a memorandum indicating that her client has received threats and could face imminent harm if sent to a Georgia state prison.

Since being in custody, he has received around "800 threats," including people who "are 'waiting for him,' that he should not go into the yard, and that correctional officers have promised a willingness (whether for pay or for free) to keep certain doors unlocked and backs turned to allow inmates to harm him," the memo stated, according to *CNN*.

"His concern is that he will promptly be killed upon delivery to the state prison system for service of that sentence: He has received numerous threats of death that are credible in light of all circumstances, and the government has a pending investigation into the Georgia DOC's ability to keep inmates safe in a system where murder rates have tripled," the memo continued.



Philadelphia mother of 6 brutally stabbed to death by fiancé

Philadelphiaobserver.com

A Philadelphia man is in police custody after fatally stabbing his fiancé and leaving her lifeless body inside a gold Honda Odyssey.

The Philadelphia Inquirer reports that Raymond Thompson, 34, is being held without bail after turning himself into police custody over the weekend. He is charged with killing Ashley Lockhart, 32, in a vicious knife attack inside the Honda Odyssey on the 5300 block of Chestnut Street around 8:30 a.m. Saturday.

Police found Lockhart's body with multiple stab wounds to the body, and one to her face, *Fox 29* reports. Thompson told detectives he stabbed Lockhart because he believed she was cheating on him.

Thompson admitted that after he stabbed Lockhart and left her lifeless body in the van's passenger seat, he took the Market-Frankford line to Kensington to use heroin before he called the police to turn himself in.

Assistant District Attorney Joanne Pescatore confirmed that Lockhart had filed a Protection



From Abuse order against Thompson, but the two were believed to be living together.

Lockhart's family has started a GoFundMe page that has surpassed their initial \$30,000 goal.

"Ashley was an amazing Mother, dedicated working Mother and devoted Mother," the page states. "She loved all of her children and devoted her time energy and made sacrifices for them that they will forever remember."

The GoFundMe page is asking for financial support to help

send Lockhart's six daughters off to school and ensure they're not separated after the tragic loss of their mother.

"As this is extremely difficult to process, and unimaginable to even begin to try and move forward, we the family would like to maintain the momentum for the girls," the page shared. "They are returning to school in a few short weeks, and their every day essentials are important for us to make sure they aren't lacking, as Ashley did."

Philadelphia woman wanted for shooting 23-year-old Jhayden Gunter in the head

Philadelphiaobserver.com

Twenty-three-year-old Jhayden Gunter is in critical condition after twice being shot in the head in Philadelphia on July 31. According to CBS Philly, Gunter was shot on the 2200 block of North Darien Street at approximately 9:45 a.m. after picking up her boyfriend.

Gunter was shot after she and her boyfriend reportedly stopped at a corner store to get a cold beverage. As Gunter waited inside her vehicle, her boyfriend went inside where he got into an argument with a woman he knew, 24-year-old Keyshlyne Patterson. Patterson allegedly followed him outside before shooting Gunter two times in the head and Gunter's boyfriend in the arm and ear. The police were reportedly in the area and heard the gunshots before rushing to the scene. Gunter was taken to Temple University Hospital where

she underwent two emergency surgeries to remove part of her skull to reduce her brain swelling.

Gunter graduated from West Chester University just last year with a major in juvenile psychology and had been at her job for a non-profit in Philadelphia as a case worker for less than two weeks when she was shot, according to her mother, Heather Morris.

"Everyone that knows Jhayden will tell you she is the bubbly party girl whose smile is infectious every time she smiles," Morris said. "It makes you smile even if you're in a bad mood. She'll do anything for anyone."

Police used surveillance footage to help identify Patterson, who the police say is considered armed and dangerous. She is wanted for attempted murder.

Morris is thankful that the police heard the shots and were able to get her daughter to the hospital quickly.



"Thank God they got my daughter as quickly as they could to Temple Hospital, which probably saved her life," said Morris. "It's sickening to me. I can't begin to describe, I don't know if I'm going to get my daughter back and I don't know in what shape she'll be if I do get her back."

Subscribe Philadelphia Observer

405 Lexington Avenue, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10174.

philadelphiaobserver.com



Sometimes the person who helps you finish high school hasn't even started preschool.

If you're thinking of finishing your high school diploma, you have more support than you realize. Find free adult education classes near you by texting FINISH to 97779 or by visiting **FinishYourDiploma.org**.



Message: "I'm proud of you." Apply. Reply STOP to opt out. No purchase necessary. Terms and Privacy: adCouncil.org/About-Us/Privacy-Policy

Editorial - Opinion

With extremism on the rise in republican party, Kansas voters turn out to preserve abortion rights



By Ben Jealous
(TriceEdneyWire.com)

Red flags are flying for democracy and democratic values. We need to pay attention to the threats—and also to signs that we can work together to preserve our freedoms.

This summer's primary elections are making it clear that our rights and freedoms are threatened by the rising power of extremists within the Republican Party.

Consider the August 2 primaries in Arizona. President Joe Biden's 2020 victory in the state sent many Arizona supporters of former President Donald Trump down a deep hole of lies and conspiracy theories about the election. They engineered a ridiculous "audit" that stirred up election-deniers from across the country but failed to undermine Biden's victory.

Responsible Republicans defended the election and its outcome, but on August 2, they were outvoted by Trump's troops. Mark Finchem, who claims against all evidence that the election was stolen from Trump, won the nomination to be secretary of state.

He has called for the 2020 election to be decertified. He wants to get rid of early voting and restrict voting by mail—and give legislators the power to override voters. Finchem, who was at the Capitol on Jan. 6, is a member of the Oath Keepers, the far-right group whose members were involved in planning and leading the assault. A state Republican consultant told *The Atlantic*,

"I would absolutely expect Finchem to both bend the meaning of laws and throw up roadblocks to the normal election

procedures."

