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COMMUNITY HARLEM NEWS

"Good News You Can Use"

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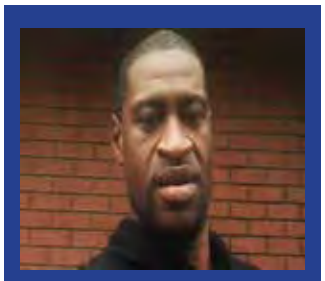
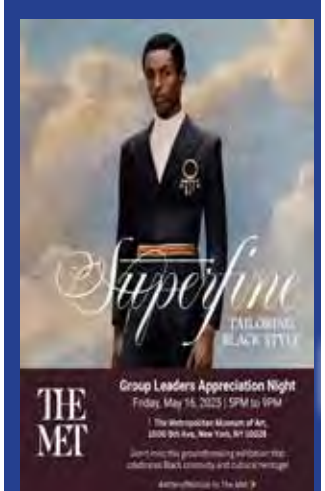


May 25th - Five Year Anniversary of George Floyd

see page 15

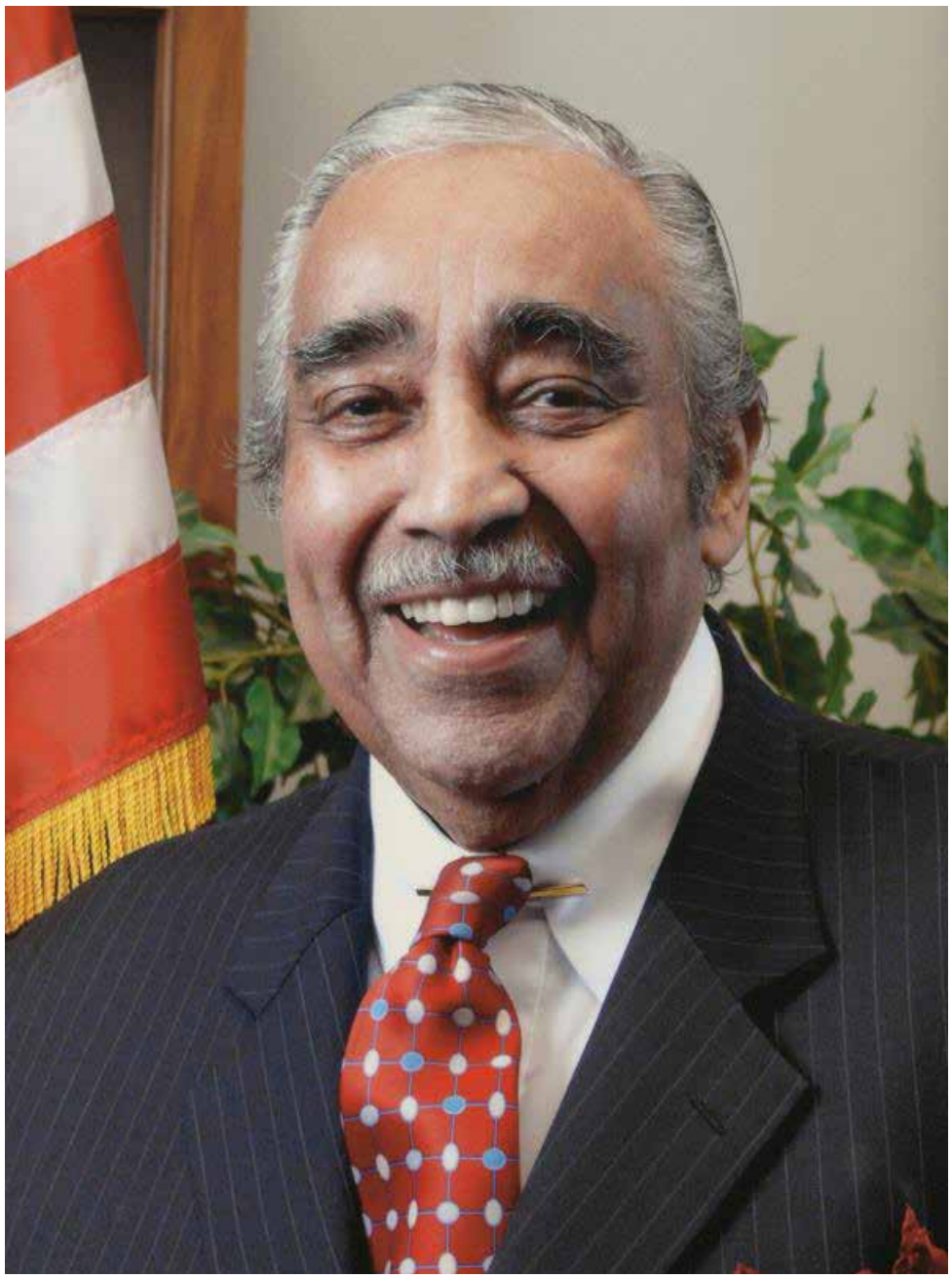
Congressman Adriano Espaillat Leads "AI" Leadership Roundtable on Equity, Access and Opportunity

