

Las Vegas

Black Image

SEPTEMBER 2026

FREE

AREA CODE WORDS

*Las Vegas legends 702 reflect
on three decades of music,
memories, and sisterhood*

Inside |

Looking at the history of opportunity on the Westside
The power of hello • Vow hear this: inside Vegas' hottest weddings

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JAMES CARTER

DESIGN

ADVERTISING

CDA MEDIA

CDALASVEGAS@GMAIL.COM

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CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

DR. ELLEN BROWN

MARGUERITE BRATHWAITE, M.D.

LOUIS OVERSTREET

CLAYTEE D. WHITE

PHOTOGRAPHER

CLARK GABRIEL MCCARRELL JR.



Publishers

CHARLES TUREAUD

KIMBERLY BAILEY-TUREAUD

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what's inside:



Desensitized on Lock!

By Kimberly Bailey-Tureaud

In a world that professes we should silence our emotions and feelings to “make it,” let’s flip the script. The robotic you, sticking to a stoic demeanor so as not to allow people to judge you, ostracize you, or abandon you, is living on a rug that can be pulled out from underneath you at any time. But this life is your individual journey.

Many are mistaken in seeing their lives as ones that must be traveled within an accepting clique or silo.

We must wake up each day in gratitude and live, feel, and move. Experiences that make us smile or make us sad must be expressed. The lessons should be shared to normalize the human experience. Yes, we must set ourselves apart from today’s technologies that many are placing on pedestals.

If you hear that song that makes you move and groove, do it! The neighboring embarrassment is not real. Just wonder, “How can you be so happy?” Free people



ple have a responsibility to show others that passion and compassion are alive. The greatest innovators and creators live out loud.

That human embrace you offer to a stranger in need is what will save this nation — He said so. Your advocacy must be treasured

like oxygen. Identifying the wrongs, questioning the establishment, celebrating what is humane, and taking individual action is the order of the day. Your steps will manifest a better tomorrow through authentic consistency.

The biggest war you will face is when you walk your mile in solitude — not looking for acceptance or approval for the life you have mapped out. Time is short, and yesterday has passed. Run in the wind and catch the lift that clears the air for your reach. The real is there; you have just been professionally silenced into going numb.

And the ancestor’s drumbeat plays. So now, you dance!

We must wake up each day in gratitude and live, feel, and move.

Healthcare Crisis And a Harrowing Case

By Louie Overstreet

America supposedly has the best care system in the world — but world rankings and harrowing stories tell another story.

U.S. News and World Report ranked America’s healthcare system 33rd in the world’s top 100, and our per patient cost of \$14,775 annually is by far the highest in the world. Taiwan’s single-payer, government-run system is number one in the world.

Here in America, we have an absolute joke running the Department of Health and Human Services. Secretary Bobby Kennedy Jr. is an anti-vaxxer, so we can expect a return of previously eradicated diseases. And adding insult to injury, he is staffing the various agencies under his purview with personnel that, to paraphrase a hit 1970s song, is little more than clowns to the left of me and jokers to the right.

And America’s healthcare system is stuck right in the middle.

Not only are things bad at the top, but it is also the case at the patient care-delivery level. A family friend, Effie, said it was okay to use her name. Effie’s three-day hospital stay reads like an episode from “The Twilight Zone.”



Effie and Tee (my dear friend who passed a while back), worked hard to obtain a comfortable lifestyle for themselves. In retirement, they carried with them Tee’s outstanding healthcare benefits — so you can imagine Effie’s chagrin over her recent hospital stay. She was placed in a semi-private

room — where she had to live out of her suitcase, share a bathroom, and receive hard to understand instructions from a medical team whose accents made it hard for her to grasp what was happening.

Her blood pressure was elevated when she was discharged. Her prescriptions were sent to the wrong drugstore, and they refused to give her diagnostic results — telling her she would have to download papers from her computer, which assumes an octogenarian would be proficient enough on a computer to retrieve medical records.

Effie might as well use my twigs and berries herbal-healer, given the state of the healthcare crisis that exists in America run by a court jester, clowns, and jokers.

Foundation Launches Mental Health Academy

New initiative brings community leaders together to expand mental health awareness and support throughout Southern Nevada

The Avery Burton Foundation is expanding its commitment to mental health awareness with the launch of its Mental Health Champion Academy, a new initiative designed to equip community members with the knowledge and skills to recognize, respond to and connect others with mental health support.

The Academy was officially introduced during the Foundation’s “Building a Com-

munity of Mental Health Champions” Scholarship Luncheon and Community Conversation, held at the West Las Vegas Library. The gathering brought together students, educators, healthcare professionals, community leaders and nonprofit partners for an afternoon focused on mental health, community engagement and the importance of investing in the next generation.

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Dr. Beverly Mathis and Latoya Holman of the Public Education Foundation with Reggie Burton, founder of the Avery Burton Foundation, and student scholarship recipients.

Celebrate Good Times

This issue is all about celebration!

We are celebrating 702, love, community, giving back, and 100 years of history and legacy. This month's issue is filled with stories that reflect the people, organizations, businesses, and cultural moments that make our community special.