Arizona Republicans have also nominated Blake Masters for the U.S. Senate. Masters' campaign was backed and funded by far-right billionaire Peter Thiel, who has openly said he no longer believes in democracy. Masters has blamed gun violence on "Black people." His campaign has generated excitement among the White nationalist crowd that was energized by Trump.

The governor's primary is close, but as I wrote this column the day after the election, it appeared that Trump endorsee Kari Lake will win the Republican nomination. Lake, an election conspiracy advocate, calls President Biden "illegitimate" and has said that if she wins, she will instruct the attorney general to seize all voting equipment in the state.

Arizona is also home to politicians who openly embrace White nationalists, including Rep. Paul Gosar and state Sen. Wendy Rogers, who both won their primaries.

Other extremists have picked up Republican nominations this summer, including election conspiracy theorist Doug Mastriano, who has campaigned with QAnon activists in his bid for governor of

Pennsylvania; Trumpist election denier Dan Cox for governor of Maryland; Confederate sympathizer Michael Peroutka for attorney general of Maryland, who has said laws passed by the state legislature are illegitimate because in his eyes, legislators broke God's law by embracing marriage equality; and Big Lie promoter Kristina Karamo for secretary of state in Michigan.

The list goes on—too many to name in a single column.

This is bad news. In a political system dominated by two political parties, it is dangerous to have one party taken over by the kind of truth-rejecting, voter-suppressing, authoritarianism-embracing people who are still driven by the same lies and rage that fueled the Jan. 6 attack on our country.

But Trumpists aren't winning all their races. We have seen examples of courageous Republicans standing up to the Trump mob.

And voters in Kansas gave us another big bright spot on Aug. 2, when they rejected an anti-choice referendum by more than 20 points.

After the Supreme Court's hard-right majority overturned *Roe v. Wade*, anti-choice legislators have rushed to pass more extreme an-

ti-abortion bills targeting health care workers and even friends and family who help someone needing abortion care. Those bills represent the wishes of powerful religious-right groups that have a lot of influence in the Republican Party, but they don't represent the public, which overwhelmingly supports access to abortion.

Given a choice about whether to strip abortion-rights protections out of the state constitution and give legislators a green light to pass a ban, Kansas voters overwhelmingly voted no.

That victory for privacy, freedom, and bodily autonomy was driven by huge voter turnout and the organizers who worked to achieve it. It is a promising sign that many Americans can be motivated to vote this year by the Supreme Court's harmful embrace of a restrictive and regressive social agenda.

Let's make it so.

Ben Jealous serves as president of People For the American Way and Professor of the Practice at the University of Pennsylvania. A *New York Times* best-selling author, his next book "Never Forget Our People Were Always Free" will be published by Harper Collins in December 2022.

I asked what kind of family



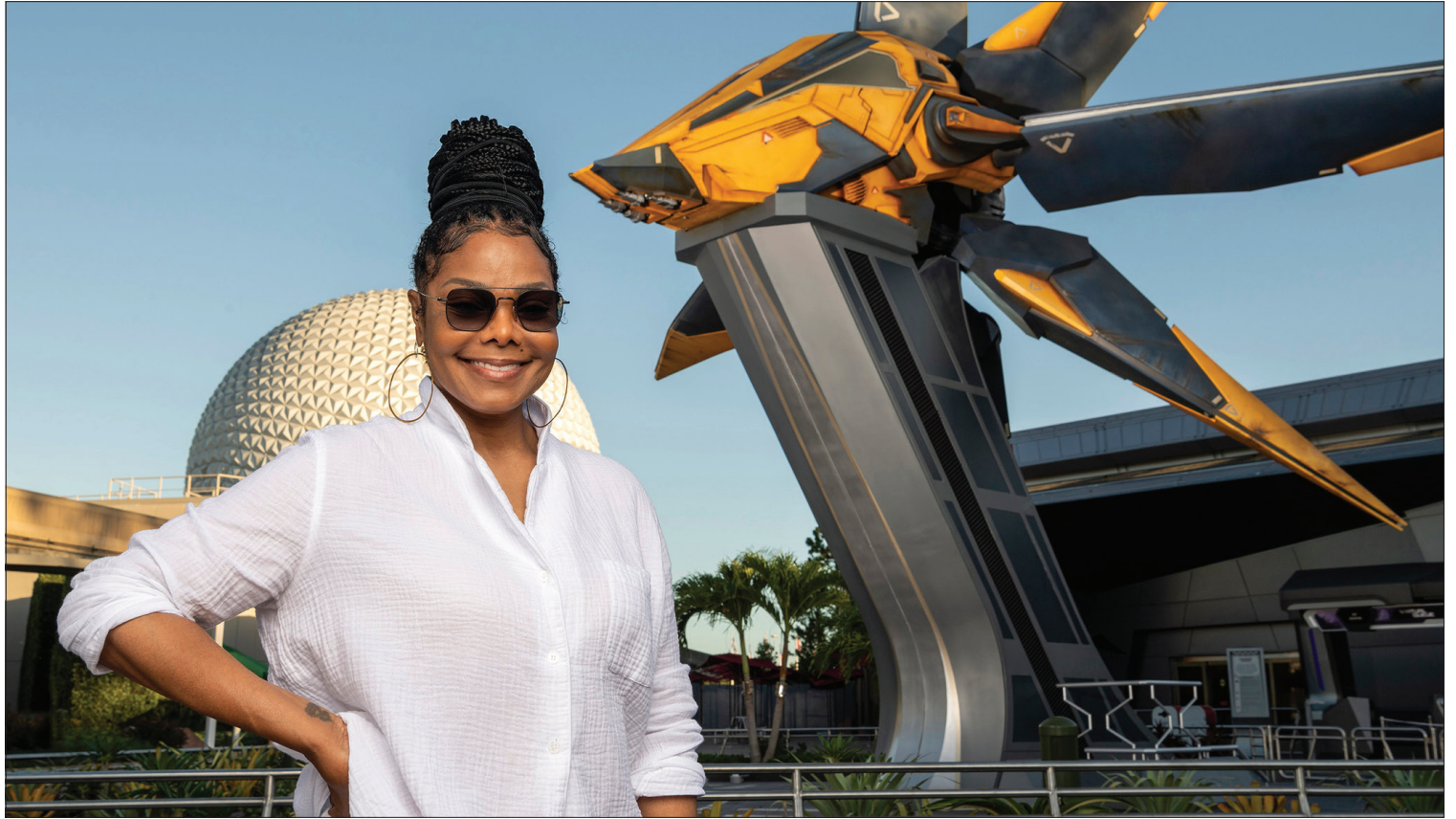
LEARN ABOUT ADOPTING A TEEN
YOU CAN'T IMAGINE THE REWARD

