

National Council Of Negro Women, Inc.

DETAILS INSIDE THIS EDITION



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Section A & B

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University of Louisville Legend and NBA Star Darrell Griffith enjoys the 2023 Dirt Bowl action in Shawnee Park in West Louisville with Dr. Kim Schatzel who became the 19th President at the University of Louisville on February 1, 2023. *Photo by George Williams*

Federal Judge upholds Fearless Fund’s grants for Black Women Entrepreneurs

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

Senior U.S. Judge Thomas Thrash has ruled that the Fearless Fund, a venture capital firm based in Atlanta, can continue its grant program exclusively tailored for Black women entrepreneurs. The judge said the lawsuit challenging the practice, which argued it unlawfully excluded individuals of other races, was unlikely to succeed.

The Fearless Fund, while a relatively small player in the global venture capital market, has come to symbolize the broader debate surrounding corporate diversity policies. However, the lawsuit against the organization may set a precedent as discussions on race considerations evolve within the workplace, particularly in light of the U.S. Supreme Court’s recent ruling in June ending affirmative action in college admissions.

Edward Blum, an anti-



The Fearless Fund, while a relatively small player in the global venture capital market, has come to symbolize the broader debate surrounding corporate diversity policies.

affirmative action activist well-known for his involvement in the Supreme Court’s June college admissions cases, is the head of the nonprofit American Alliance for Equal Rights, which requested the

preliminary injunction. Blum has expressed plans to appeal the decision, claiming that civil rights laws prohibit racial distinctions based on overrepresentation or underrepresentation.

The Fearless Strivers Grant Contest, which awards \$20,000 to Black women entrepreneurs, remains at the center of the lawsuit. Blum argues that this contest violates a section of the Civil Rights Act of 1866, which prohibits racial discrimination in contracts. He claims that members outside the specified racial category are excluded.

Judge Thrash contended that the grants constituted “charitable donations” aimed, in part, at acknowledging the discrimination faced by Black women business owners. He asserted that such donations are protected as “expressive conduct” under the

See Judge Upholds, page 2B



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Bowling Green Assembly



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By Brandon Lawrence: Not Enough

By Brandon Lawrence

A black guy is running to be the governor of Kentucky. This is an historic moment in Kentucky politics. A black man made it out of a primary to run for the highest government office in Kentucky. The act of a black man running for governor of Kentucky would normally be something to be applauded by the black community. There are people within the black community in Kentucky that are not supporting Daniel Cameron's gubernatorial run. I know that people enjoy saying, 'the black community is not monolithic'. The black community can act as monolithic when it comes to deciding whether a candidate is black enough for them to vote for.

Some black people have placed Daniel Cameron in the same category as Clarence Thomas, not black



Brandon Lawrence

enough. Could you possibly imagine that Craig Greenberg would be vilified by people in the Jewish community as he was participating in the Louisville mayoral race? This year's race for Kentucky governor is an opportunity for Kentucky to be able to send the first black man to the Gov-

ernor's mansion. Why do some black people in Kentucky not want Daniel Cameron to be our next governor?

There is no question that Daniel Cameron is black. Daniel Cameron is a success story. Cameron played football for the University of Louisville. Cameron is Kentucky's Attorney General. Any parent would be extremely proud to have a son that has accomplished what Daniel Cameron has in his life. You get the feeling that there is a sentiment among some black people that Daniel Cameron is not black enough for them to vote for him to be governor of Kentucky. I do not understand that sentiment. Why does Daniel Cameron have to prove something that other gubernatorial candidates do not?

I can understand why Daniel Cameron may rub some black people the wrong way. Daniel Cameron

is a Republican. Daniel is married to a white woman. Cameron is a protégé of Mitch McConnell. Some black activists do not agree with the way Attorney General Cameron dealt with the Breonna Taylor case. Cameron will alienate some voters because of his political decisions. Andy Beshear's campaign is attempting to paint Daniel Cameron as a 'dangerous' candidate. That may be coded language.

What policies has the current governor of Kentucky enacted to benefit black people in Kentucky? Kentucky needs an injection of fresh energy and innovation. The current roster of politicians in Kentucky are not very inspiring. Maybe that is enough for you.

Brandon Lawrence is a local attorney. He can be reached by email at Brandon@lawyerforthecity

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JCPS Teacher Named 2024 High School Teacher of the Year

Kumar Rashad one of four JCPS teachers recognized by KDE

Breckinridge Metropolitan High School Teacher Kumar Rashad was named the 2024 High School Teacher of the Year yesterday at a Kentucky Department of Education (KDE)

award ceremony in Frankfort.

"I feel completely elated because often the education profession doesn't receive many accolades," Rashad said. "It's good to be loved and appreciated for what I do."

Rashad thanked his students and colleagues who support each other every day "to make sure our kids know how to survive and thrive."

KDE said it received

1,367 teacher nominations, and from those, 255 teachers submitted an application for the Kentucky Teacher Achievement Awards, which is co-sponsored by Valvoline and Valvoline Global.

Rashad was one of 22 teachers statewide selected as Kentucky Teacher Achievement Award winners, including three other JCPS teachers who were recognized during yesterday's ceremony:

- Justin Moreschi (Klondike Lane Elementary School)
- Brittany Ritter (Lincoln Elementary Performing Arts School)
- Ryan Davis (Waggener High School)

Kentucky Teacher Achievement Award winners receive a \$500 cash award and were also eligible for the 2024 Kentucky

See JCPS Teacher, page 6B

Kentucky General Election Tuesday, November 7, 2023

There are four EASY ways for Kentucky voters to cast their ballot:

1. In Person on Election Day, Tues. Nov 7, 2023, 6 AM-6PM.
2. Three days "Early Voting" (No excuse needed, In-person voting) Thursday, Fri, Sat., Nov 2-4, Hours depend on your county.
3. Six Business Days of Excused In-Person voting (Need qualifying excuse) Oct 25-27 and Oct 30-Nov 1.
4. Mail- In ballot with excuse You can request starting Sept 23, 2023. The last day to request is October 24 by 11:59 PM local time. The County Clerk must have received the mail-in ballot by 6 PM on Election Day whether ballot was mailed or delivered to Drop Box.



*(note that excuses are different than For in-person excused voting)

PUBLIC SERVICE VOTER INFORMATION MESSAGE
PROVIDED BY THE LOUISVILLE DEFENDER NEWSPAPER

Louisville Defender
WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Don't miss voter registration deadline!

Time is running out to register to vote in this year's statewide elections. Kentucky residents must be registered by October 10. Potential voters can go to govoteKY.com or submit a voter registration card, by mail or in-person, at a local county clerk's office. First, download and print out a card from the state Board of Elections website. Then complete the card and mail it to a county clerk's office or the State Board of Elections at 140 Walnut Street, Frankfort, KY 40601 with a postmark no less than 29 days before election day. To check current registration status, go to the website, govoteKY.com.