First, we celebrate 702! The popular '90s all-girl R&B group 702 is returning to Las Vegas this October to celebrate 30 years since the release of their hit debut album, "No Doubt." These Las Vegas girls made their mark on the music industry, and we had the opportunity to sit down with group members LeMisha Fields and Kameelah Williams for an exclusive interview about their journey, their music, and where they are headed next. We are excited to welcome them

home!

We also celebrate the recipients of the Las Vegas Urban Chamber of Commerce's Green Tie Awards, along with the community leaders who came together under the glittering lights to recognize achievement, leadership, and service. Our Under the Glittering Lights section captures some of those memorable moments.

As always, our Living section brings you cultural inspiration for your home, along with food and ideas for your natural surroundings that nourish the soul. We believe our homes should reflect who we are, where we come from, and what brings us joy.

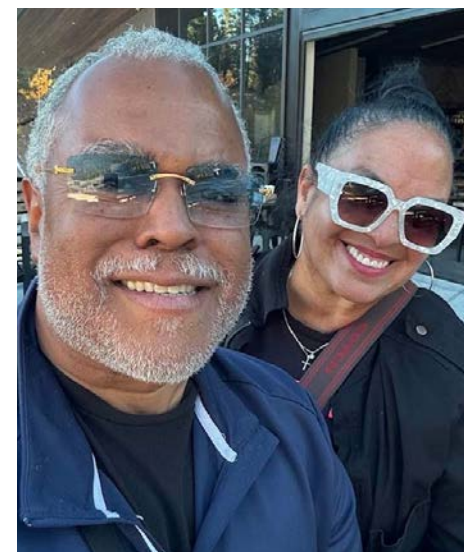
This issue also features a special announcement of the 10th Annual Las Vegas Caravan for Mammogram Grand

Marshals. We are looking forward to seeing you on Saturday, October 3 for this free community event at the new West Las Vegas Library. Ten years of bringing awareness to breast health and encouraging women to take charge of their health is certainly something worth celebrating.

We are also pleased to highlight the United Way REACH Expo, where our local utility companies demonstrated what community partnership looks like by providing financial assistance to seniors struggling with their utility bills. Giving back matters, and we are proud to recognize those efforts.

As we celebrate, we want to extend our sincere appreciation to Las Vegas Black Image Magazine's contributing writers, advertisers, and executive publishing team. Your commitment, creativity, support, and dedication to excellence help make each issue possible.

And as we celebrate, we celebrate YOU — our loyal readers. Thank you for continuing to read, support, share, and



believe in the importance of telling our stories and celebrating our community.

Rise,

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'We sing and play the songs our fans want to hear'

Las Vegas is historically known as a destination for some of the world's greatest entertainers, but only a select few artists who called the Silver State home have gone on to make a global impact. Among them is the R&B girl group 702, which emerged from Las Vegas in the 1990s and made a major mark on the music industry with hits such as "Get It Together," "Where My Girls At?," and "Steelo."

702's journey began at the Las Vegas Academy, where LeMisha Fields and sisters Irish and Kameelah "Meelah" Williams attended high school. The group would go on to achieve national and international success, with their music climbing the charts and earning them a lasting place in R&B history. The Las Vegas Academy has also been home to other notable talents, including Ne-Yo.

Now, 30 years after their debut, 702 is preparing an October return to Las Vegas to celebrate three decades of music, memories and a remarkable journey. To mark the occasion, Las Vegas Black Image sat down with LeMisha Fields and Kameelah Williams for a deep reflection on their journey in the music industry, the 702 legacy, and the heartbreaking loss of their group member and sister, Irish Grinstead.

I guess we will start with, "Where My Girls At?" But seriously, where has 702 been?

LeMisha: We've been around and traveling on the road. We know a lot of people don't really see us a lot, and that is not by choice. It just happens that way. We go and perform wherever we are requested. We've been on tour with The Queens of R&B, which included Xscape and SWV. We also headlined with Total and Mya back in Summer 2024. And we also performed with D-Nice at Carnegie Hall. We lost Irish, sadly, in 2023 — but we



have been working and trying to keep her honor and legacy alive. We've performed with Usher's Lovers and Friends shows and performed on Tom Joyner's cruises. We have come back to Vegas a few times, but not as much as we would like to be. That's why we are coming home for the 30th anniversary celebration — because Vegas is our home. We are just so grateful we are still performing and singing some of our hits that the fans want to hear.

Do you have new music to perform?

Meelah: Well, our performances are centered around nostalgia. It's very hard for us to get into the production studio for new music, but we are re-releasing our debut album, "No Doubt," on vinyl in October 2026 on the Mo-

town label. We choose a light baby blue color, like the Tiffany Box, for the vinyl album — if you recall, it is the same color on the "Get it Together," cassette jacket.

Tell me about the 30th anniversary celebration that will take place in Las Vegas?

LeMisha: Well, management is trying to keep it a secret from us. It's a surprise for us. We think it's beautiful that our team and Craig Knight are spearheading everything for us. Details will be coming up, and we will be sure to share as all the activities are released. It's a little bit of a celebration and a homecoming for us. It will be a whole 702 meet-and-greet and celebration.

I believe 702 is the first all-girl R&B group out of Las Vegas. How did all of it happen?

Meelah: Our first featured record was "This Little Game We Played" [with Subway]. It was the first time anyone laid eyes on 702. We were signed to [New Edition member] Michael Bivins' label after meeting him at a Jack the Rapper Conference in Atlanta.

