

Las Vegas

# Black Image

APRIL 2026

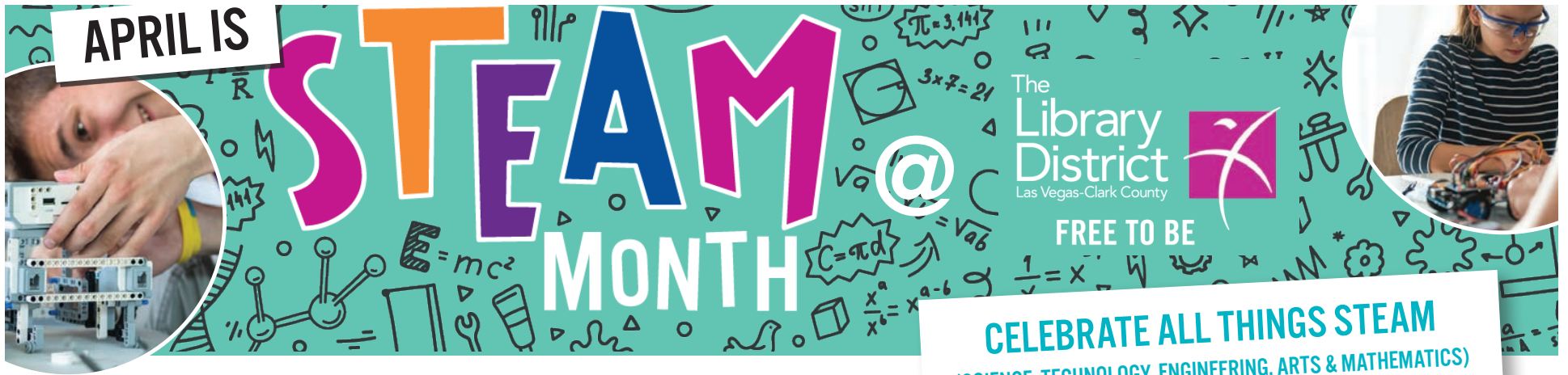
FREE

## Go Villa Tactics

Halle Bailey and Regé-Jean Page land in 'Tuscany'

Inside |

Raising VOICES for Black women • What's your personal headline?  
Awakening our conscious minds



## STEAM EVENTS HAPPENING ALL MONTH LONG:

### INVENTORS IN THE LIBRARY

Our K–5 STEAM class sparks curiosity through hands–on building and engineering projects to inspire young minds.

#### Wednesdays

1 p.m. – 2 p.m. & 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

West Las Vegas Library

AGE GROUP: KIDS

### TECH TIME

Develop a love for and familiarity with technology by exploring our robotics and screen–free tech in a free–play learning environment.

#### Wednesday, April 1

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Summerlin Library

AGE GROUP: KIDS

### STEAM'N THROUGH THE SEASONS

Learn fundamental STEM and art concepts through integrated activities that focus on a seasonal topic.

#### Wednesdays (April 1, April 15 & April 22)

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Windmill Library

AGE GROUP: KIDS

### MUSIC PRODUCTION 101 FOR TEENS

Join this hands–on workshop teaching music production! All levels are welcome.

#### Tuesdays (April 7, April 14, April 21 & April 28)

3 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Clark County Library

AGE GROUP: TEENS

## THELIBRARYDISTRICT.ORG/STEAM

**FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.** Space may be limited and seating is on a first–come, first–served basis. For even more STEAM Month events, please visit [TheLibraryDistrict.org/Events](https://TheLibraryDistrict.org/Events) or scan the QR code. All Library District STEAM events are free, but because space is limited, tickets may be required. Please arrive at each library branch's Youth Services Desk 30 minutes prior to the event to obtain tickets.

### STEAM WEDNESDAY: VOLCANOES

Blow up your very own volcano! For children ages 6 and up.

#### Wednesday, April 8

4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Clark County Library

AGE GROUP: KIDS & TWEENS



### SCHOOL–AGE STEAM

Join us for a fun, science–based program!

#### Friday, April 10

4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Spring Valley Library

AGE GROUP: KIDS & TWEENS

### CODE CLUB

No coding experience needed! We will use the Fiero Code resource. Please bring your own laptop.

#### Tuesday, April 14 & April 28

5 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Spring Valley Library – Makerspace

AGE GROUP: ADULTS (17 & UP)

### DIY FLUFFY SLIME – STEAM THURSDAY

Make a fluffy cloud slime with us!

#### Thursday, April 16

4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

East Las Vegas Library

AGE GROUP: TEENS

### SPRING CREATION LAB

We'll explore balance, growth, and renewal through hands–on crafts, art stations, and spring–themed activities.

#### Wednesday, April 22

4:30 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Centennial Hills Library

AGE GROUP: KIDS

### THE SCIENCE OF PHOTOGRAPHY: A SPECIAL CAMERA MAGIC SESSION

Learn about what it takes to snap a shot in this interactive program.

#### Sunday, April 26

2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Rainbow Library

AGE GROUP: ALL

### STEAM ACTIVITIES

Build a robot, explore space, and experiment with colors! Spark your curiosity and become a scientist for the day.

#### Sunday, April 26

3 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Sunrise Library

AGE GROUP: PRESCHOOLERS, TWEENS & KIDS

### POWER UP FOR LAS VEGAS ENERGY NIGHT!

Enjoy a theater performance of "Alice and the King of Watts" and a discussion with internationally award–winning author and marine biologist, Julie Wignal. Presented by NV Energy.

#### Monday, April 27

4:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Clark County Library

AGE GROUP: PRESCHOOLERS, TWEENS, TEENS



### REACH FOR THE STARS: AN ASTRONAUT'S STORY

From a kid in the Midwest who dreamed of flying to a real–life astronaut and space shuttle commander, Scott Altman's journey is packed with excitement, science, and perseverance.