ADOPTUSKIDS.ORG

Janet Jackson sighted at Guardians of the Galaxy: Cosmic Rewind attraction

By Audrey J. Bernard

Parkgoers visiting Walt Disney World Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. thought they were seeing stars when megastar Janet Jackson was spotted with her family enjoying some time at Guardians of the Galaxy: Cosmic Rewind at EPCOT. Jackson stunned guests with her beauty as she visited the newest family thrill coaster attraction which is part of the ongoing transformation of EPCOT. A photo shared by Disney on Friday shows Jackson standing in front of the Nova ship outside the entrance to the brand-new ride inspired by Marvel's Guardians of the Galaxy, which just opened to Guests at Disney World at Epcot on Friday, May 27, 2022. The ride's debut is one of the highlights of Disney World's 50th Anniversary Celebrations, which continue through March 2023. Based on the Marvel Cinematic Universe Guardians of the Galaxy films, the attraction is the first at Walt Disney World to feature characters from the Marvel Universe.



Janet Jackson visits the Guardians of the Galaxy in EPCOT at Walt Disney World (Kent Philips, photographer)



WWE Superstar Roman Reigns and daughter Joelle

Take time to be a dad today.



fatherhood.gov
877-4DAD411



OUR Values
OUR VOTE
OUR Voice
©

PRESIDENT BIDEN IS FIGHTING FOR US!

Our president signed an executive order in George Floyd's name to increase police accountability and transparency. And he signed the first major gun legislation in decades to keep our communities safe.

President Biden and Vice President Harris have delivered billions of dollars to support HBCUs and Black-owned businesses.

High-speed internet access is being expanded in our communities and lead pipes contaminating water are being removed.

And because of our votes, after more than 230 years and 115 justices, Ketanji Brown Jackson is the first Black woman on the Supreme Court. **Joe Biden made that happen.**

Meanwhile, extreme MAGA Republicans are trying to take away a woman's ability to make her own health care decisions and they want to cut Social Security and Medicare.

They had the audacity to vote *against* funding to help get more baby formula on shelves. Republicans are too extreme to hold power.

Biden, Harris, and Democrats are working hard to deliver for us. **This November, let's go out and make our voices heard — because our rights and our freedom are on the ballot.**

PAID FOR BY THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE. WWW.DEMOCRATS.ORG. AND NOT AUTHORIZED BY ANY CANDIDATE OR CANDIDATE'S COMMITTEE.



On the scene

Former President Barack Obama & Michelle Obama attend MVAAFF Opening Night

By Audrey J. Bernard

On Friday, August 5, 2022, former President Barack Obama and Michelle Obama surprised festivalgoers at the Opening Night of the 20th Annual Martha's Vineyard African American Film Festival (MVAAFF) screening of "Descendant" at the Martha's Vineyard Performing Arts Center in Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts. A special jury prize winner at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival, "Descendant" is produced by the Obamas' production company Higher Ground Productions which they founded in 2018 to tell powerful stories that entertain, inform, and inspire — while elevating new and diverse voices in the entertainment industry.

Barack & Michelle joined the film's executive producer Ahmir "Questlove" Thompson, director Margaret Brown and festival programmers Stephanie and Floyd Rance to welcome the audience with introductory remarks. Following the screening, Thompson and Brown were joined by producers Essie Chambers and Kyle Martin, co-producer Dr. Kern Jackson, and film subjects Joycelyn Davis and Rose



Q&A moderated by historian Dr. Jessica B. Harris Thompson & Margaret Brown joined by (L-R) producers Essie Chambers & Kyle Martin, co-producer Dr. Kern Jackson & film subjects Joycelyn Davis & Rose

The film is scheduled to be released in Fall 2022.

In "Descendant" documentary filmmaker Margaret Brown ("The Order of Myths," "The Great Invisible") returns to her hometown of

Mobile, Alabama to document the search for and historic discovery of The Clotilda, the last known ship to arrive in the United States, illegally carrying enslaved Africans. After a century of secrecy and speculation,

the 2019 discovery of the ship turns attention toward the descendant community of Africatown and presents a moving portrait of a community actively grappling with and fighting to preserve their heri-

tage while examining what justice looks like today. "Descendant" is a Higher Ground and Night Tide production, in association with Two One Five Entertainment. (Photos Courtesy of Netflix)



(L-R) Questlove, Floyd Rance, Stephanie T. Rance, Barack Obama, Michelle Obama, Margaret Brown



Michelle Obama arrives onstage



Michelle Obama speaks onstage



MVAAFF Opening Night festivalgoers join cast & crew of "Decedant"



Barack greets his wife Michelle with a kiss!



Barack Obama speaks onstage

Premiere

Jo Koy's 'Easter Sunday' offering to the Filipino American community is deep. Tiffany Haddish slays in sexy satin slip gown!