Is it true that when you sign with a record label you receive a lot of money?

Meelah: Oh no! We still had to live where we lived (laughs). And do what we were doing. The glamour life of being in the music industry is a misconception. People don't realize that it takes time to gain the financial momentum and to be considered a celebrity. There's a lot of smoke and mirrors. This isn't to say we are not doing okay financially because there is usually a financial signing bonus — not as much as people think it is. And remember: we signed on with a record deal in the '90s so it really wasn't a whole lot of money back then. Also,

we were only teenagers at the time we signed on, and we didn't ask a lot of questions.

Do you see many other R&B girl groups coming out today?

LeMisha: Not really. There are a few, but they don't seem to last, unfortunately — sometimes from overseas and multicultural to appeal to the masses. Kandi Burruss from Xscape always tries to put new talent out there. But unfortunately, it's a hit or miss. They come out strong, then they just disappear.

Did Michael Bivins write and produce your songs, and do you all own the masters to some of your hit records?

Meelah: No, we don't own our masters to our hit songs, but it is something we are looking into because I think by law we are able to do so. Michael Bivins was the president of his label that was a subsidiary of Motown. But we had the pleasure of working with Missy Elliott on a lot of our songs from the first and second album. She wrote "Steelo," and "Where My Girls At." We had an opportunity to work with Pharrell Williams.

How would you describe 702 from the 1990s compared to 702 of today?

Meelah: We only perform our hit records from the 1990s today. We sing and play the songs our fans want to hear. When we were just getting started in the music industry, we were teenagers and now we are grown women, mothers and wives. We are more like family now, and we have grown so close since the passing of Irish. We are different people because we experienced that loss.

What would you like people to know about Irish?

LeMisha: Irish was a beautiful person — inside and out — with a sweet spirit. She never had an enemy and could talk to anyone. We would travel all over and she would always make a new friend. She was a great dancer and choreographer, and would always come to the group with new moves. She was so humble and warm. She would laugh, be silly and joke all the time. Our three-part harmony was enhanced by how she held

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LOVE & MARRIAGE

When Friendship Blooms Into Romance

Dr. Rory B. and Mr. Isaiah Green-Sipp celebrated a love story that began more than five years ago — not with a grand romance, but with friendship.

What began as a genuine connection between two close friends slowly and beautifully grew into something extraordinary. Through life's changes, challenges, laughter, growth, and countless shared moments, their friendship became a partnership rooted in love, respect, trust, and purpose. Surrounded by close friends and family, Rory and Isaiah exchanged vows at Chandelier Banquet Hall — where nearly 200 loved ones gathered to celebrate their union and witness the beginning of their next chapter.

Their story is also one of seeking purpose beyond themselves. Together, they are deeply committed to serving their community, uplifting others, creating opportunities, championing wellness, and using their voices and leadership to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others. Their love is not simply something they celebrate — it is something they strive to extend into the world around them.

Their journey reminds us that sometimes the greatest love stories begin quietly, as friendship, and become extraordinary with time.

Congratulations to Dr. Rory B. and Mr. Isaiah Green-Sipp — two lives, one love, and a beautiful future written together.

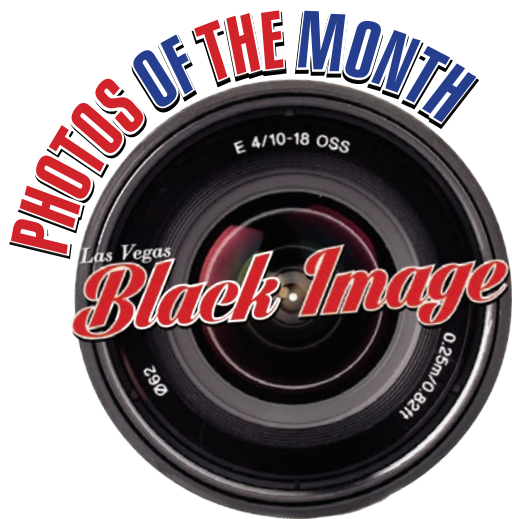


Dr. Rory Sipp and Isaiah Green-Sipp



Dr. Rory Sipp and Isaiah Green-Sipp enjoy their first dance as newlyweds.





Keep it 100

Celebrating a century of Anna Bailey's life, love, and laughter.

The Las Vegas community came together in grand fashion to celebrate Ms. Anna Bailey's 100th birthday. More than 200 residents gathered at downtown Las Vegas' Classic Jewel to honor this remarkable milestone.

Hosted by Galaxy Glenn, the celebration featured finger foods, birthday cake, and complimentary champagne.

Guests also had the opportunity to take the microphone and share heartfelt tributes, memories, and words of admiration.

The venue was beautifully decorated in Bailey's favorite color, light blue — creating an elegant and joyful atmosphere for a truly unforgettable occasion.



Anna Bailey, Bubba Knight, Katherine Knight and Anthona McNeil



Anna Bailey enjoying her 100th birthday celebration



The Las Vegas Chapter of the Girlfriends wish Anna a happy birthday



Assemblywoman Brittany Miller, Linda Young and Kara Jenkins



Attorney John Bailey, R&B artist Adina Howard and Anna Bailey



Rickey Mickey Ormond and Rose Gaston Ormond



All the ladies wanted to know Anna Bailey's secrets to living to 100 years.