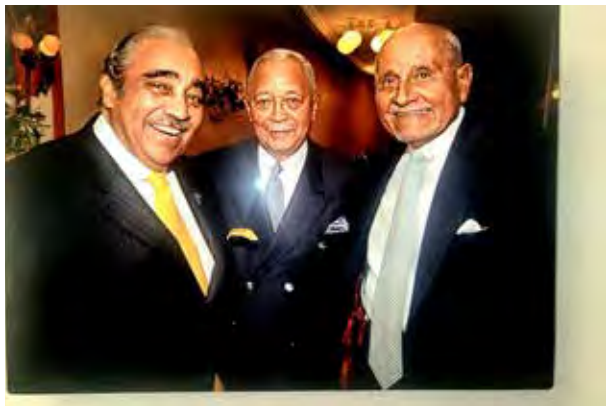
see page 5



"Superfine Tailoring Black Style" exhibition at the MET

see page 10





Honorable Congressman Charles B. Rangel
June 11, 1930-May 26, 2025

see page 12-13

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OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Harlem Community Newspapers, Inc. will publish positive news and information. Our mission is to deliver "good" and informative news to our readers focusing on health, education, housing, business and employment opportunities. We look for and publish results, not problems. We promote businesses, opportunities and events happening in the communities we serve. We are dedicated to providing our readers with valuable information they can use to improve the quality of life for themselves, their families and our communities.

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IN THIS ISSUE:

Community	3	Memorium	12
Expressions	4	Education	14
Community	5	History	15
Op Editorial	6	Urbanology	16
Real Estate	7	Games	17
Calendar	8	Classified	18
Events	9	Literary Corner	19

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Mailing: P.O. Box # 1775, New York, New York 10027
Phone: 646-988-1015•
Email: harlemnewsinc@aol.com
Website: www.harlemcommunitynews.com
Twitter: @harlemnewsinc • Facebook: /harlemnewsinc
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PAT STEVENSON

Condolences to family and friends of the Honorable Charles B. Rangel. Mr. Rangel met with us on many occasions when he was Congressman for Harlem. He was always ready to offer some history and advice. He was a "great warrior" for Harlem and will be truly missed by this community.
(see pages 12-13)

On Monday we celebrate "Memorial Day" recognizing "fallen soldiers." My father Jessie Stevenson, Jr. spent more than 30 years in the military. This time of year I remember him coming home for a visit of a few weeks every couple of years. I especially remember him in his uniform. He was a proud soldier. I also had several uncles and cousins who were in the military. One of my cousins was the first solider to die in the Vietnam war from Savannah, Ga. There is a dedication to fallen Vietnam Soldiers in Savannah where he is named. Today I think- how would they feel in today's climate as our democracy is being threatened? I am sure they would feel as I do - this is unbelievable.

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Pat Stevenson
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[3] **Additional information about the America's Home Grant program:** The America's Home Grant program is a lender credit. Program funds can only be used for nonrecurring closing costs including title insurance, recording fees, and in certain situations, discount points which can be used to lower the interest rate. The grant cannot be applied toward down payment, prepaid items or recurring costs, such as property taxes and insurance. Borrowers cannot receive program funds as cash back.

[4] Maximum income and loan amount limits apply. Fixed-rate mortgages (purchases or no cash out refinances), primary residences only. Certain property types are ineligible. Maximum loan-to-value ("LTV") is 97%, and maximum combined LTV is 105%. For LTV >95%, any secondary financing must be from an approved Community Second Program. Homebuyer education may be required. Other restrictions apply.

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PONDER THIS! Patience and Perseverance in the Ark

By Hazel Rosetta Smith

Noah and the Ark in the Book of Genesis 6:8-22 is an informative read for all ages. To Christians it is biblical text, to others folklore, a good yarn to tell. Most can agree in some aspects that it speaks of our present-day plight, not too far-fetched from what we experienced during the pandemic dilemma. Shut in but not shut down.