On election day, eligible voters may cast their ballot in person at their polling places on November 7 before 6 p.m. Early in-person voting will be Thursday, Friday and Saturday, November 2-4. In-person, excused absentee voting is October 25-27, October 30-31 and November 1. For more information about voting dates and hours, go to the Board of Elections website. Absentee votes must be received by a county clerk before 6 p.m., November 7. Voting this year is critical for the future of everyone in the Commonwealth. It will determine whether economic growth will continue or will Kentucky lose more jobs, industries and residents to surrounding states?

Will the Commonwealth continue its march towards a totalitarian state with draconian abortion restrictions, increasing interference in local public-school education and attacks on trans-gendered youth or will the state turn towards the future by attracting new industries, like electric vehicle battery plants? Beyond these divergent paths, nationally Republicans seem to be doubling-down on broadly unpopular 'culture war' topics of banning books and targeting drag queens; making some of the most dangerous firearms even more accessible; blocking health care for trans-gender youths; fighting corporations over "wokeness;" and, engaging in the most brazen political retaliation, according to Time Magazine.

Here in Kentucky, Republican candidate for governor Daniel Cameron chose as his running mate staunch conservative state legislator Robby Mills who has a record of supporting pro-coal and anti-trans-gender legislation that fits into national GOP campaign themes. Increasingly, radicalized political divisions have separated large segments of the population into echo chamber silos with little chance of communication or compromise needed to find real solutions to common problems. This is directly contrary to the founding fathers' notion that compromise is at the very core of governing. The U.S. Constitution was the product of compromise, crafted by people who felt passionately about the issues they confronted, yet found a way to agree on language that would enable the country to function. For America to survive, we must find a way back to more balanced governance. We must abandon hardcore, non-compromising attitudes in order to agree on common solutions. And we can only do that by electing officials who will both listen to and work for the interests of their constituents, and not blindly serve some radical ideology or pander to rich political donors. It must be voters who demand candidates who have vision and passion for moving our society forward, and not taking us backwards into chaos and mob rule as James Madison feared. In drafting the U.S. Constitution, Madison was determined to avoid the fate of "ancient and modern confederacies," which he believed had succumbed to the rule of demagogues and mobs. So, it is vitally important for each of us to vote, not only in this year's election, but every year.

Metro Housing needs more than a new leader

Fifth District Metro Councilwoman Donna Purvis has repeatedly complained about the mold, bugs, piles of trash and the smell of urine in the hallways at Dosker Manor, a 685-unit apartment complex managed by Louisville Metro Housing Authority (LMHA). "I pleaded with the mayor's administration to make a change that would improve the living conditions for these tenants by removing (LMHA Executive Director) Lisa Osanka and any other individuals complicit in what we are witnessing," Purvis said. Well, something did happen. Osanka resigned in the wake of criticism about Dosker Manor conditions and at other city-run housing. Her resignation was announced by Mayor Craig Greenberg's office after a LMHA "emergency meeting" to discuss a personnel issue, according to the agenda. In a news release, Greenberg stated, "I want to thank Lisa for her service to our city. I have initiated a national search for a new Executive Director and I appreciate Lisa's willingness to remain with LMHA to assist in this transition." Osanka said, "I have worked in affordable housing for over 30 years, including more than 21 years with LMHA, and over five (years) as Executive Director. Of course, this time includes navigating through a global pandemic and attempting to support fifteen thousand families to stay healthy at home and three hundred employees to stay healthy at work. It has been an honor to lead this organization." There have been significant improvements in public housing over time. In 1996, LMHA demolished two of the largest and most troubled housing developments in West Louisville and replaced them with The Villages of Park DuValle, a mixed-income community of more than 1,000 rental units and single-family homes. Yet, Dosker Manor residents complain about feces, urine and maggots as normal occurrence. An 11-year Dosker Manor resident, Mary Morris said the complex used to be nicer. "It wasn't always like this. It went down. They're trying to clean it up, but in six months, they're not going to have it ready," she said. At a recent residents' meeting one man lamented about "the roaches, the rats, the mice, the bed bugs, the garbage." LMHA board members took note of complaints to follow-up, but residents had solutions of their own. "Don't make sense how we're living in that facility, we need to be moved up out of there," Morris added. Clearly, the problems at Dosker Manor are numerous, longstanding and serious. The roots of these problems are likely in LMHA and its management; however, the residents must take some responsibility as well. Obviously, someone either living in the apartment building or visiting there, is dumping garage and urinating in the halls. Resident have at least some accountabilities to regulate their surrounding and to stop or report anyone violating the property. Removing Osanka or other LMHA management team members alone may not address these problems. Merely putting more money in LMHA's budget may not substantially help either. It will take combined efforts of LMHA, metro government and, most importantly, the residents to improve Dosker Manor or any other public housing complex. LMHA is clearly responsible for overall maintenance, management and upkeep, but the residents must be responsible for demanding respect of their homes from residents and visitors. Also, residents can take it upon themselves to police their apartments and common areas. No matter where a person lives, taking pride in your surroundings is the basis for making a home. LMHA can provide the buildings, but it is the residents who must make it a community.

Community Forum

Guest Editorial
By Marc H. Morial
President & CEO

National
Urban League



U.S. Open Champ And Phenom
Coco Gauff Represents A New
Era Of American Tennis

"If you can think it, you can do it. If you can dream it, you can do it. Just keep working hard. It won't come easy and it will seem impossible but if you keep working hard it will definitely happen."

- Coco Gauff

Tennis is a sport that has been historically dominated by white athletes. However, the sport has since been experiencing a massive shift. Today, young Black athletes, exemplified by the prodigious Coco Gauff, are not just participating, but also shining on the world's largest stages. Their rise not only redefines the face of American tennis but also challenges longstanding narratives around race and sports. Remembering tennis greats like Arthur Ashe and Althea Gibson, we celebrate their unforgettable spirit and the legacy they left behind. These pioneers battled racial prejudice, both subtle and overt, to carve out their places in the archives of tennis history. Their stories are the epitome of courage, perseverance, and resilience. Ashe and Gibson blazed new trails in sports and in social justice. Coco Gauff is who they blazed them for. It's fitting that Gauff won the U.S. Open as the nation celebrates 50 years since it became the first of the Grand Slam tournaments to offer equal prize money to men and women. Billy Jean King, who spearheaded the boycott that led to equal pay, said "she's the reason we fought so hard 50 years ago." Like many among the new generation of outspoken Black athletes, Gauff has