Rory Sipp, Isaiah Green-Sipp, Geno and Dominique, owners of Get Fit LV



Rose McKinney James and Fred James

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Taking Action



The Las Vegas chapter of Women of National Action Network recently hosted a special gathering at Nevada Partners, where our columnist Claytee White gave a presentation on Black Women in the History of Las Vegas. Many thanks to Tiffany Ward for inviting Las Vegas Black Image to be on hand for this special event.

United Way of Southern Nevada Hosts senior expos

United Way of Southern Nevada recently hosted two Project REACH Senior Expos at the Rio Pavilion and Aliante Casino & Hotel.

Eligible seniors had the opportunity to connect directly with Southern Nevada utility providers — including electricity, gas, water, trash, propane, and sewer services. Attendees also received information about available resources and had the opportunity to apply for up to \$300 in utility assistance.



Nevada Energy and Southwest Gas reps help seniors at the REACH Expo

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Comprehensive proudly announces its flagship cancer treatment center at the Molasky Corporate Center in downtown Las Vegas, where our mission is to deliver 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 provides multi-disciplinary cancer care with medical oncology, diagnostic PET/CT imaging, genetic counseling, and access to an extensive clinical trials menu through a collaboration with Sarah Cannon Research Institute (SCRI), one of the world's leading oncology research organizations.

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YOU! HAVE THE POWER

How about listening more than speaking?

By Dr. Ellen W. Brown

Last month's column was the result of a bit of writer's block. Hey! It ain't easy coming up with topics and creating messages for a broad, woke cross-section of people in Las Vegas.

You know what your interests are, so I listen to get closer to the types of messages this "woke" population in Vegas would want to read. Of course, it is up to you to decide what is worth reading. It is also up to you to share your thoughts with others — including me — about the messages that capture your attention.

POLITICAL LISTENING



Today, we are surrounded by conversations, opinions, details, and questionable messages. We hear unbelievable commentary on social media, television, radio, TikTok, Facebook, online platforms, from co-workers, and even in our places of worship. Every source has a message that someone believes is important enough to share.

But with so much information coming at us, are we really listening?

When we are talking, engaging in conversations of concern, watching the news, and thinking about what we want to say next, it is not always easy to remain quiet, focused, and open to what someone else is saying.

As we move forward through this political arena, perhaps it is time to check ourselves. Especially during politically charged conversations, we should make

an effort to listen with open minds — even when we disagree.

Listening does not mean that you have to agree. It means that you are willing to hear. It means giving yourself an opportunity to understand another perspective before deciding how you will respond.

I encourage you to be one of those open minds. Listen to your neighbors. Listen to your community.

Listen to the stories and concerns of people whose experiences may be different from your own.

And then, when it is your turn to speak, make your voice count.

SHARING

Pick up a few copies of Las Vegas Black Image and toss them into your car. When the opportunity arises to encourage someone to seize their power, become woke, and become more engaged

with what is happening in our community, hand them a copy.

Share information. Share ideas. Share your voice.

And remind others to make sure they are registered to vote. Then, when Election Day arrives, encourage them to be there!

Our communities become stronger when we participate, listen, learn, and act together. One conversation can inspire another person. One shared idea can spark action. One vote can help shape the direction of our community.

Never underestimate the power of your voice or your presence.

Sharing strengthens our collective voice. We welcome your ideas, questions, and stories to enhance the Voice. Send to me at ebrown.nci@gmail.com

KNIGHT MOVES

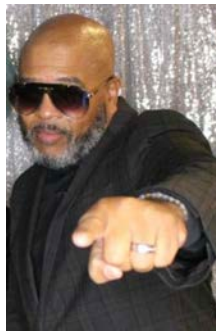
Do you remember?

By Craig Knight

It's September — a month of change, reflection, and celebration, marking the official transition from one season to the next. Often seen as the end of the third quarter, September also represents fresh starts, renewed goals, and quiet momentum.

Monday, September 7, marks Labor Day, a tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers. It also provides a long weekend to rest, recharge, and appreciate the value of hard work.

September 9, 1850: California cele-



brates its admission to the United States as the 31st state. Today, California is one of the world's largest economies and continues to have a tremendous impact on the nation and the global community.

September 11, 2001: The 25th anniversary of 9/11. It is a historic day to pause, remember those who lost their lives, and honor the resilience and strength that followed one of the most significant events in modern American history.

September 15: Hispanic Heritage Month begins, celebrating the history, culture, achievements, and contributions of Hispanic and Latino communities.

September 17: Constitution Day commemorates the signing of the U.S. Constitution in 1787 and serves as a reminder of the democratic principles upon which our nation was founded.

September 22: The Autumnal Equinox marks the beginning of fall in the Northern Hemisphere, when day and night are nearly equal in length. It can also serve as a symbolic time to reflect on balance in our own lives.

September is also an exciting month for sports, with the NFL and college football seasons getting into full swing, Major League Baseball heading toward the postseason, and the US Open Tennis Championships wrapping up in early September. And, of course, our Las Vegas Aces are heading into the WNBA Playoffs on fire as they pursue their fourth championship in five years! Let's Go, Aces!

This month also recognizes several important awareness causes: World Suicide Prevention Awareness Month,

National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month, Sickle Cell Awareness Month, Blood Cancer Awareness Month, World Alzheimer's Month, Deaf Awareness Month, Alopecia Areata Awareness Month.