#### Tuesday, April 28

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

West Charleston Library

AGE GROUP: KIDS, TWEENS, TEENS

### LAB COATS, BIG IDEAS & COOL CAREERS: WOMEN ROCKING STEM

Enjoy an inspiring panel featuring women who turn curiosity into real–world STEM careers.

#### Wednesday, April 29

5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Windmill Library

AGE GROUP: PRESCHOOLERS, TWEENS, TEENS

### FACTS & FAKES: A CRASH COURSE IN NEWS, MEMES & MEDIA SMARTS

Learn how to grow your child's media literacy skills with useful tools for smarter scrolling and safer sharing. We'll talk about how to find reliable sources and how to fact–check viral online claims including AI–generated content.

#### Thursday, April 30

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

West Charleston Library

AGE GROUP: ALL



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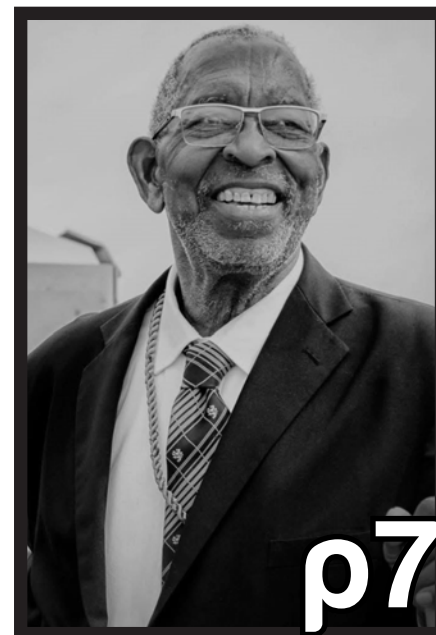
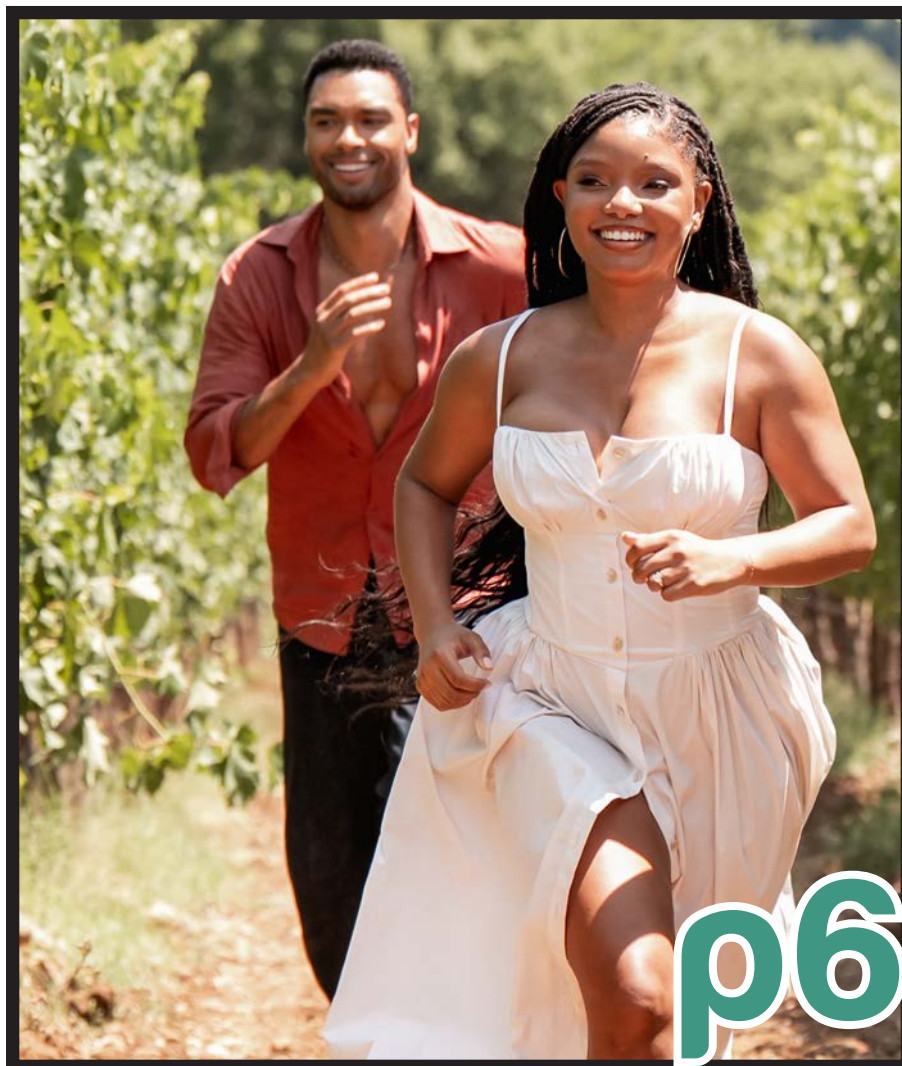
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# what's inside:



PEACE

# Awakening the Conscious Mind

By Kimberly Bailey-Tureaud



There comes a point in all of our lives when what we see begins to capture us, and what we experience begins to enlighten us. Everyday life is filled with moments — some that call for our attention and others that quietly pass us by. Yet every moment carries a story.

We move through life accepting the stories we choose to feel, those we are willing to absorb, and those we decide to ignore. Too often, we take consistent occurrences for granted, assuming they will always be there. But nothing is forever. The people, places, and things we encounter daily become labeled by our subconscious as, “I already know.”