By Audrey J. Bernard

DreamWorks Pictures and Reliance Entertainment present stand-up comedy sensation Jo Koy's acclaimed "Easter Sunday" about a man (Koy) who returns

home to celebrate the high holy holiday of Easter with his riotous, bickering, eating, drinking, laughing, loving Filipino family. The laugh-out-loud film also stars Tiffany Haddish, who pops up in the film as a police officer who also happens to be the ex-girlfriend of Koy's character, Joe Valencia. Their perfect comedic timing is no accident as they go way back. Haddish used to babysit Koy's son while he was doing stand-up. "Easter Sunday" which is steeped in rich folklore is a glorious offering to the Filipino American community. It is also the first big studio movie with an all-Filipino ensemble. The production comes at a time when Filipino American food, history and advocacy are increasingly emerging into the zeitgeist. "The idea that stories that focus on Asian ethnicities and cultures are too specific to be appealing is just outdated," said Koy.

SYNOPSIS: Koy plays Joe Valencia, a comic and aspiring actor who goes home to the San Francisco

Bay Area for the titular holiday. He attempts to bond with his teenage son while dealing with well-meaning but overbearing relatives. "The relationship between a mother and son is the same no matter what ethnicity," expressed Koy. "I hate ignorant people that don't move forward... There's a lot of people that live in this country that need to be heard and it's time to hear it."

CAST: "Easter Sunday" features an all-star comedic cast that includes Jimmy O. Yang (Silicon Valley series), Tia Carrere (True Lies, Wayne's World Films), Brandon Wardell (Curb Your Enthusiasm Series), Tony Nominee and Grammy Award Winner Eva Noblezada (Broadway's Hometown), Lydia Gaston (Broadway's The King And I), Asif Ali (Wandavision), Melody Butiu (This Is Us, Mom), Rodney To (Parks And Recreation Series), Eugene Cordero (The Good Place), Jay Chandrasekhar (Super Troopers Series), and Lou Diamond Phillips (Courage Under Fire).

CREW: "Easter Sunday," From DreamWorks Pictures and Reliance Entertainment Present, A Rideback Production, A Jay Chandrasekhar Film. The Comedy is Produced By Rideback's Blockbuster Producers Dan Lin P.G.A. (The Lego Movie franchise, It franchise) and Jonathan Eirich P.G.A. (Aladdin, The Two Popes), and is Executive Produced By Seth William Meier, Jessica Gao, Ken Cheng, Jimmy O. Yang, Jo Koy, Joe Meloche and Nick Reynolds. "Easter Sunday" is Directed By Jay Chandrasekhar (Super Troopers Franchise The Dukes Of Hazzard, Beerfest), From a Script By Ken Cheng (Sin City Saints Series) and Kate Angelo (Sex Tape), Based On A Story By Cheng.

CREATIVES: The Film's Creative Teams are led By Director of Photography Joe Collins (Super Troopers 2, Showtime's City On A Hill), Production Designer Michael Joy (TV's Once Upon A Time Series, Resident Alien), Editor Steven Sprung, Ace (Star Trek Beyond, Arrested Development) and

Costume Designer Patricia J. Henderson (Nobody, Cult Of Chucky), with Music By Dan The Automator (Booksmart, Netflix's Holiday).

PREMIERE: Tiffany Haddish and Jo Koy joined cast mates at the premiere of their new movie, "Easter Sunday," held at TCL Chinese Theatre on Tuesday evening, August 2, 2022 in Hollywood, Calif. All eyes were on Haddish as she slayed the red carpet in Jonathan Simkhai's Finley thigh high slit Cowl-Neck Satin Slip Gown accessorized with Marzook Topaz Feathered Pill Bag, Irene Neuwirth Jewelry and Stuart Weitzman sandals. Also spotted on the red carpet: Jimmy O. Yang, Tia Carrere, Brandon Wardell, Eva Noblezada, Lydia Gaston, Asif Ali, Rodney To, Eugene Cordero, Jay Chandrasekhar, Dustin Ybarra, Joey Guila, Melody Butiu, Lou Diamond Phillips, Jo's son, Joseph Herbert Jr., and many more. "Easter Sunday" was released nationwide by Universal Pictures on Friday, August 5, 2022. (Photos by Just Jared)



Jo Koy, center, with cast from 'Easter Sunday' (Universal Pictures).jpeg



Jo Koy and Tiffany Haddish in scene from 'Easter Sunday' (Universal Pictures)



Director Jay Chandrasekhar



Tia Carrere



Co-stars Jo Koy, Tiffany Haddish



Jimmy O. Yang



Eva Noblezada



Brandon Wardell



Ravishing Tiffany Haddish



Joey Guila, Eva Noblezada, Rodney Jo



Lou Diamond Phillips, Tia Carrere



Eugene Cordero



Lydia Gaston, Asif Ali



Jo Koy with son Joseph Herbert Jr.

Disc Chat

Beyonce samples Dr. Barbara Ann Teer speech



Beyonce Knowles-Carter



The late great Dr. Barbara Ann Teer (Photo: NBT)

WHO IS DR. BARBARA ANN TEER?

Dr. Barbara Ann Teer was an American writer/producer/teacher/actress and social visionary who died in 2008 at the age of 71. In 1968, she founded Harlem's National Black Theatre, currently located in the Village of Harlem, which was the first revenue-generating Black theatre in the United States. Born in Illinois to parents who were educators and community leaders, she graduated with a bachelor's degree in dance education from the University of Illinois.

Teer went on to study dance in Paris and Berlin before settling in New York City and pursuing a

career as a professional dancer. She toured with many big dance companies and made her Broadway debut in 1961 as dance captain in the award-winning musical *Kwamina*.