In many ways, September is a threshold — a time to slow down, reflect, and refocus before the rush of the year's final quarter. Whether you are setting new goals, enjoying the changing scenery, honoring meaningful causes, celebrating the holidays, or enjoying the excitement of the sports seasons, let's remember to engage responsibly and make the most of this time of year.

Until the next edition of Knight Moves, educate yourself and share knowledge with others!

God Bless!



When was the last time you said ‘Hello’ to a stranger, and what inspired you to speak first?



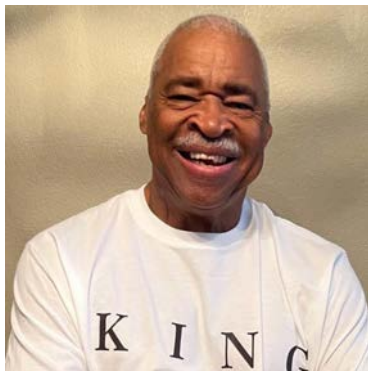
Anthony D. Snowden

I believe that it is polite to speak, especially if I make eye contact with a stranger. It doesn't cost a dime, and sometimes many strangers come up to me to speak as well.



LaVona Lewis

I speak to strangers all the time. I like to say hello as I walk by someone and give them an authentic compliment. It makes them smile and feel seen. And that gives me joy. I often say, “There are no strangers, just people who haven’t met me yet.”



Rickey Mickey Ormond

A few years back I spoke to Rose Gaston, whom I didn't know at the time. I spoke first, hoping for a conversation — and I got one. The rest is history, and we are now happily married.



Jackee Cahee

Yesterday I spoke with some residents in my complex going to their car. People should speak to one another and try to do it often — even if they don't speak back.



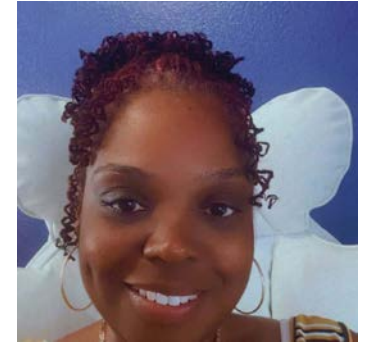
Andrew Thomas

I recently looked into the eyes of a stranger and just started talking to this woman in the store. What I didn't know was that she was depressed about jobs and other things. and I had her laughing and smiling. She thanked me for making her feel positive and laughing at the same time.



Kathy Lattimore

Every day I see strangers and I try to speak because you never know what someone may be going through. You may not know their situation but sometimes a simple hello, a smile, and an encouraging word may help them get through the day. A friend was once a stranger to you.



Jan Faith

I make it a point to say hello and smile to strangers when possible — because you never know what someone is going through. And to be honest I still get in my feelings when people don't speak back. But wisdom says maybe they didn't hear me, but they saw my smile.



Alethea Solomon

The other night at a dinner there was a very seasoned woman dancing with her son. She moved better than me, I walked up and said, “Hello, you inspire me so much.” She smiled softly and said, “I’m 96 years old.” I said, ‘I want to be like you when I grow up.’ She smiled and took my hand, and we danced.



April Harris

Speaking to strangers is very empowering and I try to speak and say hello all the time. I even ask sometimes, "How are you?" I'm from North Carolina and that's what we do. It is giving love and showing respect.



Martine O'Neil

The last time I spoke to a stranger was probably yesterday in the store. I said hello. I do that all the time, and I don't anticipate a response from them. My mother always said that "It takes nothing from you to speak to someone."



Alex Wilson Sr.

Well, where I work, I run into all kinds of people. I'll say hello even if they don't speak back to me.



Blackbutterfly Johnson

One day I spoke to a young Hispanic lady where I shop. As we grew closer, I've found out quite a bit about her and how her family has been torn apart under the current administration. She's hopeful that change is coming. I pray for her often.



China Fleming

It feels good to speak to strangers, especially if we give each other direct eye contact. I think people forget to just be human sometimes and acknowledge others' presence. A hello with a smile attached goes a long way.



Tracey Valenzuela

Every day I try to speak to people I pass with a nice smile and a hello — just to let people know that friendliness and kindness still exist in the world.



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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" 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

Spoken like a true home

You can allow everything in your home to speak and relay a message of good spirit, colorful living, and passion. The cultural expression reflected in your dinnerware can create unforgettable moments for family and friends.

That perfect cup holding warm coffee or tea can speak volumes. A beautifully presented plate cradling a home-cooked meal can add flavor before the first bite ever reaches your taste buds.

Live out loud and let your home of love speak from every corner and every section of your home. Let your personal style, culture, and passion shine through!



PLANTING YOUR SEEDS

Bring the herb garden inside

There are so many benefits to having an indoor herb garden in your home. Many of the recipes you prepare in your kitchen may call for a specific herb to enhance the flavor of a dish. Instead of feeling hopeless when you discover you're missing that special ingredient, consider growing an herb garden close to your kitchen where your favorite herbs are easily accessible.

Fresh, organic herbs can provide wonderful health benefits while adding the vibrant flavors used by some of the world's top chefs. A pinch of this or a sprinkle of that may be all it takes to give your favorite dish that perfect finishing touch.