As the story unfolds, we find Noah was both shocked and leery of God's request regarding preparations for an upcoming 40-days of rain that would engulf the entire world as he knew it.

In absolute obedience to God, Noah took on the command wholeheartedly and even engaged his sons to participate, much to their chagrin. Surely, Noah would have been the recipient of humiliation and insult. His commitment and daily diligence made him the joke of the community as they observed the building of the huge boat on dry land.

Through it all, Noah did as he was told and lo and behold, the ark was built to God's specific dimension, filled with family and paired species as selected and the rain did come.

Those who are familiar with the story will remember its ending was a new world and a new life for those who suffered the flood and survived the journey.

However, some who read the story have overlooked the meaning of the saga and chose instead to devote centuries to search for the ark's landing site. Finding the ark to prove its validity may not be as important as what we can learn from Noah's story of patience, perseverance and promise that will carry us through the uncertainties of today.

Comparisons are there to our present-day state of confusion and chaos to Noah's story of safety and ultimate deliverance. (One) Do not miss the command to get onboard, (Two) Like it or not, we are in the same boat, (Three) Accept and expect the unexpected, (Four) Be ready, God may have a job for you, (Five) Don't listen to critics, what do they know, (Six) Stand for what you believe, not the opinion of others; (Seven) Stay focused on your progress, (Eight) Watch for the next wave to surface, (Nine) Don't stress, you might have to float a while, and (Ten) No matter how great the storm, there's a rainbow waiting at its end.

It is not easy to maintain and sustain, survive, and thrive when you are surrounded by naysayers and dooms day news breakers. Amateurs built the ark, but they did not give up. An old story speaks the great truth today. We must keep hope alive for however long it takes. HOLD ON, a change is coming.

[Hazel Rosetta Smith is a journalist, playwright, Executive Artistic Director for Help Somebody Theatrical Ministries, retired former Managing Editor and Woman's Editor of the New York Beacon News. Contact: misshazel@twc.com and online www.hazelrosettasmith.com.]

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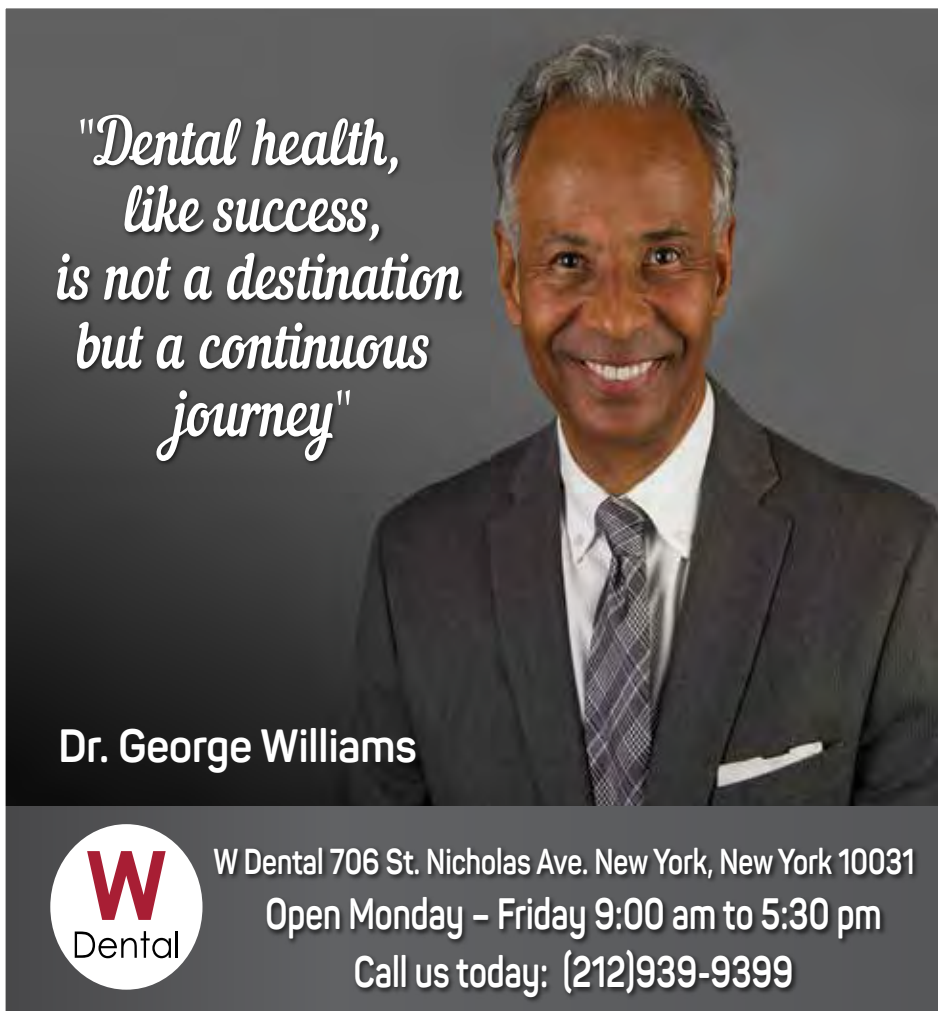