After a knee injury in 1962, she became interested in theatre and had a successful acting career, performing in Broadway, television, film and other theatre productions. However, she always hated the lack of representation and negative stereotypes – which drove her to form the National Black Theatre.

Teer and the theatre was committed to social change within African-American communities, and she also developed her own methodology which was taught there called "TEER: The Technology of Soul."

Posted By Don Thomas

Beyoncé's seventh studio album *Renaissance* has finally arrived and fans couldn't be more excited. The 16-track album has some incredible collaborations and composers, including Skrillex, Jay-Z, Drake, Nile Rodgers, The-Dream and loads more. There are some great samples and interpolations too, like the famous Robin S. club tune "Show Me Love" and Kelis, Pharrell Williams and Chad Hugo's "Milkshake."

However, fans are most excited about one sample on the third track, "Alien Superstar..." As outlined by Pitchfork, the official *Renaissance* credits reveal that *Alien Superstar* contains a sample from influential woman Dr. Barbara Ann Teer. The words come from her

Black Theatre speech which was provided to YouTube by Smithsonian Folkway Recordings.

The 20-minute clip sees Dr. Teer, who founded Harlem's National Black Theatre, speaking about her life, background and creating the New York performing arts company. Barbara's voice can be heard towards the end of Beyoncé's new song "Alien Superstar." A portion of her speech has been sampled which begins at 2:48.

"We dress a certain way. We walk a certain way. We talk a certain way. We paint a certain way. We make love a certain way, you know?" she says. "All of these things we do in a different, unique specific way that is personally ours," she continues before Beyoncé's voice reappears.



Employee attends company plantation party dressed as enslaved person

Philadelphiaobserver.com

A Black man who goes by the handle BisFitty gave a delinquent account of his experience attending a retreat organized by his employer, which was politically incorrectly held at a plantation. Attendees were encouraged to dress in "period appropriate costume-ball" theme and to join in on the "fun." BisFitty arrived in his Sunday's best as an enslaved person.

He donned a tan shirt, rolled-up pants, strings as suspenders, and a straw hat. He opted out of wearing shoes to the festivities to bring a touch of authenticity to the era.

"As a lot of you already know, I had to attend a 'corporate retreat' this weekend, that happened to take place on a southern plantation in Alabama. There was a 'period appropriate' costume ball scheduled for the end of the trip, but they apparently forgot about me, their lone black employee. Hilarity ensued," he posted on Reddit.

The grossly offensive affair took place seven-years ago,



according to the original post thread. However, the pictures immediately went viral when he later shared them on social media, Hip Hop Wired reports.

"There aren't many options for someone like me..." he captioned one photo. He included images of him driving a car a la Driving Ms. Daisy, laying in a bed while in the big house, and holding a platter of fruits. Yet, the piece de resistance is when BisFitty appears at the end of the staircase as his shocked co-worker realizes his costume at the mansion's party, according to Hip Hop Wired.

The fallout within the company for this tone-deaf event was

swift and the employee received a promotion while the individual who organized the event was terminated.

"In the end, the boss canceled the party, and the CEO, who was supposed to be at the party, never showed up. The reason they gave for canceling the party was "inclement weather," and, while it [did] rain, and the party [was] supposed to be outside, the location had more than enough space inside for there to be some sort of contingency plan. It's also a bit odd that the CEO canceled, as far as I know, he isn't allergic to rain. My thoughts? I think the climate was just a bit... dark for him."

Transgender cheerleader booted from camp for allegedly choking female who mocked her

Philadelphiaobserver.com

A transgender cheerleader was kicked out of cheer camp and given a criminal citation for allegedly choking a female teammate who mocked and misgendered her.

Police responded to an incident between team members at Ranger College last week, Yahoo News reports. Averie Chanel Medlock later took to Facebook to post a lengthy statement announcing her retirement as a result of the alleged assault.

"Well guys I'm officially retired as a cheerleader as of last night at 5:30 AM," Medlock wrote in the post.

"A girl on the team was being very disrespectful and told me I am a MAN with a PENIS and that [guys] should not be on the team," she explained.

"I stood up for myself and she called her mom and dad because she was scared because I [stood] up for myself. Her father said 'she still has testosterone and a penis and I will kill anyone who comes after my daughter.'"

Medlock claims the female teammate made transphobic and racist remarks about her and then hid inside a room with other girls once she became agitated.



Video shows the frightened team members inside of a room while Medlock could be heard outside shouting profanities.

The girl's father made his own Facebook post claiming his daughter was choked by Medlock and called him for help, NY Post reports.

"I ask you what you would have done when receiving a phone call at 1 o'clock in the morning from your daughter stating they had locked themselves in the room with other girls," the father, Mike Jones, wrote on Facebook. "At no time did I ever say anything about your race or your gender."



WHAT IF THE FUTURE OF KIDS WAS A STOCK YOU COULD INVEST IN?

Introducing Better Futures™—a whole new kind of investment with a greater return than money. When you invest, it helps kids go to college. Because a mind is a terrible thing to waste but a wonderful thing to invest in.™ Invest in Better Futures at UNCF.ORG/INVEST



Barack, Michelle Obama discuss their documentary 'Descendant' during the African American Film Fest at Martha's Vineyard

Philadelphiaobserver.com

Attendees of the African American Film Festival at Martha's Vineyard received quite the surprise when former President Barack Obama and former First Lady Michelle Obama made an appearance on Aug. 5. According to Variety, the Obamas were on hand to discuss their new documentary on Netflix, *Descendant*.

Descendant is directed by Margaret Brown through the Obamas' production company, Higher Ground Productions and tells the story of the last known slave ship to bring people from Africa to the U.S., the *Clotilda*. The film, which won the creative vision U.S. special jury award at Sundance, focuses on the descendants of the *Clotilda* in Africatown, Alabama.