used her platform to advocate for social justice – a trail that her own grandmother, Yvonne Lee, helped to blaze when she became the first Black student to attend Delray Beach's all-white Seacrest High School in 1961. Though she was only 16 when George Floyd was murdered by Minneapolis police in 2020, Gauff delivered a powerful speech at Black Lives Matter rally outside Delray Beach City Hall, speaking just after her grandmother, saying "I think it's sad that I'm here protesting the same thing that she did 50-plus years ago." Like her grandmother, Gauff stormed onto the scene with a maturity and expertise well beyond her years. From her run at Wimbledon in 2019 defeating seven-time Grand Slam title winner Venus Williams, to her consistent performance on the global stage, Coco's story is a testament to the transformative power of dedication and grit. But Coco is more than just a talented tennis player. She embodies hope, the promise of change, and the boundless potential of the next generation. She's not alone though. Players like Frances Tiafoe, Sloane Stephens, and Taylor Townsend also play crucial roles in reshaping that narrative. Together, they signify the increasing diversity in a sport once perceived as elitist and exclusive. This rise of young Black athletes in tennis is not just about achieving individual excellence. It's about challenging the status quo, breaking barriers, and carving out spaces where historically there were none. Their successes send a powerful message to Black children everywhere that they too can challenge the status quo, and win. It is also important for institutions and stakeholders in tennis to recognize this shift and support it. From funding grassroots programs in marginalized communities to promoting diversity at all levels, there's a lot that can and should be done. As we celebrate Coco Gauff and other Black athletes in this sport, let's remember the significance of their journey. They are not just changing the face of tennis; they are changing the fabric of American sports.

Trees act as sponges for greenhouse gases, and acres preserved in a natural state aren't available for development. Our goal is to protect 30 percent of the nation's landscape by 2030, which will mean more than doubling what we have today. Right now, we lose the equivalent of a football field of land to development every 30 seconds in this country. Parks can more than pay for themselves. The Interior Department reported last month that visitor spending in communities near National Parks in 2022 resulted in a record high \$50.3 billion benefit to the nation's economy and supported 378,400 jobs. Given federal spending of \$3.3 billion, a \$1 spent on National Parks creates more than \$10 of economic benefit. Bill Vanderberg points out that availability of parks is just a start to realizing equitable access. He spent the summer working in Yosemite. "I saw no African Americans all summer," he says. "The only people of color I saw were from France." They aren't truly "public lands" if significant percentages of the public don't feel welcome using them, Bill notes. In 2017, his students were recognized as the youth volunteer group of the year by Yosemite. A few years later, he was threatened with arrest when he tried to use showers in the park. "Racism at parks is real – both macro and micro. My kids have had numerous negative experiences while exploring 'their' public spaces," Bill says. "The problem is not the parks, but this racism in society." He's right that parks aren't the problem. They can be a part of the solution. Providing greater access to them and finding efforts to support like the school club Bill ran will bring more and more of us together. When we gather that way and can share in natural wonders side by side, we will grow closer as a nation.

Ben Jealous is executive director of the Sierra Club, the nation's largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization. He is a professor of practice at the University of Pennsylvania and author of "Never Forget Our People Were Always Free," published in January.

Guest Editorial
By Ben Jealous
Executive Director

The Sierra
Club



Our Public Lands Need More
Land and a More Diverse Public

On Saturday, environmental advocate Bill Vanderberg was where he is most Saturdays during the year – leading volunteers maintaining trails traversing the Santa Monica Mountains around Los Angeles. Fittingly, last Saturday was National Public Lands Day. But Bill's efforts to care for natural places and to introduce young people to them over the last three decades aren't prompted by holidays. He's seen the transformation in people when they experience the outdoors, particularly students in Crenshaw High's Eco Club he ran for years and became the school's biggest extracurricular. He returned recently to Yosemite National Park with nine alumni, two of whom had never been there. "Why do I continue to do it?" he asks. "The look in their eyes and their smiles was why. The other seven already knew, which is why they came back" He'll be the first to tell you that more needs to be done across the entire country to create that exposure and to protect lands and waters as parks, preserves, monuments, and refuges. "Los Angeles itself is a very park poor community," Bill said. The state recreation area he lives across a major highway from can only be reached by car on the southern end while there are two trails with direct access on the northern edge in Baldwin Hills, he notes. The arguments for more public outdoor spaces are overwhelming. Kids do better in school and experience less asthma when they have ready access to parks; older adults are healthier too.

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"Voices of African American Affairs"
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Education is the Key to Success!

Editor's Note:

Guest Editorials are the opinions and views of the writers and not those of the Louisville Defender Newspaper. Our goal is to present various opinions and views from all sides for our readers. Your responses to Guest Editorials are welcome. Send Responses to loudedefender@aol.com for consideration.

THE LOUISVILLE DEFENDER NEWSPAPER'S COMMUNITY FORUM

It's Time to Set the Record Straight

Guest Editorial by Kevin W. Cosby, Ph.D., D.Min.



The real issue is the impact of a significant loss to Louisville's California Community which has one of the poorest zip codes in the nation.

Through optical illusion, it is possible to make a penny appear larger than the sun simply by holding it so close to eye that the penny overtakes the entire field of vision, blocking out the sun. This happened in a recent *Courier Journal* article dated September 7. In the story by reporter Stephanie Kuzydym, a rather mundane landlord/tenant issue was amplified to block out the facts of a larger matter with widespread consequences.

The issue here is much greater than a nonprofit organization that helps mitigate food insecurity, losing its location. The more affecting issue is that Louisville's newspaper has failed to address the impact of a significant loss to the California Community.

The City of Louisville's budget was slated to invest \$5 million in a \$12 million recreational complex proposed by the Family Life Center, Inc. (FLC), a 501(c)(3). However, because of the vigorous opposition of Ms. Taylor Ryan, who was operating the nonprofit Change Today, Change Tomorrow from space leased through the FLC, the city backed away from its initial commitment and decided to contribute \$3 million instead. It was at this point that FLC backed away from the project.

While Mayor Craig Greenberg repeatedly has stated that the \$5 million was originally slated to invest in the Family Life Center project, the *Courier Journal* has repeatedly and unnecessarily invoked the names of St. Stephen Church (SSC) and Simmons College of Kentucky (SCKY) into this issue.

Faith-based entities are forbidden from receiving city public funds, so directly associating Simmons and St. Stephen Church in this matter is a misrepresentation. It would be akin to invoking the name of a local Jewish temple if an issue arose related to Jewish Hospital. They are separate legal entities.

In the *Courier Journal* story published on June 14, 2023, reporter Kuzydym wrote, "Under the Louisville Parks and Recreation heading, Simmons College/St. Stephen Family Life Center is slated to receive \$5 million."

While Simmons College certainly would benefit from the new center, Simmons would not have received a single dollar of that allocation.

The issue of FLC and Taylor Ryan's organization are not a RICO case exposed. While the three organizations often work collaboratively, Simmons College has a lease agreement with FLC, as do other organizations, including Boys and Girls Club, Goodwill Industries, Coleman Preparatory Academy, and until recently, Change Today, Change Tomorrow.

The result of Ms. Ryan's campaign to defund the FLC project is Walmart 2.0 for West Louisville. In 2016, when the retail giant proposed to build a retail store in West Louisville, a small group of opposers, many of whom did not live in the area, waged a successful campaign to squash the project, as the retail giant abruptly pulled out.