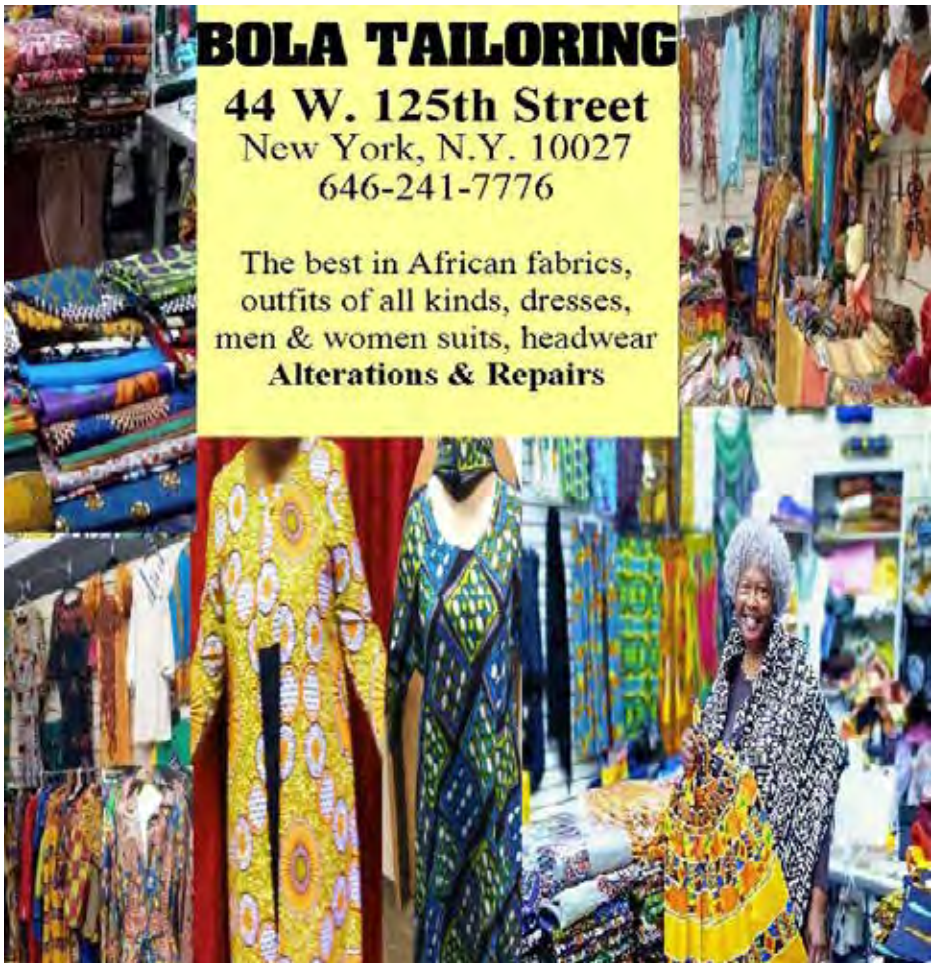

Representative Adriano Espaillat Leads "AI" Leadership Roundtable on Equity, Access, and Opportunity

Representative Adriano Espaillat (NY-13) issued the following statement on the introduction of his bill, H.R. 3210 - the Artificial Intelligence Literacy and Inclusion Act, co-led by Reps. Yvette Clarke (NY-09), and Ted Lieu (CA-39). The bill aims to close the AI literacy gap—particularly among Latino, Black, AAPI, and underserved populations and would direct the National Science Foundation (NSF) to provide grant funding awards to K-12 schools, nonprofits, and other organizations to promote AI literacy and foster inclusive participation.