Life is fleeting. What we choose to see and experience is either stored as treasured moments or dismissed as passing distractions. Yet even distractions leave an imprint — they carry memory. And when we sense a blockage or a negative energy approaching, our instinct is to avoid it.

Still, the awakened mind seeks something greater. It searches for positive fuel — those experiences that pour into us, grounding us and strengthening our confidence when we stand firmly on our own two feet. The Almighty places before us a landscape of lessons, each one

designed to guide us, to elevate us, and to sharpen our ability to truly see.

Within each of us lies a sacred space, quietly calling for our attention. It feels like a warm blanket, a flowing waterfall, a moment beneath a radiant purple moon. This is the place of awakening — the place where we meet ourselves fully.

To be at peace is to embrace this awakening. It is to understand that your willingness to grow, your openness to divine gifts, becomes the very doorway to salvation.

Everything you are has brought you to this moment. You hold the power to manifest your dreams through awareness — through the careful selection of what you choose to value and carry forward. Even life’s challenges, the perceived wrongs, contribute to your unique flavor — your personal roux.

So now the question becomes: What are you going to do with it?

Clear the pathways. Make room for your creativity, your movement, your rhythm. Step into a space of joyful exploration, where purpose and passion meet.

This place is yours. Wake up — and embrace all of it.

*What we choose to see and experience is either stored as treasured moments or dismissed as passing distractions.*

## Part II: Race In America, Where We At?

By Louie Overstreet



To gain greater appreciation of how my Facebook friends see the state of race in America, I asked them to respond to a question: “Which will prevail in America: Whiteness or Rightness?”

One of the five most principled friends I have, Bill Campagna, noted, “Many Americans of all races are afraid of each other because of the lack of contact or interactions. Yes, there are bad people in every group but most people in every group are good people. MAGA is the exception, they spread hate, they are mostly white supremacists who have built their reasoning on fear and ignorance through many generations ... ignorance and fear are the true enemies of civilization.”

Paul Hill Jr., a friend of 60-plus years (since our days at Ohio University), laid it out in a treatise-length post: “The United States was not organized around rightness — around justice, truth, or moral coherence. It was organized around whiteness as power ... Rightness demands truth about origins. It demands accountability where harm was done, foundational, not accidental. It demands

repair rather than apology, dignity rather than charity!”

Will Laws, who followed Paul and me at OU, said (on the run and with little need for research): “Whiteness deems business as usual or as it should be. In fact, there have always been laws or statutes built to protect whiteness.”

My friend Mabry M. Merv stated: “In my lifetime, there has never been rightness. Whiteness dominates ... Give folks a champion for change rather than bitching about ‘the dude,’ giving him all of the attention.”

A Facebook favorite, Sylvia Billups, believes there is value in the movement to “keep teaching and reaching one at a time!”

Larry Fleisher succinctly observed, “The rightness. The whiteness will never disappear as it has been active for so long. Power to the people!”

Dave Ashbrook did a lot of amen-ing to the comments!

Next month: America’s racial climate!

*MAGA is the exception, they spread hate, they are mostly white supremacists who have built their reasoning on fear and ignorance through many generations.*

# Spring is the season, love in the air

This April issue of Las Vegas Black Image is a celebration of love. With the arrival of spring, there is a renewed sense of warmth, growth, and connection in the air.

The new film “You, Me & Tuscany” beautifully exemplifies Black love, offering a powerful and uplifting image on the big screen – something we can all take pride in. We celebrate Will Packer for yet another blockbuster success that continues to elevate Hollywood storytelling.

At the heart of this issue is the belief that each of us has the power to shape our own narrative. In Community Speaks, readers embrace this idea by creating their own headlines – reflecting self-love, purpose, and inspiration in deeply meaningful ways; Under the Glittering Lights puts a spotlight on the smooth, captivating sounds of Najee, fol-

lowing his outstanding performance at the Aliante Hotel; Healthier You focuses on Black Maternal Health Week (April 11-17), as Dr. Marguerite Brathwaite sheds light on health disparities and offers valuable insights into healthier outcomes for Black women; and Peace remains a constant within Las Vegas Black Image, with our ongoing journey of awareness continuing to guide us toward new awakenings.

Elsewhere, our Living section invites you to embrace the beauty of everyday life – from savoring a delicious orange roughly recipe, to planting vibrant flowers as we transition into summer, and creating a home environment filled with inspiration through meaningful art and imagery.

We extend our sincere gratitude to our dedicated contributing writers, whose voices continue to inform, motivate, and

educate. We are equally thankful for our advertisers, whose support ensures that Las Vegas Black Image Magazine remains a vibrant and impactful platform in our community.

We proudly acknowledge our exceptional executive publishing team – our editor, graphic designer, and distributors – whose commitment to excellence brings each issue to life. And to you, our loyal readers and supporters, we offer our deepest thanks. Your continued engagement and encouragement are what keep Las Vegas Black Image Magazine rising.

Rise,  
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Charles Tureaud and Kimberly Bailey Tureaud

## Hearing VOICES

By Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman and Latoschka Nether

Las Vegas American Cancer Society Ambassadors celebrate Women’s History Month, launch groundbreaking study to support Black women.

The American Cancer Society (ACS) recently hosted a gathering of women and community leaders in Las Vegas to introduce VOICES, a collective commitment to understanding and improving the health of Black women across the nation.

Designed to better understand the multi-level drivers of cancer incidence, mortality and resilience within this demographic, the long-term study will gather valuable data from Black women between the ages of 25 and 55 from diverse backgrounds and income levels who have not been diagnosed with cancer. The organization aims to enroll more than 100,000 Black women across the U.S.

**Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman, ACS Board Member, ACS Voices of Black Women Ambassador**

As an African American woman raised by a breast cancer survivor, I know firsthand the power of resilience. My mother’s courage taught me that health equity is not just a conversation; it is a movement. Today, as I raise my own young Black daughter, I am committed to ensuring that her future includes access to lifesaving information and care.

Last year, the American Cancer Society launched the



VOICES campaign, amplifying stories from communities most impacted by cancer disparities. As a board member of ACS Nevada and now a proud VOICES Ambassador, I have seen firsthand that sharing our experiences can inspire change. When we launched Nevada’s VOICES in October 2025, it was a powerful reminder that Black women face unique challenges in cancer prevention and treatment and that our voices are essential in driving solutions.

This Women’s History Month let’s honor our strength by speaking up, advocating for equity, and ensuring that every sister knows she is not alone. Join the VOICES movement, schedule your screenings, and encourage the women you love to do the same because our health is our power and our power is our legacy.

**Latoschka Nether, Senior Grassroots Advocacy Manager, ACS Cancer Action Network**

As a VOICES Ambassador working in advocacy and policy, I have the privilege of inviting lawmakers into meaningful conversations about the disparities affecting the communities they serve. Their constituents rely on them to champion policies that improve lives, especially in healthcare and cancer care.

As a Black woman, I feel a deep responsibility to ensure my community, and others historically underrepresented, are seen and heard. Encouraging engagement is essential to building equity in a system that has long marginalized care. Change doesn’t happen instantly; it requires participation. VOICES offers a powerful pathway to begin that transformation.

To learn more, visit [voices.cancer.org](https://voices.cancer.org)

# Feeling Villa Good



Will Packer's newest film, "You, Me & Tuscany," puts Black love in the Italian countryside.

Renowned filmmaker Will Packer, whose blockbuster hits include "Girls Trip," "Ride Along," "Night School," and "Think Like a Man," is back with a romantic comedy that promises laughter, love, and a little chaos in the Italian countryside. His latest film, "You, Me & Tuscany," takes audiences on a charming journey where one little lie and a sprawling villa set the stage for unexpected romance.

The story centers on Anna, played by rising star Halle Bailey ("The Little Mermaid," "The Color Purple"). Anna is a young woman who has put her culinary dreams on hold and finds herself drifting through her twenties, navigating a series of missteps. When she suddenly loses her house-sitting job — and her place to live — she encounters Matteo, a handsome Italian with a villa in Tuscany that's sitting empty. Despite the

cautionary advice of her best friend Claire (Aziza Scott, "Home Before Dark"), Anna takes a leap of faith and heads to Italy, hoping for a quick escape and maybe a taste of adventure.

But things take a twist when Matteo's mother, Gabriella (Italian film legend Isabella Ferrari), unexpectedly arrives at the villa. In a moment of panic, Anna convinces Gabriella that she is Matteo's fiancée — a harmless white lie that quickly spirals out of control. The situation becomes even more complicated when Matteo's cousin, Michael (Rege-Jean Page, "Bridgerton," "Black Bag"), enters the picture. Suddenly, Anna finds herself caught in a whirlwind of attraction, laughter, and the kind of romantic tension that could change her life forever.

The film boasts an international cast that includes

Lorenzo de Moor ("The Legend Hunters") as Matteo, Marco Calvani ("The Four Seasons") as a friendly Italian taxi driver, and Academy Award nominee Nia Vardalos ("My Big Fat Greek Wedding") as Anna's house-sitting client, Mrs. Dunn.

Directed by Kat Coiro ("Marry Me," "Matlock") from a screenplay by Ryan Engle ("Rampage," "Beast"), "You, Me & Tuscany" is produced by Packer and Johanna Byer ("Point Blank," executive producer of "Praise This") for Will Packer Productions, with Ryan and Kristin Engle serving as executive producers.

With its picturesque setting, star-studded cast, and the signature charm Packer brings to the big screen, "You, Me & Tuscany" promises a romantic escape filled with laughter, passion, and a little taste of the unexpected.

# Decade of Difference



Danisha Mingo and friends celebrate 10 years of Mingo Health Solutions

**M**ingo Health Solutions is celebrating its 10-year anniversary, and marked the moment recently by hosting its inaugural Being the Change Awards – honoring extraordinary individuals and organizations making a positive impact on mental health in the community.

The awards also served as a fundraiser for Solutions of Change – a nonprofit providing free and low-cost mental health services in the Valley, serving more than 25,000 people in the



Detective Adrian Hunt was honored with the Law Enforcement and Community Safety Award.

past five years. They serve at a time when only 1% of philanthropic dollars go to mental health, despite jarring disparities in access to services.

Among the honorees: Detective Adrian Hunt of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, bestowed with the Law Enforcement and Community Safety Award – for centering his work on people, and using a trauma-informed lens that ensures compassionate service and contributes to the community’s overall well-being.

# Under the Glittering Lights

## Najee smooths it out for a Vegas audience



**L**as Vegas recently vibed to the soulful sounds of saxophonist Najee at the Aliante Hotel and Casino. The packed room of locals swayed and cheered as Najee and his band delivered smooth jazz with infectious energy.

Each musician showcased their artistry, while Najee wowed the crowd with instrumental jazz takes on legendary R&B hits. With an impeccable sound system, audience members couldn’t resist rising

to their feet during the upbeat performances.

Najee, who has collaborated with music icons such as Prince, Quincy Jones, Chaka Khan, and George Duke, reminded the crowd that his New York City roots and its rich cultural diversity heavily influence his sound. True to his philosophy, Najee made it clear that “music should be a celebration of life and culture.”