FLC pulling out of its proposed \$12 million project will not hurt Ms. Ryan, just as the lack of a West Louisville Walmart does not hurt the quality of life of many who waged that fight. But it will not help her, either.

It appears that Ms. Ryan, with her industrious email campaign against the city's investment in FLC—which in part led to the city council voting to reduce their investment—is guilty of the old crabs in a barrel syndrome. She felt the need to pull FLC down, thus pulling the California Community down, so that everyone in this already neglected area remains without improved services.

The city's withdrawal of millions of dollars, which would have resulted in the largest dollar amount ever invested in a Black-led nonprofit in the community's history, left the entire California community as the loser—not FLC, not Simmons, and certainly not St. Stephen Church.

The issue of the CTCT no longer leasing space from FLC is not the case of a greedy church putting its knee on the neck of a vulnerable non-profit agency. Ms. Taylor's organization was a tenant of FLC, not St. Stephen Church. The issue, as it has been conflated by news reports, is that the West Louisville megaplex of entities associated with Dr. Kevin W. Cosby have been unfair to Ms. Ryan, someone I do not recall ever meeting, and Change Today, Change Tomorrow in raising the organization's rent by more than double.

Ms. Ryan's rent was not raised because of greed. Having operated several non-profit entities, I am keenly aware of the challenges faced by organizations that do not provide goods or services to make a profit. The other non-profits that lease space from the FLC did not experience rent increases. One, in fact, expanded the amount of space leased, and another is leasing space at no cost.

It was FLC's intent to maintain a long relationship with CTCT, as evidenced by the automatic renewal of the lease agreement. Her attack against the FLC's plans for the California community coincided with the automatic lease renewal, which meant ending the lease agreement would take another year. While the lease is renewable each year, the lease payment is not. Therefore, since we were not in a position to terminate CTCT's tenancy based on the lease agreement, we still had the option of raising the rent in hopes of severing the relationship.

In full transparency, the FLC did indeed raise CTCT's rent because FLC felt it was in their best interest that Ms. Ryan no longer be associated with the organization. Raising CTCT's rent was the FLC's only legal recourse to terminate the lease relationship swiftly.

Truthfully, Ms. Ryan's organization renders a worthwhile and needed service to the community. People experiencing food insecurity need assistance. And in a wealthy nation such as ours, there is no logical reason why all people should not have access to healthy and nutritious food.

Ms. Ryan is distributing fish while FLC and Simmons College are teaching people how to fish so they can sustain themselves for a lifetime. In my estimation, there is a need for both kinds of organizations. Instead of fighting the proposed FLC project by waging a campaign against the city's investment in the proposed \$12 million project, Ms. Ryan should have aligned with us in support.

In 1912, when the *Titanic* began to sink, everyone on board was in immediate danger. Those who were able to get seated in lifeboats got temporary refuge. The lifeboats secured them for a time, yet the lifeboats did not have the capacity to get them to their destination, which was New York City. They needed a proven vessel that had the capacity to take them beyond temporary safety. As the ship was sinking, the rescued passengers were eager to

get on board available lifeboats. But after sitting in the waters for hours, huddled together against the freezing temperatures of the North Atlantic region, they longed for a permanent way out.

When the *Carpathia* arrived to take the lifeboat occupants to their destination, the passengers did not begin rallying against the larger vessel. They readily boarded the ship because they recognized it as a means to stability and permanence.

Every day, Taylor Ryan's Change Today, Change Tomorrow organization offers lifeboats of nutrition to those sinking into food insecurity. It is a worthy organization giving a temporary reprieve to people experiencing hunger and homelessness. Meanwhile, the Family Life Center, which has the capacity to deliver expanded services through its proposed center, has been thwarted in its plan to increase stability and sustainability among residents in the community.

Municipal governments often enter agreements that support non-profit agencies that have the potential to benefit that city's interests, especially those of an economic nature. Cities invest in projects that will increase an organization's capacity to generate revenue and exposure for that municipality. It often happens when funding sports arenas and other such facilities.

For example, when the KFC Yum! Center was in the proposal phase, the City of Louisville pledged \$206 million toward the \$573 million project. Additionally, under the deal, the Louisville Arena Authority potentially could ask the city for up to \$3.5 million more annually to cover any losses.

So, if the City of Louisville was able to pledge \$206 million to the Louisville Arena Authority, a non-profit corporation that oversees the management and operation of the KFC Yum! Center, because it saw the potential for a return in benefits to the city, why is so difficult to support and investment in a project to benefit West Louisville?

Yet for some reason, Ms. Taylor Ryan, the *Courier Journal*, and even members of the city council found it difficult to understand why the City of Louisville would partner with the Family Life Center to develop a facility that will bring greater activity and resources to the poorest zip code in Kentucky.

While the California Community Center does need renovation, this has been the case for a while. In fact, one of the more recent renovations in the California community Center came from dollars provided by St. Stephen Baptist Church.

A Nigerian proverb says, "Since he has no eyes, he says that eyes smell bad." Since Ms. Ryan had no plan of her own to expand economic investment in West Louisville, she apparently felt her only recourse was to attack the FLC project. Though she vigorously attacked the FLC project, to my knowledge she has not submitted a single proposal to the city that would foster economic and community development in the California Community.

Would Simmons College have benefitted from the construction of the proposed \$12 million center? Yes! But does the University of Louisville benefit from the KFC Yum Center? Yes! The benefit gained by giving Simmons College access to the FLC complex would also benefit the community because education has proven to be the greatest propellant out of poverty, not stop-gap programs. Simmons maintains an ongoing commitment to educate West Louisville residents and changing the trajectory of their lives.

The saddest part of this series of events is that this was not an either/or situation that would have caused CTCT to lose and FLC to win.

As the story of the city's investment in the Family Life Center continues to circulate, one fact that fails to surface is the fact that the FLC partnership with the city would have required the Family Life Center to raise \$7 million to complete the \$12 million project. The FLC chose to back out of the arrangement with the city because of the wavering commitment of many on the City Council, also because of the undue fundraising burden that would have been placed on FLC to raise even more money.

Simmons College of Kentucky, St. Stephen Church, and the Family Life Center have survived and thrived on private dollars, and mostly on Black dollars. Only in recent years has Simmons been the recipient of federal dollars and donations from the larger community. But every one of those investments has paid off in myriad ways.

Because of investments in Simmons, the college now has more than 400 students enrolled from 28 states, bringing millions of dollars to the city annually—mostly to West Louisville.

Investments in Simmons and West Louisville have also yielded the dividend of a master's program in medicine that is the equivalent to the first year of medical school. Obtaining this degree can position students for acceptance into medical school.