So, bring a little garden magic into your kitchen and let fresh herbs turn everyday meals into delectable creations!



FOOD FOR THE SOUL

Golden Beet Salad

There's something special about a salad that brings color, texture, freshness, and a little kick to the table. This Golden Beet Salad does just that! Sweet roasted beets, crisp greens, juicy tangerines, creamy feta, crunchy walnuts, and a touch of jalapeño come together for a beautiful combination of flavors. It's the perfect dish when you want something healthy, colorful, and full of personality. Add your favorite balsamic vinaigrette, and enjoy a salad that truly gives rhythm to your meal!

INGREDIENTS

- Golden organic beets
- Olive oil
- Himalayan pink salt
- Black pepper
- Arugula greens
- Romaine lettuce
- Feta cheese
- Small tangerine slices
- Walnuts
- Jalapeño salad crunch
- Red onion
- Cucumber
- Garlic powder
- Onion powder
- Smoked paprika
- Balsamic vinaigrette

DIRECTIONS

Wash the golden beets thoroughly and rub each one with olive oil. Sprinkle with Himalayan pink salt and wrap each beet individually in foil.

Place the wrapped beets in a preheated oven and roast for 45-50 minutes, or until tender when pierced with a fork. Remove from the oven, carefully unwrap, and set aside to cool.

Clean the romaine lettuce and arugula, then dry thoroughly to remove excess water. Chop the romaine lettuce and place it in a large salad bowl.

Thinly slice the red onion and add it to the lettuce. Chop the

cucumber into small pieces and add to the bowl.

Add the feta cheese and tangerine slices. Chop or tear the arugula into smaller pieces and add to the salad.

Once the beets have cooled, peel and slice them. Arrange the golden beet slices throughout the salad.

Add the walnuts and jalapeño salad crunch. Season with garlic powder, onion powder, smoked paprika, and black pepper.

Drizzle with your favorite balsamic vinaigrette, toss gently, and serve.

Enjoy your life—and every delicious bite!



What you need to know: sickle cell and pregnancy

By Dr. Marguerite Brathwaite OB-GYN

September is Sickle Cell Awareness Month, a time to raise awareness about sickle cell disease (SCD) and its impact on individuals and families.

Sickle cell disease can affect the sexual organs and other parts of the body in ways that impact quality of life, sexual health, and reproduction. Pregnancy places additional stress on a woman's body and can increase the risk of sickle cell-related complications. Having sickle cell disease can also increase the risk of complications during pregnancy and affect the develop-



ing baby.

Men with sickle cell disease are more likely to experience priapism, a painful erection that lasts four hours or longer. Priapism can cause psychological distress and sexual dysfunction and requires immediate medical attention. A healthcare provider specializing in conditions of the male reproductive system, such as a urologist, can provide appropriate treatment.

If you have biological children, they may inherit sickle cell trait or sickle cell disease, depending on the sickle cell status of the other biological parent. Genetic counseling can help individuals and couples understand their risks, make informed reproductive decisions, and plan

for pregnancy.

For women with sickle cell disease, some forms of birth control may be safer than others. Talk with your healthcare provider about which option is best for you based on your individual health needs and risk factors.

Some forms of birth control contain the hormone estrogen. For some women with sickle cell disease, estrogen-containing contraceptives may increase the risk of blood clots and other complications. Your healthcare provider can discuss whether a progestin-only birth control option may be appropriate for you.

Women taking hydroxyurea should discuss pregnancy planning with their healthcare provider before becoming

pregnant.

Hydroxyurea may need to be discontinued before pregnancy and is generally not recommended during pregnancy or breastfeeding. Do not stop taking prescribed medication without first consulting your healthcare provider.

Women's Innovative Care is committed 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 promote the best possible outcomes. For questions or concerns about pregnancy care, call (702) 413-7740 or visit 851 South Rampart Blvd., Suite 160, Las Vegas, NV.



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Grand Dames

Organizers of the 10th Annual Las Vegas Caravan for Mammogram announce grand marshals for 2026 event

The FREE 10th Annual Las Vegas Caravan for Mammogram has announced the distinguished individuals who will serve as Grand Marshals for this year's event, scheduled for October 3.

According to Kimberly Bailey Tureaud, Founder and Coordinator of the Las Vegas Caravan for Mammogram, "We are so pleased to have longtime Las Vegas resident Anna Bailey serve as one of our Grand Marshals for the 10th Annual Las Vegas Caravan for Mammogram. As the first Black showgirl on the Las Vegas Strip, an original dancer at the first integrated hotel and casino in the country, the Moulin Rouge, an entrepreneur, and the first Black woman in Las Vegas to hold a gaming license, Bailey — who recently celebrated her 100th birthday — exemplifies women's empowerment and the importance of good health."

Bailey's personal motto is: "If something doesn't feel right with your health, go to the doctor and get it fixed."

"We are also delighted to have Marilyn Booker serve as a Grand Marshal," Tureaud said. "Booker has been a longtime advocate for women's health and small business owners."

Booker is the founder and CEO of OPPSWell.com, which provides small businesses with opportunities to market their goods and services to national and international corporations.

An attorney and Wall Street veteran with more than 28 years of experience, Booker served as Head of Morgan Stanley's Urban Markets Group for more than 11 years.