The Obamas were introduced by one of the documentary's executive producers, Questlove, and spoke for approximately 15 minutes about the film while noting the importance of revealing Black history that is frequently untold.

"When we screened this... we looked at it and immediately thought, 'This is why we're doing Higher Ground.' Because what we know about our history as

Black people, we don't talk about nothing," said the former First Lady. "We can't get anything out of our elders, can we? We don't know anything. Our mothers don't talk about menopause, nobody knows about why grandma and grandpa got divorced," she said.

"We just don't talk. And there's a lot of psychology around that, but what this film reminds us of is the power that our stories have. And we have to tell that truth."

Mr. Obama spoke of the power of storytelling and praised the founders of the Martha's Vineyard African American Film Festival, Stephanie Rance and Floyd Rance.

"When we left the White House, Michelle and I talked about the things we wanted to do post-presidency. We've got a lot of stuff going on, but one of the things that we learned both when we were campaigning for office and taking office was the importance of stories and who tells stories and what stories are valid and what stories are discounted," he said. "And it's one of the powers of this festival, and the work that the Rances have done is to lift up stories that too often have been lost in the flow of time. Because we believe that everybody's stories matter," he said.

Star-studded voting rights celebration encourages 10m more registered Black voters

Intending to register 10 million more Black voters before the mid-term elections, Arnwine, Chavis, and others urged the crowd in D.C. and those watching via a livestream to join the crusade.

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent
@StacyBrownMedia

The Transformative Justice Coalition (TJC) and the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) joined the Rainbow Push Coalition and others at a star-studded celebration of the 57th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

The all-star program presented what organizers called a tremendous opportunity to educate the public regarding the significance of the Voting Rights Act and the dangerous threats from the Supreme Court.

Held at the Thurgood Marshall Center Trust in Washington D.C.'s historic Shaw District, the event also highlighted the "anti-democracy forces" that continue to threaten voting rights around the

country.

Participants included the Rev. Jesse Jackson, TJC President Dr. Barbara Arnwine and Board Chair Daryl Jones, National Urban League President Marc Morial, NNPA President, and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., Congresswoman Maxine Waters (D-Calif.), Sen. Cory Booker (D-N.J.), Dr. William Barber II, and Black Voters Matter Fund co-founder Latosha Brown.

"We've got to make sure our Generation Z and Millennials don't, as Malcolm X said, fall for the okey-dokey," Dr. Chavis exclaimed to the large gathering outside the Thurgood Marshall Trust Building.

"That they don't fall for misinformation. Our history shows that if we continue fighting for freedom, we will win freedom," Dr. Chavis said.

"If we continue to fight for voting rights, we will win voting rights."

Morial called out the evils of misinformation and voter suppression.

"There's an effort to suppress and dilute our votes, but we can-

not be thwarted, frustrated, or deterred," Morial asserted.

"Only determination and perseverance will help us ensure ... because a lot is on the line. The violent insurrection threatened to bring this nation to its knees on January 6. But unfortunately, there are some in this country who don't believe in representative democracy. So don't believe in the universality of the right to vote."

Intending to register 10 million more Black voters before the mid-term elections, Arnwine, Dr. Chavis, and others urged the crowd in D.C. and those watching via a livestream to join the crusade.

"We struggle, and we sacrifice not for ourselves," Dr. Chavis asserted. "We struggle and sacrifice and go to the frontlines, and the best feeling in the world is to go to sleep at night and wake up in the morning knowing that you've done something for your freedom, for your right to vote."

"Our sleeves are rolled up. We will have voter cades and do everything we can to ensure that 10 million more Black people are registered to vote."

Veteran actor Roger E. Mosley dies at 83

Philadelphiaobserver.com

Roger E. Mosley, who starred as Theodore "T.C." Calvin in the classic CBS television series *Magnum P.I.*, died early Sunday morning. Mosley was a Los Angeles native who lived in the Watts neighborhood. He also went to Jordan High School.

Mosley's death was a result of being injured in a car crash last week that left him in critical condition and paralyzed from the shoulders down. His daughter, Ch-a Mosley, shared this post on Friday via Facebook:

"Last week my dad, Roger E. Mosley was involved in a major car accident that has left him paralyzed from the shoulders down. He is in a critical condition but fighting hard. Every effort is being



Photo: Leon Bennett (Getty Images)

made to care for him during this time. And he is constantly accompanied by family and friends. This is a VERY hard time for us as we all know Roger to be a lion, the king of everywhere he brought himself.

He is a legend, a trailblazer, a roll model, a friend to his communities. He is my "Mr. Man." Please send him your love."

Mosley is survived by three children. The actor appeared on the original *Magnum P.I.* for all eight years of the series and was in 158 episodes. He then reappeared on the *Magnum P.I.* reboot which also aired on CBS but as a different character.

Some of Mosley's most notable television roles include stints on: *Kojak*, *Love Boat*, *Sanford and Son*, *Night Gallery*, *Kung Fu*, *Starsky and Hutch*, *McCloud*, *The Rockford Files*, *Hangin' With Mr. Cooper*, *Walker, Texas Ranger*, *The Life and Times of Grizzly Adams*, *You Take the Kids*, *Night Court*, *Rude Awakening*, *Fact Checkers Unit* and *Las Vegas*.

Judge Mathis says Black men lacked in BLM marches, instead "sat back and killed each other"

Philadelphiaobserver.com

Famed TV Judge Greg Mathis, also real-life former judge of Michigan's 36th District Court, made a bold claim recently against many Black men in America who he feels were lacking on the frontlines of Black Lives Matter protests while instead killing each other at alarming rates.