This academic year, 121 applicants were denied enrollment due to a lack of housing. Percentage wise, Simmons is the fastest growing HBCU in the nation. As Louisville is losing residents, Simmons is attracting people—and dollars—to the poorest zip code in the state.

The great solutionist Booker T. Washington once said, "There is a class of colored people who make a business of keeping the troubles, the wrongs, and the hardships of the Negro race before the public. Having learned that they are able to make a living out of their troubles, they have grown into the settled habit of advertising their wrongs partly because they want sympathy and partly because it pays. Some of these people do not want the Negro to lose his grievances, because they do not want to lose their jobs."

In times of emergency, organizations such as CTCT help victims survive their immediate consequences, but they do not have the capacity to transition persons from relief to recovery and then from recovery to development. If we never help people transition from relief to development, we are guilty of fostering dependency and disincentivizing development of poor people, such that the charitable gestures become toxic.

The issue of CTCT and the Family Life Center's \$12 million project should never have been postured as an either/or juxtaposition. Both are needed, as these organizations have different goals and different means to achieve those goals. Instead, Ms. Ryan has conveniently stirred controversy that draws attention to her organization during a major giving campaign throughout the city.

Nevertheless, FLC will continue to work collaboratively to change the direction of people's lives, as they are temporarily sustained by the efforts of organizations such as Ms. Ryan's. The FLC, St. Stephen Church, and Simmons College will continue to partner and solicit investments to bring more than 200 jobs to West Louisville and millions in revenue.

As separate entities, these three organizations will rely on each other's strengths to green-line the redlined community they choose to call home. The temporary setbacks caused by the misguided efforts of detractors such as Ms. Ryan are just that—a small bump in the long road of bringing economic vitality to an area that has been told to be content with weekly food distributions rather than a means to feed themselves and their families adequately for a lifetime.

Editor's Note:

Guest Editorials are the opinions and views of the writers and not those of the Louisville Defender Newspaper. Our goal is to present various opinions and views from all sides for our readers. Your responses to Guest Editorials are welcome. Send Responses to loudefender@aol.com for consideration.

Louisville Parks and Recreation receives its largest ever grant from the USDA Forest Service

\$12 million grant for the Division of Urban Forestry will be used to grow the urban tree canopy in underserved communities

Louisville's move to improve the quality of its tree canopy and limit future effects of the Urban Heat Island received a significant boost last week, when Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced the city of Louisville had been selected to receive \$12 million over the next five years for its Equitable Forest Initiative.

The Equitable Forest Initiative, administered by the city's Division of Urban Forestry, is a multifaceted approach to growing an equitable urban canopy and encouraging holistic sustainability practices for underserved communities in Louisville.

The grant funding will allow the city to develop a public tree inventory and management plan, tree planting and maintenance in underserved neighborhoods, community outreach to foster environ-

mental stewardship and the creation of a green industry workforce development program. More specific details on tree planting and job creation numbers will be announced later this fall.

Much of the work identified in the initiative will be produced in Justice40 areas. Under the Justice 40 initiative, the Biden administration has committed that a minimum of 40 percent of federal sending for certain programs, including those related to climate change, go specifically to disenfranchised areas. The Equitable Forest Initiative has classified 23 percent of Louisville as a Justice40 area.

"We are so thrilled the USDA team chose Louisville for this major investment," said Mayor Craig Greenberg. "Louisville is committed to equitably achieving net zero emissions community-wide by 2040. Transformational changes to our urban tree canopy, especially in underserved communities, will go a long way in helping us reach that important goal."

Letters of support for the project proposal came from Greenberg; Congressman Morgan McGarvey; Metro Councilwoman Cindi Fowler; non-

profit partners Parks Alliance of Louisville, Olmsted Parks Conservancy, Wilderness Louisville and Trees Louisville; and the Kentucky Division of Forestry, Louisville Office of Sustainability and the city's Tree Advisory Committee.

"I'm so pleased that Louisville has received this \$12 million grant to support our city's climate change resiliency," said Rep. McGarvey. "This funding will help address decades of underinvestment in underserved communities in Louisville through growing our urban tree canopy, increasing green workforce development, and creating community outreach initiatives in historically overlooked neighborhoods. I'm proud to support this initiative and will continue working at the federal level to provide resources that protect our community's natural areas."

"We know the power of greening urban neighborhoods," said Brooke Pardue, President/CEO of the Parks Alliance of Louisville. "Green environments improve physical and mental health, combat climate change, and reduce crime. This grant will allow Louisville to increase the tree canopy in urban heat

islands thereby improving the health and wellbeing of our community."

"This is an historic moment for Urban and Community Forestry nationwide and right here in Louisville," said TreesLouisville Executive Director Cindi Sullivan. "This funding will allow Louisville Metro Urban Forestry to start leveling the playing field for historically marginalized neighborhoods in Louisville that have lacked the 'treemendous' benefits of a robust tree canopy. Urban Forestry will now be able to utilize the most efficient and effective analytics to address the need for tree canopy inventory and management in these neighborhoods."

"As long-time partners to Louisville Parks and Recreation, we at Olmsted Parks Conservancy are thrilled with the prospect of funding for tree canopy preservation and expansion across the city," said Layla George, President and CEO of Olmsted Parks Conservancy. "Over 100 years ago, Frederick Law Olmsted had the foresight to design The Olmsted Park System as the green infrastructure of Louisville. We look forward to working with the City to maximize the system's po-

tential to mitigate the effects of our changing climate."

The Equitable Forest Initiative will also involve the Louisville is Engaging Children Outdoors (ECHO) program and a significant number of volunteer projects and public outreach opportunities. A more specific timeline on the work and site locations will be released closer to the beginning of the project schedule.

ABOUT LOUISVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION

Louisville Parks and Recreation, a nationally accredited parks and recreation agency, manages more than 120 parks and six parkways on more than 13,000 acres of land and operates recreation programs for area residents of all ages and abilities through its 14 community centers. The department's inventory also includes 10 golf courses; the Mary T. Meagher Aquatic Center and four outdoor pools; the David Armstrong Extreme Park; two historic homes; the historic Iroquois Amphitheater performance venue; and the nation's largest municipally owned urban forest, Jefferson Memorial Forest. More details on the department's people and programs can be found at bestparksever.com.

New Season of Kentucky Life to feature stories about the Commonwealth's most interesting people, places and natural wonders

Kentucky Life kicks off a new season this month with host Chip Polston traveling the Commonwealth to discover some of Kentucky's most interesting people, places and natural wonders.

Entering its 29th season, Kentucky Life features an assortment of great new stories, including the small town of Hazel, which has become a mecca for antique lovers; the graffiti left by Civil War era soldiers on the walls of Mammoth Cave; the Ken-



Kentucky Life Host Chip Polston

tucky Down Under Adventure Zoo in Horse Cave; the chainsaw art of world champion carver Abby Peterson of Breckinridge; and an equine service that partners horses with people as a form of mental and physical therapy.