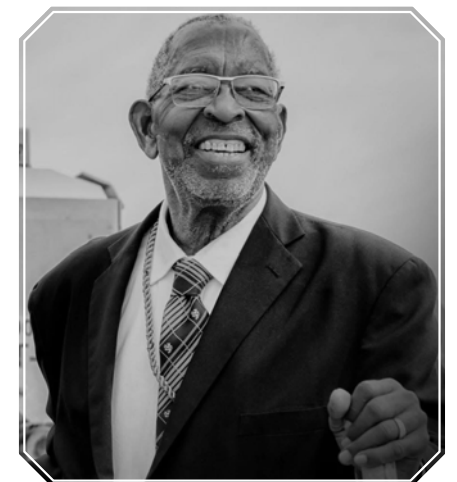
## William “Billy” O’Neil McCurdy

1950-2026

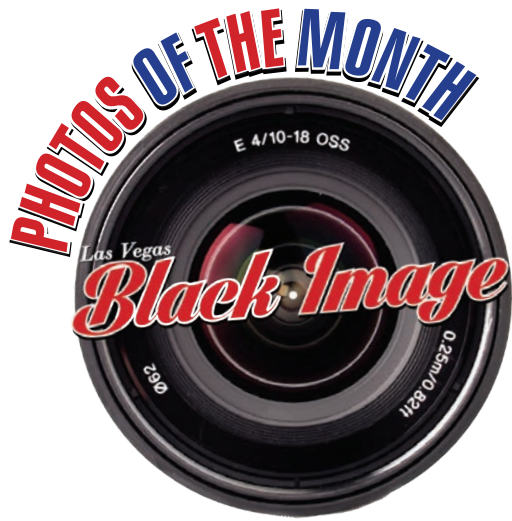
**W**illiam O’Neil “Billy” McCurdy transitioned on March 20, surrounded by his loving family and upheld by the thoughts and prayers of all who cherished him throughout the community.

A dedicated public servant, Billy faithfully served in ministry for 50 years. His pastoral journey began in Hawthorne, Nevada, and would span across the state. He served as Pastor of Progressive Community Church of God in Christ in Las Vegas until his transition.

McCurdy was a successful entrepreneur and owner of McCurdy & McCurdy Media Group. The McCurdy family remains a cornerstone in the Historic Westside and throughout the state of Nevada.



RIP William McCurdy Sr.



Anthem representatives participated in the family Health & Wellness event.



Bank of America participated in Decca Career Day at Legacy High School.



Locals attend the Henderson Irish Festival



Delta Sigma Theta Sorority hosts the Decca Career Day at Legacy High School.



Several groups participated in the Family Health & Wellness Fair



Sherri Sullivan and AKA Sorority members serving the community.



Links Incorporated member Marilyn Jordan with her organization, which hosted the Family Health and Wellness Fair



Las Vegas showed up for the Family Health & Wellness Fair

# H<sub>2</sub>O INNOVATION

SAFE  
SECURE  
RELIABLE

From the advanced operational network, to programs that collect real-time water data, to the virtual modeling system that prevents leaks and conserves our limited resources, technology keeps your water system safe, secure and reliable. Without your continued investment and ongoing conservation efforts, this wouldn't be possible.

**Your investment. Your water. Use it responsibly.**



# Here Where You Need Us

## *Opening Spring 2026*



### **Expanding to the Las Vegas Medical District**

Comprehensive proudly announces its flagship cancer treatment center at the Molasky Corporate Center in downtown Las Vegas, where our mission is to provide world-class cancer care while contributing to the district's growth as Southern Nevada's premier hub for academic medicine and clinical research. Designed to foster healing and collaboration, our new flagship facility will offer multi-disciplinary cancer care with medical oncology, diagnostic PET/CT imaging, genetic counseling and access to the practice's extensive clinical research program, with phase II and III clinical trials conducted on-site.



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# Representation restrictions on African-American history?

By Dr. Ellen W. Brown

**H**istories of people who have left their homelands — by force or by choice — share a common thread: a step into the unknown in search of something better. They carried with them truth as they knew it, along with hope — sometimes fragile, sometimes fierce — that life could improve. Whether their journeys were marked by aspiration or captivity, their stories endured. Today, we look back with gratitude for their perseverance, their courage, and their belief in the possibility of a better future.

For many of us, those stories were first introduced in classrooms. Versions of cultural and ancestral histories were passed down, shaped by curriculum, perspective, and sometimes omission.



Still, the act of telling — of remembering — has always mattered. It is how identity is preserved and how understanding is built across generations.

But what happens when history itself is softened, reshaped, or restricted?

There is a growing national conversation about the “sanitizing” of history — particularly around how African-American experiences are presented in public institutions and educational spaces. Concerns have been raised by scholars, historians, and cultural leaders that efforts are underway to limit or reframe discussions of slavery, racism, and systemic injustice in America.

Among the areas now under scrutiny are publications and exhibits addressing slavery and racial inequality, including materials connected to the Smithsonian Institution, federal agencies, and broader Black history programming. A proposed timeline for review has only intensified concern among advocates who see

this as more than policy — to them, it is a question of truth.

Dr. Karsonya Wise Whitehead, president of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), put it plainly: “This regime is actively seeking to erase the lived experiences of Black people.”

That assertion underscores a deeper issue: discomfort with history does not diminish its reality. If anything, it highlights the need to engage with it more honestly. The story of African Americans is not a sidebar to American history — it is central to it. From culture and innovation to politics and social progress, African-American contributions have profoundly shaped the nation.

And that truth exists alongside the broader reality that every culture has influenced the American experience. Exposure to different ways of living has expanded perspectives—some embraced, some still evolving in acceptance. That’s

the nature of a diverse society.