"We have to meet communities where they are—students, working moms, seniors—and build from the ground up. That means making AI education and literacy as fundamental as reading, writing, and math," said Congressman Espaillat. "My legislation puts AI directly into the curriculum of our schools and our workforce development programs to ensure everyone—no matter their zip code—has the opportunity to understand and succeed in a tech-driven future. If we don't act now, we risk widening the digital divide and locking entire communities out of the economy of tomorrow."

"Artificial intelligence has opened a world of possibilities, and it is critical we prepare the next generation of workers with the skills to harness this technology," Congressman Lieu said. "We're investing in our country's future when we ensure students of all backgrounds can learn about artificial intelligence and how to use it. I'm pleased to join Reps. Espaillat and Clarke in introducing the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Literacy and Inclusion Act to help close the AI literacy gap among students, particularly those in Latino, Black, AANHPI, and underserved communities."

"As Artificial Intelligence technologies continue to grow more effective in their capabilities and more ubiquitous in our communities, ensuring America's diverse and underserved students are not left behind by the widening AI literacy gap must be a priority. Positioning our nation to thrive in this exciting new technological era means empowering our brightest, most talented young people with the skills and education they need to thrive, no matter their background. I'm proud to support this initiative that will meaningfully bridge the digital divide and ensure every young person can seize the opportunities AI provides," said Congresswoman Clarke .

Earlier this week, Espaillat, as Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC), in collaboration with Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Chair Clarke and House Democratic Caucus Vice Chair Lieu, hosted a Congressional AI Leadership Roundtable: Looking Ahead 2025.

The discussion featured "AI" and You and focused on ensuring equitable access, "AI" literacy, education, and opportunity as artificial intelligence rapidly transforms the global economy. During the discussion, the Tri-Caucus leaders emphasized the urgency of preparing Latino and others historically excluded communities for the future of work.

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-Tuesday P. Brooks

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Tuesday P. Brooks

Before It was Memorial Day

By James Hendon, Dept. of Veterans Services

Memorial Day, formerly known as "Decoration Day," has long been a day of mourning and remembrance for our fallen service members. As we just wrapped that sacred holiday, it's important to note that our nation's first Memorial Day tributes took place 160 years ago in Charleston, South Carolina, in a racetrack-turned-war camp-turned-cemetery for Civil War soldiers who had died in captivity there. Determined to honor their service and sacrifice, a community of newly freed Black Americans organized a commemoration honoring the 257 Union Army soldiers who were buried there in unmarked graves. Black Charlestonians, alongside white missionaries and educators made the decision to give these men a proper resting place. Over the course of ten days, they reorganized the graves, built a ten-foot white fence around the site, and named it "Martyrs of the Race Course."

According to Pulitzer Prize-winning historian David Blight, on May 1, 1865, nearly 10,000 people came to pay tribute to the fallen – three years before the first formal Memorial Day was observed in 1868. Three thousand Black children carried flowers and sang "John Brown's Body." Black pastors led prayers and spirituals. Union soldiers—both Black and white—marched in formation and held a formal salute. The graves were covered in roses, and the fallen were remembered, their stories were shared, their lives celebrated.

It was, in every sense, a Decoration Day. A sacred act of remembrance that would set the precedent for what we have come to know as Memorial Day.

But over time, that story was pushed aside, replaced by a more sanitized version. When General John A. Logan called for a national day of remembrance in 1868, it became the officially recognized starting point. The earlier tribute by freedmen was quietly erased. The cemetery was later renamed for a Confederate general, and the Union graves were reinterred elsewhere.

This is not just a forgotten piece of history—it's a reflection of a deeper truth: the full story of military service in America has yet to be fully told.

Throughout our nation's history, the same communities that were excluded from full rights of citizenship have shown up, time and again, to defend those very ideals. We see this in the service of Black Americans, from the U.S. Colored Troops to the Harlem Hellfighters to the Six Triple Eight Battalion and the Tuskegee Airmen. We see it in Chinese Americans, of whom 25 percent served during World War Two compared to nine percent of all Americans at the time. We see it in Native Americans, who serve at the highest rate per capita of any ethnic group in the U.S. military—five times the national average. And we see it in the sacrifice of Puerto Rican soldiers—including the 65th Infantry Regiment, the Borinqueneers, who fought valiantly in Korea while serving under segregated command.