Kentucky Life can be seen on KET Saturdays, beginning October 7 at 8/7 p.m., KET2 Wednesdays, beginning October 11 at 2:30/1:30 p.m. It can also be seen on-demand at KET.org and on the PBS App.

Kentucky Life is a

KET production, produced by Casey Harris. View more Kentucky Life episodes online, as well as those from KET's archives at KET.org/KentuckyLife.

KET is Kentucky's largest classroom, where learning comes to life for more than two million people each week via television, online and mobile. Learn more about Kentucky's preeminent public media organization at KET.org or Twitter @KET and at facebook.com/KET

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PRESENTS

2ND ANNUAL

Black & GOLD

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7 PM - 10 PM**

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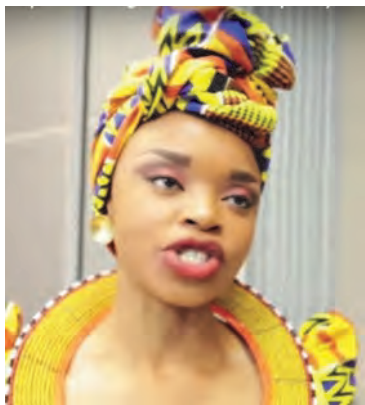
A promotional image for the Black & Gold Fundraising Gala. It features the band Atone, consisting of five members, standing in front of a dark background with gold confetti. The band members are wearing a mix of red, black, and white clothing. The overall theme is black and gold, consistent with the event's branding.

Zoleka Mandela, Advocate for Cancer Awareness and Road Safety dies at 43

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

According to a family spokesperson, Zoleka Mandela, the granddaughter of South Africa's inaugural democratically elected President and global icon Nelson Mandela, succumbed to cancer at the age of 43.

Recently, the younger Mandela has garnered recognition for her candid accounts of her battle with cancer, offering a poignant insight into her treatment journey. She was equally forthright about her history of drug addiction, shedding light on issues



Zoleka Mandela

many faces in silence.

The Nelson Mandela Foundation expressed deep reverence for her work, stating that she inspired cancer awareness and played a pivotal role in dismantling the stigma associated with the disease.

Mandela was a champion for cancer awareness, bravely shared her struggles with depression, and disclosed that she had endured childhood sexual abuse.

Additionally, she proved at the forefront of the cause of improved road safety after a tragic car accident claimed the life of her 13-year-old daughter in 2010. Tragically, she also lost a prematurely born son. Mandela leaves behind four children.

Hailing from the lineage of Nelson Mandela's second wife, Winnie, Mandela penned her remarkable journey in her autobiography, *When Hope Whispers*. Diagnosed with breast

cancer at 32, she initially went into remission, only to face a recurrence of the illness. Last year, she revealed the disheartening news of cancer's presence in her liver and lungs, subsequently spreading to other vital organs. Though she received outpatient care, Mandela checked into a hospital over a week ago.

In a poignant Instagram post from August 2022, she reflected, "What do I tell my children? How do I tell them that this time around I may not get to live my life as a survivor? How do I tell them everything will be OK when it's not? I'm dying... I don't want to die." During an interview with Kaya FM in April,

Mandela shared, "I'm learning to be okay with my eventuality." Her unvarnished revelations garnered her a substantial following on social media platforms, where heartfelt tributes continue to pour in.

"Utterly tragic loss of a human being in her grandfather's footsteps. A decent, honest human being in a dishonest, hypocritical world," lamented one individual on social media. Another wrote on Instagram beneath the Mandela family's announcement, "You were one of the bravest people I know, and you inspired many people on your life's journey of hope."

National Council Of Negro Women, Inc.



ncnw
louisville section

GALA
Celebrating 40 Years

Date: Saturday, October 7, 2023

Tickets: \$100 Attire: After 5

Location: Hyatt Regency Louisville
320 W. Jefferson Street
Louisville KY

Time: 6:00 PM

Call or text for ticket info:

Lillie Mae Pettus (502) 338-8697

Sheila Irvin (502) 645-6522

Judge Upholds

Continued from page A1

First Amendment. The judge criticized the alliance's attempt to alter the fund's intended message.

Gilbert Dickey, an attorney for the alliance, pointed out that the grant program does not extend to other racial minorities, including Hispanics. He argued that privileging one race over others violates First Amendment protection.

The Fearless Fund maintains that its objective is to remove the obstacles that keep companies run by women of color from getting venture capital funding. "We will continue to run the nation's first venture capital fund that is built by women of color for women of color," declared Fearless Fund CEO and co-founder Arian Simone. "We realize there is still a long road ahead, but today we remain fearless and steadfast in creating pathways that empower women of color entrepreneurs."

Data from the nonprofit advocacy group Digital Undivided shows that less than 1% of venture capital funding goes to businesses owned by Black and Hispanic women. Founded in 2019, the Fearless Fund conducts the grant contest quarterly, with eligibility criteria stipulating that a business must be at least 51% owned by a Black woman, among other requirements.

The NAACP Legal Defense Fund, the National Women's Law Center, and the Gibson, Dunn, and Crutcher law firm have supported the Fearless Fund in fighting Blum's lawsuit. Prominent figures, including civil rights advocate Ben Crump, have rallied to defend the Fearless Fund against allegations of discrimination.

The Fearless Fund has invested over \$26.5 million in businesses run by women of color with the support of industry titans like J.P. Morgan Chase and Mastercard. They have also awarded grants exceeding \$3 million to Black women-owned businesses.

Jason Schwartz, a partner at Gibson Dunn, stressed the importance of offering grants to Black women small business owners

See Judge Upholds, page 5B



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positive thoughts our way, we thank you.

We are excited to put these resources to good
use and move ahead as good stewards of
the generosity and support of our community!



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CAREER OPPORTUNITIES



The City of Owensboro is taking applications for the following position:

POLICE OFFICER

A packet with test date, test sites, mandatory forms and further information will be emailed to applicants. The deadline to apply for this test session is 12:00 pm (noon) on October 13, 2023.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Be a US Citizen
- Valid driver's license
- Must be minimum age 21 by Academy graduation date
- High school diploma or GED
- An Associate's degree, or its equivalent, from an accredited college or university in law enforcement, social sciences, communications, management, or other field which is job-related. (Applicants who do not currently possess an Associate's Degree or its equivalent may also apply. A program offering college hours equivalent to an Associate's Degree may be extended to Academy attendees. If so, completion of this program will meet the education requirement for this position. For more information, call 270-687-8861 or 270-687-8867. OR
- Two (2) years active duty military OR
- Three (3) years law enforcement experience in a full-time capacity OR
- An equivalent combination of job-related accredited college/university hours and prior law enforcement experience in a full-time capacity OR
- Two (2) years full time experience employed in Central Dispatch at the Owensboro Police Department
- Shall not be a convicted felon nor be guilty of a Class A OR 3 or more Class B misdemeanors
- Shall not have used illegal drugs within 12 months of anticipated hire date

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TO APPLY: Visit www.owensboro.org/police or www.owensboro.org and click on Employment Opportunities, then click the position link; then click To Apply. First time users will need to create an account as instructed. If you have any questions or want to confirm receipt of your application, please contact Jo Hall at 270-687-8861 **prior to** application deadline.