For the moments that challenge us, there is a simple, enduring lesson many of us were taught at home, in church, and within our communities: if you cannot speak positively, choose respect. Sometimes that means listening. Sometimes it means learning. And sometimes, it simply means acknowledging that every story deserves to be told truthfully.

Because history is not just about the past — it is a guidepost for the future. And when we limit its telling, we risk losing more than facts. We risk losing understanding.

**Resources:** Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH); NPR; The Daily Beast

*Sharing strengthens our collective voice. Send your ideas, questions, stories to me at [ebrown.nci@gmail.com](mailto:ebrown.nci@gmail.com).*

## KNIGHT MOVES

# April showers us with enormous missions, memories, and milestones

By Craig Knight

**W**ow, it’s April already! Springtime brings tax season, the start of the second quarter, April showers (hopefully we get some), allergy season (ah-choo<sup>6</sup> God bless you), and, of course, the NCAA Men’s and Women’s Final Four and Championships. Exciting times!

April Fools’ Day, celebrated April 1, has an interesting history. It dates back to 1582, when France switched from the Julian calendar to the Grego-



rian calendar. New Year’s Day moved from the blooming spring of April 1 to chilly January 1. But in the 16th century, news didn’t travel fast like today’s social media. Many people were slow to get the memo — or were just too stubborn to change their party plans. Those who continued celebrating New Year in the spring became the “April Fools,” and the tradition of pranks and ridicule was born. Fascinating, right?

April 1st is also a day of remembrance. We honor soul legend Marvin Gaye, who passed away 42 years ago on April 1, 1984 — just one day shy of his birthday. Many of us still remember how surreal it felt to hear the news, given that it fell on a day when untruths are

told for fun.

On April 4, we commemorate the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968. Back then, it was customary to drive during the day with headlights on in observance of Dr. King’s legacy.

April 8 marks another milestone: the 52nd anniversary of Major League Baseball legend Hank Aaron breaking Babe Ruth’s record of 714 home runs in a season. This moment transcended sports. Despite facing death threats and extreme racism, Aaron didn’t back down. He tied the record and then smashed it with his 715th home run, inspiring generations to pursue greatness against all odds. Sadly, a lot of the bigotry, stupidity, and tomfoolery are still with us today.

April is also a month to raise awareness. Among the many causes observed, five stand out for their visibility: Autism Acceptance Month, Stress Awareness Month, Earth Month, Alcohol Awareness Month, and Arab American Heritage Month.

Each reminds us to educate ourselves and share knowledge in our communities.

So, let’s embrace April — its history, its milestones, and its opportunities to grow, learn, and celebrate.

Until the next edition of Knight Moves, continue to educate yourself — and share knowledge with others. God bless!



# What would be the headline written for your life right now?



**Black Butterfly Johnson**  
Changed! Well overdue



**April Washington**  
Helping Others. Saving Lives



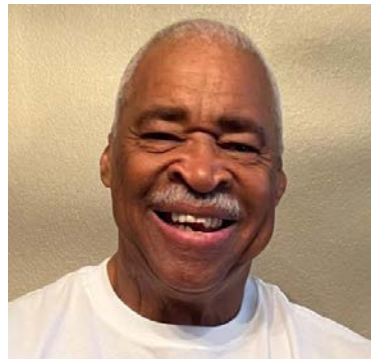
**Andrew Thomas**  
Positive, Entertaining, A Gentleman and a Scholar. That's WassUp!



**Sheneka Gunn**  
Collective Collaboration is essential for our community. Ensure that you spend your money with each other



**Kashia Sherrie Collins**  
Justice for Isis Ogunti!



**Rickey Mickey Ormond**  
30 Years of Resurrection—And Counting



**Kathy Lattimore**  
Discerning, Learning and Yearning to Become Better Every Day



**Carole Frye**  
Real Estate Professional and Care Provider, Bridging Homes and Compassionate Services



**Michelle Maria**  
Faith over Fear!



**Myrtle Coleman**  
Encouraging myself and others



**Greg Coakley**  
Train Your Body NOW for the life that you want when you're 80+. DON'T WAIT!



**Jackee Cahee**  
"Never Give UP!"

# Nevada Invested in Me. Now I'm Running to Invest in Nevada

Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman

During my senior year at Cimarron Memorial High School, I was awarded Nevada's Millennium Scholarship. It opened the door for me to attend UNR without paying tuition, and it changed the trajectory of my life. Nevada invested in me – my education, my potential, my future.



hood had access to a great education. And for the past six years, I helped families plan, save, and pay for higher education, as Nevada's Deputy State Treasurer overseeing the College Savings Division and yes, the very Millennium Scholarship that gave me my start.

That support shaped who I became. So when I graduated, the choice felt natural: I stayed. I built my life here. And I committed to giving back to the state that believed in me first.

I worked at nonprofits, at the Clark County School District, and in the State Treasurer's office, all with one goal: to give back to the state that had given so much to me.

Now, I'm running for State Treasurer to pay it forward once again and serve all Nevadans.

I grew up in Las Vegas as the daughter of two educators who showed me, every single day, what service truly looks like. My father served his country in the military before dedicating his career to the students of Clark County. My mother poured so much of herself into her classroom and her community that the state eventually named an elementary school in her honor. They didn't just teach lessons – they lived their values. They taught me that if something isn't good enough for your own family, it isn't good enough for anyone's. That standard has guided every step of my work. You give everything you have to the people who have given you everything.

I recruited 2,600 teachers every year to the Clark County School District, the nation's fifth-largest school district, making sure that children in every neighbor-

hood had access to a great education. And for the past six years, I helped families plan, save, and pay for higher education, as Nevada's Deputy State Treasurer overseeing the College Savings Division and yes, the very Millennium Scholarship that gave me my start.