A post shared by Judge Greg Mathis (@judgegregmathis)

During his acceptance speech while being honored at the EMG

Foundation in his hometown of Detroit last week, Mathis used his time on the mic to make a strong assertion, stating, "The majority of the Black Lives Matter Marches were Black women and white kids while our Black men sat back and killed each other." He went on to elaborate by adding, "Falling into this trap that they have set for us by failing us in our education systems, bringing in guns and sending out the jobs. And you chumps are going for it like a bunch of suckers — and you're supposed

to be cool? You're supposed to be the man? Nah, you ain't no man! You're a punk until you stand up and fight for your women."

The passion in his delivery would make a stranger confuse him for a pastor, and his conviction definitely had a spiritual resonance given his plea for us to do better as a race and gender entirely.

Mathis isn't entirely surprising in his strong delivery, especially those who watch him deliver verdicts with zero filter regularly



on his Emmy-winning courtroom series *Judge Mathis*. The nationally-syndicated show has been on air since 1999, entering its record-breaking 23rd season earlier this year. His E! docu-series, *Mathis*

Family Matters, also shows off his loving family, including a handful of powerful Black women that we're certain drive his passion to protect melanated sisters everywhere.

YOU DON'T NEED TO BE FAMOUS TO BE UNFORGETTABLE.

MAKE MORE. TEACH.

Make classrooms exciting and your lessons unforgettable. Become a teacher and make more. [Teach.org](https://www.teach.org)



Classified

ATTORNEY

Lung Cancer? And Age 60+? You And Your Family May Be Entitled To Significant Cash Award. No Risk. No Money Out Of Pocket. For Information Call 877-225-4813

AUCTIONS

NYS SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY PUBLIC AUCTION: 11/8/19, 335 Nashopa Road, Mamakating, NY, 3,767sf colonial, 3.26acs, 5BR, 3.5baths, fin-bsmt, MINBID \$249,000; Open House: 11:00am-1:00pm, 10/15,10/23,11/1; ogs.ny.gov/NYSStore 518-474-2195

AUTO DONATIONS

Donate your car to Wheels For Wishes, benefiting Make-A-Wish. We offer free towing and your donation is 100% tax deductible. Call (917) 336-1254

FINANCE

Denied Social Security Disability? Appeal! If you're 50+, filed SSD and denied, our attorneys can help! Win or Pay Nothing! Strong, recent work history needed. 866-

979-0096 [Steppacher Law Offices LLC Principal Office: 224 Adams Ave Scranton PA 18503]

HEALTH

A PLACE FOR MOM has helped over a million families find senior living. Our trusted, local advisors help find solutions to your unique needs at no cost to you. Call 855-977-3677

SAVE ON YOUR NEXT PRESCRIPTION! World Health Link. Price Match Guarantee! Prescriptions Required. CIPA Certified. Over 1500 medications available. CALL Today For A Free Price Quote. 1-866-569-7986 Call Now!

VIAGRA & CIALIS! 60 pills for \$99. 100 pills for \$150. FREE shipping. Money back guaranteed! 1-855-579-8907

HOME IMPROVEMENT

BATHROOM RENOVATIONS. EASY, ONE DAY updates! We specialize in safe bathing. Grab bars, no slip flooring & seated showers. Call for a free in-home consultation: 888-657-9488.

MISCELLANEOUS

COMPUTER ISSUES? FREE DIAGNOSIS by GEEKS ON SITE! Virus Removal, Data Recovery! 24/7 EMERGENCY SERVICE, In-home repair/On-line solutions . \$20 OFF ANY SERVICE! 844-892-3990

TV INTERNET PHONE

DISH TV \$59.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. 1-888-609-9405

Get DIRECTV! ONLY \$35/month! 155 Channels & 1000s of Shows/Movies On Demand (w/ SELECT All Included Package.) PLUS Stream on Up to FIVE Screens Simultaneously at No Additional Cost. Call DIRECTV 1-888-534-6918

Spectrum Triple Play! TV, Internet & Voice for \$99.97/mo. Fastest Internet. 100 MB per second speed. Free Primetime on Demand. Unlimited Voice. NO CONTRACTS. Call 1-855-977-7198 or visit <http://tripleplaytoday.com/press>



Discover the world's best walk-in bathtub from *American Standard*

5 Reasons American Standard Walk-in Tubs are Your Best Choice

- 1 Backed by American Standard's 140 years of experience
- 2 Ultra low entry for easy entering and exiting
- 3 Patented Quick Drain® fast water removal system
- 4 Lifetime Warranty on the bath AND installation, INCLUDING labor backed by American Standard
- 5 44 Hydrotherapy jets for an invigorating massage

\$1,500 SAVINGS

Includes FREE American Standard Right Height Toilet Limited Time Offer! Call Today!

888-609-0248

Receive a free American Standard Cadet toilet with full installation of a Liberation Walk-In Bath, Liberation Shower, or Deluxe Shower. Offer valid only while supplies last. Limit one per household. Must be first time purchaser. See www.walkintubs.americanstandard-us.com for other restrictions and for licensing, warranty, and company information. © 2022 American Standard, a Division of American Standard, LLC. Safety Tubs Co. LLC does not sell in Nassau NY, Westchester NY, Putnam NY, Rockland NY.



Donate A Boat or Car Today!

Boat Angel

"2-Night Free Vacation!"

800-700-BOAT (2628)

www.boatangel.com

sponsored by boat angel outreach centers STOP CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN



Saving a Life EVERY 11 MINUTES

I'm never alone

Life Alert® is always here for me even when away from home.

One touch of a button sends help fast, 24/7.

Help at Home

Life Alert®

Help On-the-Go

FREE! FIRST AID KIT WHEN YOU ORDER!

Batteries Never Need Charging.

For a FREE brochure call:

1-800-404-9776



DENTAL Insurance

Physicians Mutual Insurance Company

A less expensive way to help get the dental care you deserve!