For further details, visit www.owensboro.org/police
Click on Employment Opportunities, then click on "Becoming a Police Officer"

**DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR THIS TEST SESSION
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The City of Owensboro is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer – EEO/AA – M/F/V/D
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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

**PLANNING, ENGINEERING & ARCHITECTURAL
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BOWMAN FIELD**

The Louisville Regional Airport Authority (LRAA) is accepting Statements of Qualifications for a consulting firm to provide planning, engineering & architectural services of federally funded Airport Improvement Program (AIP) projects and non-AIP projects at Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport and Bowman Field in Louisville, Kentucky. A scope of work and qualifications format may be obtained at the Authority's bids and proposals website at www.flylouisvillebids.com beginning Monday, September 25, 2023.

Statement of Qualifications will be received utilizing electronic statement of qualifications submission through www.flylouisvillebids.com, until and not later than 2:00 p.m. local time, Thursday, October 12, 2023. In order to submit your statement of qualifications electronically, you must register at the website to set up an account.

The selection of a consultant firm for this initiative is to cover a three-year period. The Authority and the Consultant may mutually agree to renew the Agreement for an additional two-year term. The consultant team should be prepared to address planning and design for projects including future taxiways, runway and taxiway extensions, our ongoing pavement management program including pavement rehabilitation and/or reconstruction, airfield electrical improvements, facility relocations, and any other potential projects that may be identified on the Airport Layout Plan at Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport and Bowman Field Airport. The team should further be prepared to provide services for construction inspection and management, environmental efforts, overall safety review and compliance, airspace studies and FAA airspace analysis submittals, airspace obstruction mitigation, aviation easement acquisition, runway incursion mitigation, geotechnical/subsurface investigations, architectural, and surveying. The above is a list of potential projects and services and is not necessarily inclusive and is subject to change by the Airport Authority.

Firms submitting Statements of Qualifications should submit evidence of qualifications and experience related to successfully performing the requested services expeditiously on similar projects as described in the scope of work. Firms submitting must be qualified to work in the State of Kentucky and must be able to stamp plans by a licensed professional engineer in the State of Kentucky. Reasonable compensation for the services to be rendered shall be established by negotiation with the firm selected by the Airport Authority.

The LRAA hereby notifies all firms that the LRAA acts affirmatively to insure that, in regard to any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, small, disadvantaged, and female-owned businesses will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this request. The LRAA will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex or handicap. The LRAA's policy is to involve disadvantaged business enterprises in the work with a goal as specified in the full solicitation.

All prospective Proposers are requested to contact Kyle Hartlage, Director of Planning & Engineering, Engineering@flylouisville.com with all questions and/or requests. The Authority has a No Contact Policy which prohibits contact by Proposer(s) or its representative(s) directed at the Authority, its Board, members, employees, consultants, or its other representatives except as permitted by the Proposal Documents.

LOUISVILLE REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Kyle Hartlage, PE
Director of Planning & Engineering

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Jewish Family & Career Services is seeking a **Small Business Specialist**, to provide business development assistance and training to aspiring entrepreneurs to start, grow and expand their business ventures with a primary focus on west Louisville. Jewish Family & Career Services IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. Please submit your resume and cover letter to jobs@jfcsloouisville.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is seeking Volunteers

Catholic Charities Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is dedicated to improving the quality of life for the residents who reside in long-term care facilities. We protect the rights of nursing home residents by identifying, investigating, and working to resolve residents' concerns. As a volunteer you can either provide companionship to residents that do not receive visits, or you can become certified to investigate concerns raised by residents and families. For more information you can go to our website at: <https://cclou.org/long-term-care> or contact Natalie Brown-Radtke, Director of the LTCO Program at 502-637-9786.

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Sealed Bids will be accepted at Louisville Metro Housing Authority (**Purchasing Department**) 3223 South Seventh Street Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40216 up to 10:00 a.m. Local Time on **Tuesday, October 10, 2023** for the following project:
**Lourdes Hall Flooring Upgrades
Proposal #1608**

Copies of the bid documents may be obtained from the Housing Agency Marketplace at https://ha.economicengine.com/requests.html?company_id=9038 Or visit our website at www.lmha1.org and follow the link under bid opportunities. There is no cost to receive plans/specifications from our agency
Section 3 Opportunities
The project will provide opportunities for Section 3 residents and Section 3 Business concerns. Contract Phil Reidinger, MBE/ Section 3 Coordinator at (502) 569-4922 for further information.

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Sealed Bids will be accepted at Louisville Metro Housing Authority (**Purchasing Department**) 3223 South Seventh Street Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40216 up to 10:00 a.m. Local Time on **Tuesday October 10, 2023**, for the following project:
**601 W. Breckinridge Masonry Repair
Proposal #1609**

Copies of the Request for Proposal may be obtained from the Housing Agency Marketplace at: https://ha.economicengine.com/requests.html?company_id=9038 Or visit our website at www.lmha1.org and follow the link under bid opportunities. There is no cost to receive plans/specifications from our agency.
Section 3 Opportunities
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Advertisement for Bid

Sealed Bids will be accepted at Louisville Metro Housing Authority (**Purchasing Department**) 3223 South Seventh Street Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40216 up to 10:00 a.m. Local Time on **Tuesday October 10, 2023**, for the following project:
**Will Seay Plaza Window Replacement
Proposal #1610**

Copies of the Request for Proposal may be obtained from the Housing Agency Marketplace at: https://ha.economicengine.com/requests.html?company_id=9038 Or visit our website at www.lmha1.org and follow the link under bid opportunities. There is no cost to receive plans/specifications from our agency.
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NEWSPAPER SECTION! CALL: 502-772-2591



Yvonne Coleman Bach, Associate Publisher/Editor for the Louisville Defender Newspaper with Cornell Bradley, The Voice of the Dirt Bowl (Center) presented the winning trophy to 2023 Champions East end who beat the challenging team Park Hill 41—38. *Photos by George Williams*