This full-circle moment highlights something important about the race: I'm the only candidate in the race with direct experience in the State Treasurer's office, and on day one, I will be ready to serve you.

As your State Treasurer, I will protect and preserve Nevada's taxpayer dollars. I will implement transparent, clear reporting so no family ever has to wonder where their money is going. I will fight to ensure the Millennium Scholarship exists for the next 25 years, so the next generation of Nevada students receives the same promise I did. And I will expand access to the American

Dream through financial literacy programs, affordable housing initiatives, and support for minority-owned small businesses.

If elected, I would make history as the first Black Treasurer in Nevada history, the second Black person elected to statewide office in Nevada, and the first Black woman elected to statewide office in our state. I don't take that lightly. I want our children – children like my daughter, Hunter Grace, to look up and see themselves in leadership.

Nevada gave me everything. I'm running to give it back. I'm asking for your vote in the Democratic Primary on June 9.

To learn more, visit [votetyafornevada.com](http://votetyafornevada.com)

## Mayweather event packs a punch



Legendary boxer Floyd Mayweather, attended a special event at global luxury fashion Brand MCM, located inside the Forum Shops at Caesars Palace. Guests were given the opportunity to meet Mayweather, take photographs with the champion pugilist, and get his autograph.

Photo by Arnie Bazemore



### Bid Opportunities and Requests for Proposals

The Las Vegas-Clark County Library District buys millions of dollars worth of goods and services from local vendors each year.

Visit [www.thelibrarydistrict.org/about/](http://www.thelibrarydistrict.org/about/) for bid opportunities and requests for proposals. For general information on purchasing and contracts, call 702-507-6200.

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Las Vegas Black Image

# LIVING

**Las Vegas Black Image presents *LIVING*, a section dedicated to celebrating the most creative ways to enjoy one's life through food, home, and the great outdoors.**

***"A House is a Home"*** Home decor that brings light, love, and peace to your household, complements your lifestyle, and sparks a "living out loud" existence.

***"Planting Your Seeds"*** is a space for rejoicing through gardening, relaxation, or grounding oneself in nature.

***"Food for The Soul"*** The most flavorful home-cooked recipes, with meals that will fill your loved ones' bellies, put smiles on their faces, and bring joy to their hearts.

## **A HOUSE IS A HOME**

### **Inspiring images, words transform spaces**

It is often said, "A picture is worth a thousand words," and nowhere is that more meaningful than within your home. The images and words you choose to display can uplift, inspire, and ground you. Thoughtfully selected artwork — filled with warm colors or meaningful phrases — adds intention to every space.

Your home is your sanctuary. It should feel like a cool ocean breeze or the gentle scent of fresh flowers — comforting and restorative. Framed words or expressive paintings can serve as daily reminders of peace, belonging, and identity.

When you walk through your door and see those affirmations, one message should resonate clearly: *you are home*.



## PLANTING YOUR SEEDS

# Roses bring the heat for summer gardens

**G**ardening in the Las Vegas summer can be a challenge, but not all beauty wilts in the heat. Roses, in particular, thrive in warmer climates and offer a vibrant, welcoming touch to any home.

Planting bright, colorful roses enhances curb appeal while creating an inviting atmosphere. For an added sensory experience, consider fragrant varieties. Their scent can greet you at the door, wrapping your home in a natural, calming embrace.

Sometimes, the simplest additions — like a blooming rose — can transform your space into something unforgettable.



## FOOD FOR THE SOUL

# Orange Roughy: The Perfect Summer Fish

**W**arm weather calls for light, fresh meals, and orange roughy is an ideal choice. This mild, flaky white fish is quick to prepare and pairs beautifully with vegetables, rice, quinoa, or a crisp salad.

### INGREDIENTS

Orange roughy fillets, olive oil, Cajun seasoning (cayenne pepper, garlic powder, onion powder, pink Himalayan salt, black pepper, smoked paprika, parsley, rosemary, thyme, Old Bay seasoning), and one fresh lemon.

### DIRECTIONS

- Season the fish on all sides with the spice mixture. Squeeze fresh lemon juice over the fillets and lightly drizzle with olive oil.

- Heat olive oil in a skillet over medium heat. Cook the fish for about 3 minutes on each side, until tender and flaky.

- Serve with a slice of lemon and your choice of rice, quinoa, and vegetables.



# HEART OF THE COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY



Spring is here, and it is time to celebrate community, connection, and healthy living.

Featuring a live DJ, health screenings, heart-healthy food, yoga, sound healing, free haircuts, gardening 101, kids' activities, and much more!

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# How to save more mothers' lives

By Dr. Marguerite Brathwaite OB-GYN

Each year in the United States, hundreds of women die from pregnancy-related causes, and thousands more experience serious and often unexpected complications during pregnancy, labor, and delivery.



These outcomes can carry significant short- and long-term health consequences for mothers and families alike.

What makes this reality even more concerning is that more than 80% of pregnancy-related deaths in the U.S. are considered preventable. Every loss is not only tragic — it is, in many cases, avoidable.

Significant disparities persist in maternal health outcomes. Black women are

approximately three times more likely to die from pregnancy-related causes than white women. These inequities are driven by a combination of factors, including differences in access to quality healthcare, higher rates of underlying chronic conditions, and the impact of social and economic determinants of health.

While systemic change is essential, there are important steps that pregnant women and their families can take to help reduce risk:

- Speak up about concerns. If something does not feel right, it is critical to communicate openly with a healthcare provider.

- Recognize urgent warning signs. Seek immediate medical attention for symptoms such as severe headache, swelling of the hands or face, difficulty breathing, heavy vaginal bleeding or un-

usual discharge, or extreme fatigue.