CALL NOW! 1-855-225-1434

Get help paying dental bills and keep more money in your pocket

This is real dental insurance – NOT just a discount plan

You can get coverage before your next checkup

Don't wait! Call now and we'll rush you a FREE Information Kit with all the details.

FREE Information Kit

Here's the information you requested on Dental Insurance

Your Name Here

1-855-225-1434

Visit us online at www.dental50plus.com/nypress

Insurance Policy P15ONY 6129 MB17-NM003Ec



UNCF
A mind is a terrible thing to waste®

IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO INVEST IN A GOOD THING.

Introducing Better Futures™—a whole new kind of investment with a greater return than money. When you invest, it helps kids go to college. Because a mind is a terrible thing to waste but a wonderful thing to invest in.™ Invest in Better Futures at UNCF.ORG/INVEST

Subscribe Philadelphia Observer

405 Lexington Avenue, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10174.

philadelphiaobserver.com

Giles Croft's poignantly directed 'The Kite Runner' is a tour de force



By Audrey J. Bernard

After two years on the New York Times Best Seller List and a huge hit for two seasons on London's West End, "The Kite Runner" officially opened Thursday, July 21, 2022 at Broadway's Hayes Theater (240 West 44th Street, NYC). Hailed as one of the best-loved and most highly acclaimed novels of our time, "The Kite Runner" is based on **Khaled Hosseini's** internationally best-selling novel about heart and home and is adapted by Matthew Spangler and poignantly directed by Giles Croft. The play began performances Wednesday, July 6 and opened Thursday, July 21, for a limited engagement through Sunday, October 30, 2022. "The Kite Runner" is steeped in cultural incongruities and the performances will grip your soul with its reality check on cultural nuances and race relations. "The Kite Runner" is a manifestation of Broadway excellence. Riveting!

"The Kite Runner" is a haunting tale of friendship spanning cultures and continents, which follows one man's journey to confront his past and find redemption. Afghanistan is a divided country on the verge of war and two childhood friends are about to be torn apart. It's a beautiful afternoon in Kabul and the skies are full of the excitement and joy of a kite flying tournament. But neither of the boys can foresee the terrible incident which will shatter their lives forever.

SYNOPSIS: Directed by Giles Croft and adapted by Matthew Spangler, "The Kite Runner" is a play that begins with two childhood friends in Afghanistan: Amir, a Pashtun Afghan, and Hassan, a Hazara Afghan. Despite their different races, the two boys grow close through their shared love of kite-flying, and they find comfort and brotherhood in each other as their country teeters on the brink of conflict around them. They are happy, though, to have one worry-free day competing in a kite-flying tournament. However, a horrific event occurs that day and

tears apart their friendship. Years later, an adult Amir has moved out of Afghanistan, which has since erupted into full-on war, to the U.S. He and Hassan have not talked in years. But he learns of an opportunity to make amends, which requires him to make a dangerous trip back to his homeland. The rest is riveting.

CAST: Leading the incredible cast is Amir Arison as Amir and Faran Tahir as Baba. They are joined by Mazin Akar, Barzin Akhavan, Demosthenes Chrysan, Azita Ghanizada, Danish Farooqui, Joe Joseph, Déa Julien, Dariush Kashani, Beejan Land, Amir Malaklou, Christine Mirzayan, Haris Pervaiz, Alex Purcell, Eric Sirakian, Houshang Touzie, and Evan Zes. Adding to the authenticity of the performances is gifted percussionist Salar Nader who plays the tabla, a percussion instrument.

CREATIVES: The creative team is Barney George (Scenic and Costume Design), Charles Balfour (Lighting Design), Drew Baumohl (Sound Design), William Simpson (Projection Design), Jonathan Girling (Composer and Musical Supervisor), Kitty Winter (Movement Director), Laura Stanczyk (Casting Director), Humaira Ghilzai (Cultural Advisor & Script Consultant) and Damian Sandys (Associate Director).

CREW: "The Kite Runner" is produced by Victoria Lang, Ryan Bogner and Tracey McFarland of Broadway & Beyond Theatricals, Jayne Baron Sherman, and in association with UK Productions Ltd. and Flying Entertainment Ltd./Kilimanjaro Group Ltd. Daryl Roth is the Executive Producer. The play was originally produced by Nottingham Playhouse and Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse. (Production photos by Joan Marcus) (Opening Night on-stage and After Party photos by Daniel Rader/Playbill)



Company of *The Kite Runner* at Opening Night curtain bow



Amir Arison & the cast of *The Kite Runner*



Percussionist Salar Nader



Amir Arison, Azita Ghanizada & cast



Beejan Land, Amir Arison, Evan Zes



Dariush Kashani, Amir Arison



Director, Giles Croft & cast of *The Kite Runner* at Opening Night curtain bow



Evan Zes, Eric Sirakian, Amir Arison



The Kite Runner cast celebrate at Opening Night party at Sardi's



Faran Tahir, Dariush Kashani

Ahhhhhhh. That “be your own boss” feeling. Join the Cricket Authorized Retailer Network!



Why Join?

Location, Location, Location:

- We have 4,800+ stores.
- 98% of them are independently owned and operated by Authorized Retailers.

Development and Expansion:

- Cricket Wireless is one of the fastest-growing prepaid wireless companies.
- We now have over 9 million subscribers, which is double our subscriber base from 2014.

Cricket is looking for exclusive authorized retailers across the nation who want to be part of an extraordinary team. With nationwide coverage, unlimited talk & text, various data options, an exceptional lineup of smartphones, and no annual contract, we pride ourselves on providing a simple, delightful customer experience—and you can, too.

If you think you have the drive to be part of our amazing Cricket Authorized Retailer Team, contact us today!

Take the next step by contacting us at:
becomeacricketdealer@cricketwireless.com

Smile, You're on

cricket
wireless