She also serves on the Board of Directors and as Chair of the Finance Committee for Beyoncé's BeyGOOD Foundation. Currently, Booker is Vice Chair of the City of Las Vegas Audit Oversight Committee.

A Las Vegas resident for more than five years, Booker is bringing her extensive experience, talents and compassion to the community, working to enhance the quality of life for ALL.

The Las Vegas Caravan for Mammogram extends its sincere appreciation to the sponsors of the 10th Annual Las Vegas Caravan for Mammogram 2026, including Southwest Gas Company, Comprehensive Cancer Centers, Steinberg Diagnostic, and Astrana Health.

The organization also thanks its valued community partners, Las Vegas-Clark County Library District and Power 88.1 KCEP, for their continued support.

The 10th Annual Las Vegas Caravan for Mammogram will take place Saturday, October 3. The event continues its mission of increasing awareness about breast health and encouraging women to prioritize regular mammograms and preventive healthcare.

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Tina Cage and friends wish Anna Bailey a happy 100th birthday

continued on page 19 >>

Bringing Breast Cancer Support and Awareness to Black Women!

FREE 10th ANNUAL CARAVAN for MAMMOGRAM

Fun, Sisterly Fellowship and Information. Be a part of the caravan and decorate your car PINK!

SATURDAY OCTOBER 3rd 8am

For additional information call 702-615-8216

Meet at 8:00 am at the New West Las Vegas Library parking lot located in the Historic Westside at: 1861 N. Martin Luther King Blvd.

- IT'S FREE TO PARTICIPATE!
- Meet at 8:00 am to decorate your car.
- The Parade of Pink Cars will caravan down the LV Strip to Town Square.
- The event will end at 2:30 pm

*** GRAND MARSHALS ***

Anna Bailey AND Marilyn Booker

HOSTED BY
Marguerite Brathwaite MD, F.A.C.O.G.
Innovative Women's Care

PRESENTED BY

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Under the Glittering Lights

'Green Tie' celebration for Las Vegas' civic leadership

Under the glittering lights of the Palms Hotel & Casino, the Las Vegas Urban Chamber of Commerce brought together some of Southern Nevada's most influential business and community leaders for its annual Green Tie Awards.

The elegant celebration recognizes outstanding businesses, nonprofit organizations, educators, advocates, and community leaders whose dedication, leadership, and contributions continue to strengthen the Southern Nevada community.

This year's honorees included Tech Queen Elite Training Institute, which received the prestigious Small Business of the Year Award, and Intermountain Health, which was named Nonprofit of the Year.

The evening also recognized Christopher Shelton as the new president of the Las Vegas Urban Chamber of Commerce, marking a new chapter of leadership for the organization.

With its signature combination of elegance, recognition, and community connection, the Green Tie Awards once again provided an opportunity to celebrate the people and organizations helping move Southern Nevada forward.



Adina Howard, Christopher Shelton and Sheryl Thornton-Burnham



John Pennington, Mel Green, and Kelvin Watson



Kelvin Watson and friend



Dr. Beverly Mathis and Tya Mathis-Coleman



MGM International Resort's Tony Gladney



Las Vegas-Clark County Executive Director Kelvin Watson and Urban Chamber of Commerce President Christopher Shelton

Opportunity on the Westside, then and now

By Claytee D. White

A few days ago, I interviewed Congressman Steven Horsford, who mentioned the Culinary Academy on Lake Mead, located on the Nevada Partners campus. Today, I opened a box of old newspapers looking for a topic for this month's article, and on the cover of the Las Vegas Sentinel Voice, dated September 2, 2004, was Horsford, then CEO of Nevada Partners. The previous Thursday, the Culinary Training Academy had been dedicated.

For more than two decades, this has been a place where people can receive training in a variety of fields connected to our tourism industry. Horsford has a bit of gray in his hair now, but in that cover photo, he looks like he's about 25 years old.

During my recent interview, I complained to him that not enough job-training opportunities are being utilized by members of the Black community. I wanted to know what I could do to help change those numbers. His answer was simple: "Knock on doors."

I thought, It's 100-plus degrees outside!

But since that conversation, I've kept thinking about what it really means to knock on doors. I want my neighborhood to spiral upward — to enjoy full employ-

ment, become prosperous, look beautiful, and be a place that people from all over the valley want to visit. I want them to shop for unique items, enjoy unparalleled entertainment, eat the best soul food on the planet, attend church services, and then return to their homes throughout the valley.

Currently under construction, next door to Nevada Partners, is a mixed-use microbusiness park, the result of the creativity and vision of Commissioner William McCurdy. The development is designed to foster entrepreneurship and create opportunities for workforce development. The park will also include housing units.

Sam Cherry's shareWestside, opening soon, will promote microbusiness development while providing four floors of housing.

Across the street is the Westside campus of the College of Southern Nevada, connected to the technology training center operated by the City of Las Vegas. The Historic Westside Education and Train-



ing Center will provide credentialed job-training programs in advanced manufacturing, health care, technology, and construction trades.

These programs are focused on high-demand, high-wage industries and are designed to give participants direct pathways into careers while aligning with college degree programs.

Historically, before the Culinary Academy and the Economic Opportunity Board provided training opportunities, there were several dealers' schools in the community. One was operated by Q.B. Bush. Economic empowerment programs were provided by Bob Bailey and Ernest Fountain, while Operation Life offered job-training opportunities.