These are just a few examples of a much larger and more universal truth: that across generations, many marginalized communities in this country have served with distinction, even while being denied the full freedoms they fought to defend.

On the heels of Memorial Day, we must remember to honor not only the fallen—but the forgotten. We must remember the soldiers, sailors, Marines, airmen, Coast Guardsmen, and guardians, yes—but also those who first remembered them. Those whose intentional acts of care and reverence gave rise to a national tradition.

The legacy of that first Decoration Day in Charleston must be part of our collective understanding when we speak about the meaning and history of Memorial Day. We have a duty to tell the full story—to say the names that history has too often overlooked. The more we share these stories of patriotism and perseverance, the closer we come to truly honoring all who served—not just in war, but in memory.

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Subscription Information page 18

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Home Buying in Harlem Be Prepared to Buy Now

By Rev. Dr. Charles Butler

Why is it so difficult for first-time home buyers to purchase a home in Harlem? The answer is an obvious one, home values in Harlem are extremely expensive. Harlem is becoming a community with many of the affluent. Unless you are one of the fortunate ones able to purchase while values were still low.

For low to moderate income families, understand it is really becoming a struggle to purchase a home in Harlem! Property values are soaring through the roof! Interest rates are continuing to climb upwards. Prospective buyers are diligently searching for a solution to this problem and are getting very frustrated over their lack of options.

Many of them are now considering relocating to other less expensive regions of the country to find an affordable home. Some are turning their housing search to upstate where there is an abundance of affordable properties. But if they continue working in New York City, they now have the problem of a much longer and more costly commute.

Others have decided to altogether forgo their dream of homeownership and to continue paying the outrageous rents to their landlords. Hello friends, this is not a viable option! Do not give up your dream of owning a home and creating intergenerational wealth for your family.

New York City owes it to our community to develop affordable housing right now! As Jesus said, "The poor will always be with you," John 12:8. The low- and moderate-income individuals and families are not going to be so easy to push to the side. We need to come together as a community and start to demand affordable housing. Everyone deserves at the very least a decent place to live. In a country as wealthy as America, affordable housing should not be a problem for anyone regardless of income level.

The American dream is still alive, but you must now work harder than ever to achieve this dream. A young couple told me a few days ago that they wanted to own a brownstone in Harlem. I encouraged them to pursue her dream. I informed them of the current market value of brownstones. So, they would be aware of the home buying process and that becoming new homeowners would not happen overnight. They said, "If that's what it takes, we will just work harder, save as much as possible." They are placing their faith and trust in God to make it happen!

It takes a solid plan to achieve this dream. You must have the desire to succeed at all cost. You must continue to maintain your focus by keeping your goal of homeownership in sight. Do not be intimidated by the prices, understand that with faith in God you can still become a homeowner.

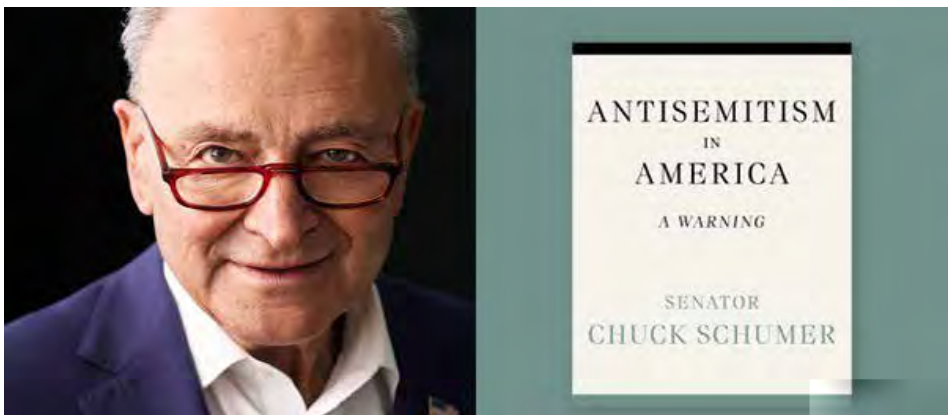
If you are interested in attending the workshop or have questions regarding the home buying process contact Rev. Dr. Charles Butler at (212) 281 4887 ext. 231 or email at cbutler@hcci.org.