- Share pregnancy history. Inform all healthcare providers of a recent pregnancy for up to one year after delivery, as complications can arise well into the postpartum period.

- Build a support network. Engage with healthcare providers and community or social support systems before, during, and after pregnancy.

Addressing maternal health requires a broader, collective effort as well. States, healthcare systems, and communities all play a critical role by:

- Ensuring access to risk-appropriate, high-quality maternity care

- Supporting thorough reviews of pregnancy-related deaths to identify prevention opportunities

- Addressing social determinants of health, including housing instability,

limited transportation, food insecurity, substance use, domestic violence, and economic inequality

Improving maternal outcomes demands both awareness and action. By empowering individuals and strengthening systems of care, we can move closer to a future where every pregnancy is safer — and every mother has the opportunity to thrive.

*Women's Innovative Care is dedicated to supporting healthy pregnancies and identifying potential complications as early as possible. Through compassionate care and advanced screening services, the team works closely with mothers-to-be to ensure the best possible outcomes. If you have questions or concerns about your pregnancy, consider scheduling an appointment by calling (702) 413-7740 or visiting 851 South Rampart Blvd., Suite 160, Las Vegas, NV.*

## Celebrating CORE Service

Marking a milestone in the work of expanding opportunity for students and families across Southern Nevada.

CORE, powered by The Rogers Foundation, is marking its 10th anniversary in 2026 with renewed momentum and a decade of measurable results supporting historically underserved students and their families.

Following a year marked by academic achievement, expanded career pathways, strengthened family support, and major community partnerships, CORE is poised to deepen its impact across Southern Nevada in the year ahead.

In 2025, CORE served 141 students across four school communities, providing 936 student contact hours and ensuring that 100% of participating scholars were promoted to the next grade level



CORE Executive Director Jeff "Jazz" Jones

el — a milestone reflecting the organization's holistic, two-generation approach to academic and family stability. Today, its Career Pathways and Workforce Readiness platform continues to expand.

"Ten years ago, CORE began with a belief that education, when wrapped in equity,

dignity, and community, can change the entire course of a life," executive director Jeff Jones wrote in the organization's 2025 Impact Report. "The next decade calls us to go further — to deepen career pipelines, strengthen family systems, and expand the supports that create choice-filled lives for students and families."

## Time: Block Of The 'Heart'

Southern Nevada Health District brings Heart of the Community Block Party to the Las Vegas community.

The Southern Nevada Health District invites the entire community to the Heart of the Community Block Party — a dynamic, health-focused celebration designed to inspire wellness, connection, and care. Join on Saturday, April 11 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Obodo Collective for an afternoon filled with fun, learning, and heart-healthy living.

Attendees can receive free health screenings, connect with trusted community organizations offering valuable health and wellness resources, and enjoy a heart-healthy food demonstration by Chef Stacey of Simply Pure — showcasing delicious ways to support your wellness journey. Guests can also recharge

and refresh with yoga, sound healing, and a Gardening 101 workshop, all designed to foster wellbeing for all ages.

The event is perfect for the entire family, featuring engaging children's activities, live music, giveaways, and opportunities to connect with neighbors and community partners. More than just an event, the Heart of the Community Block Party reflects a shared commitment to health, education, and empowerment. Together, we can strengthen our community and inspire lasting, positive lifestyle changes.

For more information, visit [gethealthy-clarkcounty.org/block-party](http://gethealthy-clarkcounty.org/block-party)

# On Vegas stages: legendary performers, music to our ears

By Claytee D. White

**W**e all know June is officially Black Music Month, but maybe it should be April<sup>6</sup> or better yet, every month. I propose April, because it marks the birthdays of two legends whose influence on music is timeless: Ella Fitzgerald and Duke Ellington. Both were world-renowned, both possessed otherworldly talent, and both graced Las Vegas stages.

Ella Fitzgerald was born in Newport News, Virginia, in April 1917 – a city known for its massive shipyards. (Inter-



estingly, three of my brothers migrated there from Ahoskie, North Carolina, along with many other young men. While some stayed to raise families, most made the 71-mile commute daily.) Ella's early life was fraught with challenges, yet her career soared. A singer, composer, songwriter, and occasional bandleader, she won 14 Grammys, the National Medal of Arts, the NAACP Inaugural President's Award, and a Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Her signature scatting delighted audiences at the Flamingo, Caesars Palace, the Sahara, and the New Frontier. Ironically, one of her most acclaimed works was "Ella Fitzgerald Sings the Duke Ellington Song Book" – a 38-track collection that showcased their collaboration,

reimagining his classical compositions in her own inimitable style.

Duke Ellington, born Edward Kennedy Ellington in Washington, D.C., in April 1899, earned his nickname for his dapper dress and elegant demeanor. By seventeen, he was a professional pianist, composer, and bandleader, performing at the famed Cotton Club in New York. Unlike many Black performers of his time, Ellington also made several films with Black and Tan, becoming one of his most popular Hollywood productions. Interestingly, a young Alice Key performed in the chorus line of Black and Tan before migrating to Las Vegas. Over his illustrious career, Ellington wrote and collaborated on more than 1,000 compositions. On De-

cember 5, 1972, he appeared in Las Vegas and recorded "Do Nothin' Till You Hear from Me" during his visit.

Ella, the First Lady of Song, graced the stage of the Flamingo in 1955. A photograph preserved in the Special Collections & Archives at UNLV's Lied Library shows her at the Moulin Rouge, likely on that same trip. The image captures Ella with Anna and Bob Bailey, several dancers, and others—an iconic snapshot of an unforgettable night.

April may not officially be Black Music Month – but in celebrating the legacies of Ella Fitzgerald and Duke Ellington, it certainly qualifies for the honor.



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