Now, we are seeing a new beginning — training for the jobs of tomorrow at Nevada Partners, the Culinary Academy, the Microbusiness Park, and the entire campus hub that invites students of all ages into the Jefferson/D Street corridor.

Innovative classes, workforce training, entrepreneurship opportunities, housing, and ample free parking are coming to-

gether in one area, creating a powerful opportunity for the Historic Westside.

But what other opportunities existed in the Westside in the early days? Tell me about them, lest we forget.

What do you want to be trained to do a year from now — or maybe two years from now?

Picture yourself waking up excited about your day. Imagine getting dressed and heading to the perfect job — one that suits your passion, fills your bank account, and gives you the freedom you desire.

Imagine having enough financial security to share, save, support local artists, tithe to your spiritual community, travel, raise a family, and simply live the good life.

The opportunities are here. Now it is up to us to walk through the doors.

Visit the five locations listed in this piece and complete the application that could change your life.

And please, don't make me knock on your door!

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Tina Lewis and Eva Martin



Tony Gladney, Anna Bailey and Kelvin Watson



Marilyn Booker and Anna Bailey

Bringing Breast Cancer Support and Awareness to Black Women!

FREE
10th ANNUAL **CARAVAN** for
AMMOGRAM

Fun, Sisterly Fellowship and Information. Be a part of the caravan and decorate your car PINK!

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 3rd

8am

For additional
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★ ★ ★ **GRAND MARSHALS** ★ ★ ★
Anna Bailey AND
Marilyn Booker



HOSTED BY
Marguerite Brathwaite
MD, F.A.C.O.G.
Innovative Women's Care

PRESENTED BY



SOUTHWEST GAS



• Astrana Health



Love, family, and a beautiful beginning

Some moments become memories. Others become part of a family's history.

For the Elliott family, traveling to downtown Chicago to celebrate the marriage of Michael Elliott Jr. and his beautiful bride, Gabrielle, was one of those unforgettable moments.

Surrounded by love, laughter, family, and generations coming together, Michael and Gabrielle began a new chapter of their lives in one of the most remarkable cities in America. But this celebration was about more than a wedding—it was about family, unity, love, and the joining of two lives and two families together.

Standing proudly beside the newlyweds were Michael's mother, Tiffany Elliott, his brothers, his children — who are cherished grandchildren to the family — and his father, all there to witness

a moment that will forever hold a special place in their hearts.

And then there was Gabrielle.

With open arms, the Elliott family welcomed her — not simply as Michael's wife, but as a daughter, sister, mother, and new member of the family. Her presence adds another beautiful chapter to a family story that continues to grow.

There is something powerful about watching your child become a husband. It is a moment that makes you look back at where he came from, the struggles he overcame, the lessons he learned, and the man he has become.

For a parent, there is no greater reward than seeing your son standing beside the woman he loves, ready to build a future of his own.

The wedding was more than a ceremony. It was a celebration of family legacy.

From Las Vegas to the heart of Chicago, the family traveled, gathered, embraced one another, and created memories that will be talked about for years to come.

The photographs capture the smiles, but they cannot fully capture what was felt that day — the pride of parents, the excitement of brothers, the joy of children, and the warmth of a family welcoming someone new.

This is what family is about: loving. Growing, forgiving, celebrating, standing together.

As Michael and Gabrielle begin their journey as husband and wife, the Elliott family stands behind them with pride and love.

Chicago gave us the backdrop. Family gave us the moment. And love gave us a memory that will last forever.

May this be only the beginning of a lifetime filled with love, prosperity, happiness, family, and unforgettable memories.



Michael Elliott Jr. and his new wife, Gabrielle Elliott



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At the heart of the new Academy is a simple but powerful concept: mental health support should not begin only when someone reaches a crisis point. By educating everyday community members, the Foundation hopes to create a broader network of people who can identify warning signs, offer compassionate support and help individuals find appropriate resources.

The Mental Health Champion Academy teaches participants practical skills for recognizing when someone may be struggling, responding with empathy and compassion, and connecting individuals with professional and community-based resources before a crisis occurs.

The luncheon also celebrated four outstanding student scholarship recipients, recognizing their leadership, resilience and commitment to serving others. Foundation leaders stressed that supporting young people and preparing community members to respond to mental health needs are interconnected investments in

the future health and well-being of Southern Nevada.

“This Academy is built on a simple belief,” said Reggie Burton, founder of the Avery Burton Foundation. “Every community becomes stronger when more people know how to recognize someone in need, respond with empathy and connect them to help.”

The Foundation plans to build on the Academy’s initial launch by developing partnerships with schools, employers and community organizations throughout Nevada. Through those partnerships, the organization hopes to make mental health education and support more accessible while creating a growing network of Mental Health Champions in communities across the state.

The Mental Health Champion Academy represents another step in the Avery Burton Foundation’s effort to make mental health awareness a community-wide responsibility — one that encourages people to look out for one another, start difficult conversations and ensure that those who need help know where to turn.



<< continued from p6

down the bottom notes in the songs. We miss our sister, but we never forget her.

Where do you see yourselves in the future?

LeMisha: Our dream is to do a Las Vegas residency and come back home. That is something we will investigate for the future. Maybe we will add some other R&B girl groups to the production and have a wonderful nostalgic show.



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- Creating Economic Opportunities
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