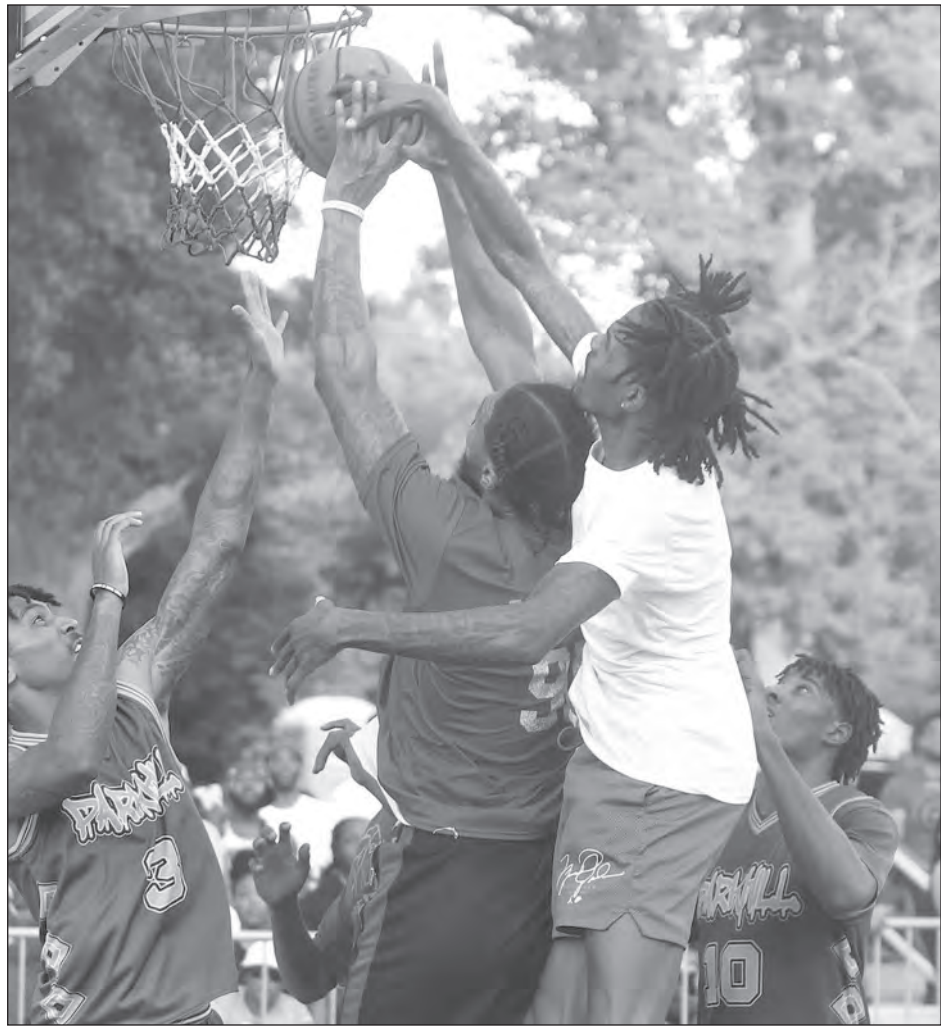
Team Members in both Youth Teams that competed in the Youth Championship Games



The Ladies wow the crowd they dribbled and took it to the hoop at the Dirt Bowl in Shawnee Park. *Photos by George Williams*



Tahijena Muldrow sang the Black National Anthem before the Champion-ship game at Shawnee Park



A player got his shot blocked in the heavy action games during the Championship Play at the Dirt Bowl Games in Shawnee Park



Ravon Churchill, LMPD Chief Jacquelyn Gwinn-Villaoel and Referee Judge Tanisha Hickerson. *Photos by George Williams*

Goodwill Industries of Kentucky Celebrates National Employ Older Workers Week

Partnership with Senior Community Service Employment Program recognizes valuable contributions of America's older workers

Goodwill Industries of Kentucky is celebrating National Employ Older Workers Week — September 24 -- 30, 2023 — which recognizes the vital role of older workers in the workforce and commemorates the contributions and achievements made by U.S. employees over the age of 55.

In recognition of the valuable contributions made by this segment of the workforce, Goodwill Industries of Kentucky is proud to take part once again in the annual commemoration. Goodwill® is one of only 20 national nonprofit organizations authorized by the U.S. Department of Labor to administer the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) to aid older workers.

Through SCSEP, these individuals receive paid training through part-time, service-oriented positions in their communities. The program aims to promote community service while helping participants achieve fiscal self-sufficiency. Over the last year, Goodwill's SCSEP efforts have helped more than 2,800 older adults in local communities. Older adults in the program have contributed nearly 1.6 million hours of service to nonprofit organizations and other entities. In the 51-county Kentucky service area, Goodwill Industries of Kentucky has helped over 400 with employment and career services.

"Goodwill is dedicated to providing older workers with the assistance they need to obtain current, in-demand job skills and training to secure employment today," said Sonya Johnson, career services manager for SCSEP in Kentucky. "Since Goodwill's inception, the revenue generated from the sale of donated items has helped fund job training programs and community services, including those that help older Americans find meaningful work."

Today, more Americans are choosing to remain employed longer and retire later than the once-standard age of 65. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the number of older workers, aged 55 and older, is growing at a rate that outpaces the overall growth of the labor force. In fact, the U.S. BLS projects that the United States labor force will comprise 41 million people 55 and older by 2024, making up 25% of the total national workforce. Moreover, 150 million jobs will shift to workers over the age of 55 by 2030, according to a recent study by the National Skills Coalition. The evolving shift in demographics within the workforce presents an opportunity for employers to realize the potential and value that employing older workers can hold.

Judge Upholds

Continued from page 2B

to achieve economic freedom. Alphonso David, another of the Fearless Fund's lawyers, president, and CEO of the Global Black Economic Forum, condemned Blum's claims as baseless attempts to subvert existing law. He affirmed their commitment to defend the Fearless Fund and its crucial work vigorously.

"Today, the playing field is not level — that is beyond dispute," David asserted in an earlier statement. "Those targeting Fearless Fund want to propagate a system that privileges some and shuts out most. They want to pretend that inequities do not exist. They want us to deny our history."

September is Suicide Prevention Month!

The Louisville Defender Newspaper's 40th Annual West Louisville Metro Appreciation Celebration 2023

FESTIVAL & Proud Heritage Family and Class REUNIONS

SPECIAL REVIEW EDITION THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5 , 2023



The 2023 Dirt Bowl 3 on 3 Champions proudly display their Championship Trophy during the final games in Shawnee Park. Trophies were presented to the winners in the various levels. Louisville Defender Newspaper was a proud sponsor of the Dirt Bowl Games. *Photo by George Williams*

JCPS Teacher

Continued from page 3A

Teacher of the Year Award.

Moreschi was one of four semifinalists for the 2024 Elementary School Teacher of the Year award. Davis and Rashad were two of the three 2024 High School Teacher of the Year semifinalists, with Rashad taking home the honor and a \$2,750 cash award.

Boone County's Kevin Dailey was named the overall 2024 Kentucky Teacher of the Year.

Article by Juliann Morris



REVISED PUBLICATION SCHEDULE MOVED TO NOVEMBER 2023 LOUISVILLE DEFENDER NEWSPAPER'S

Black MUSIC Month

A Salute to Black Musical Achievers' Culture Influence on Society!





and historical Roots
and Salvation of

COUNTRY MUSIC









and the generational rise of
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& Funk, Hip Hop
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