HARLEM CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 29 7pm-8pm

Senator Chuck Schumer: Antisemitism in America

The New York Public Library, Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, located at 42nd Street & 5th Avenue will present the Senate Minority Leader Senator Chuck Schumer who will shed light on the Jewish American experience and sounds the alarm about the troubling resurgence of antisemitism. Chuck Schumer's new book, Antisemitism in America: A Warning, is an urgent and personal work of nonfiction that illuminates the prejudices, both hidden and overt, that have led to the chronic persecution of Jewish people. Drawing from Schumer's own life, the book places antisemitism in a larger historical context, providing a deeper understanding of the causes behind the recent swell of antisemitic rhetoric and violence in the United States, and offering a call to action on the steps needed to combat rising hate. Pre-order your copy of Antisemitism in America: A Warning and get your free ticket. Go to nypl.org. To join the event in person | Doors will open 45 minutes before the program begins. Purchase a drink from the NYPL bar and a snack from Amy's Bread while you mingle before the event. For LIVE from NYPL events, we generally overbook to ensure a full house. Please arrive early to avoid disappointment; we will do our best to accommodate everyone. Booked seats that have not been claimed will be released shortly before start time, and seats may become available then. A standby line will form 45 minutes before the program.



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“Superfine: Tailoring Black Style” exhibition at the MET

By Audrey J. Bernard, Society Editor

The big buzz around town finally came to a dramatic close with an incredible night at The Metropolitan Museum of Art sponsored by the Walker International Communications Group, Inc. (WICG) on Friday, May 16, 2025 from 5pm to 6:30pm at the magnanimous “Superfine: Tailoring Black Style” exhibition. The evening themed “WICG’s Group Leaders Appreciation Meetup” was attended by scores of guests from various community groups who were more than elated to be amongst the first to see and share their experiences of this powerful exhibition of the ultimate Black Elegance experience. Creating this meetup at The Met, surrounded by such impactful art, was a deeply meaningful way for us to honor your dedication, offer a moment of cultural enrichment, build our community bonds, amplify vital Black voices, and leverage the incredible platform of this institution.”

Guests were greeted by WICG’s President & Founder Donna Walker -Kuhne who was overwhelmed by the evening’s attendance. “Wow!” she exclaimed! “What an incredible evening we shared last night at The Metropolitan Museum of Art for Group Leaders Appreciation Meetup! The energy, the conversations, and the shared experience of the powerful ‘Superfine: Tailoring Black Style’ truly filled our hearts.”

This unique show was also heartfelt by WICG’s exemplary staff who have spent many hours preparing for this night of nights and were thrilled with its outcome, which exceeded all expectations. “From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your enthusiastic attendance and for our group leaders who pre-reserved your passes for a later date. Your unwavering support and dedication to sharing the vibrant world of art within our many communities mean the world to us,” expressed group leader Walker-Kuhne. “Seeing you engage with the exhibition, connect with fellow leaders, and embrace the spirit of collaboration reaffirmed the importance of creating these shared spaces. It was truly a joy to witness the success of our primary objectives: expressing our sincere gratitude for your incredible contributions, providing a collaborative experience of such a significant exhibition, fostering meaningful connections, and amplifying its reach within your networks.”

Now, WICG is getting ready for the next phase of this epic community awareness program helmed by WICG’s Richard E. Pelzer II, Associate Director of Community Engagement & Public Relations, who shared information about this rich cultural exhibition as well as announced exciting news about upcoming events. “Get ready to be swept away once more! #AttendWithUs -- Prepare to immerse yourselves in the wonders of art again because we are absolutely bursting with joy to announce the grand reopening of the magnificent Michael C. Rockefeller Wing at The Metropolitan Museum of Art on Saturday, May 31, 2025!” lamented Pelzer. “This beloved wing, home to breathtaking art from Africa, the Ancient Americas, and Oceania, has undergone an incredible transformation, and we can’t wait to share its expanded collections and stunning new galleries with you, your family, and your group(s).”

Pelzer continued “We were thrilled to see so many of you embrace the #AttendWithUs campaign, and we hope you enjoyed the early access and the opportunity to immerse yourselves in the artistry. Knowing that 76 of you received your passes in advance and that we distributed or arranged pick-up for a total of 280 tickets speaks volumes about your commitment!” (Photos courtesy WICG)

Community leaders at the Group Leaders Appreciation Meetup for the “Superfine Tailoring Black Style” exhibition at the Met. (courtesy of WICG

President Donna Walker-Khune with Community Partner & Group Leader Brenda Glasse and her enthusiastic group members

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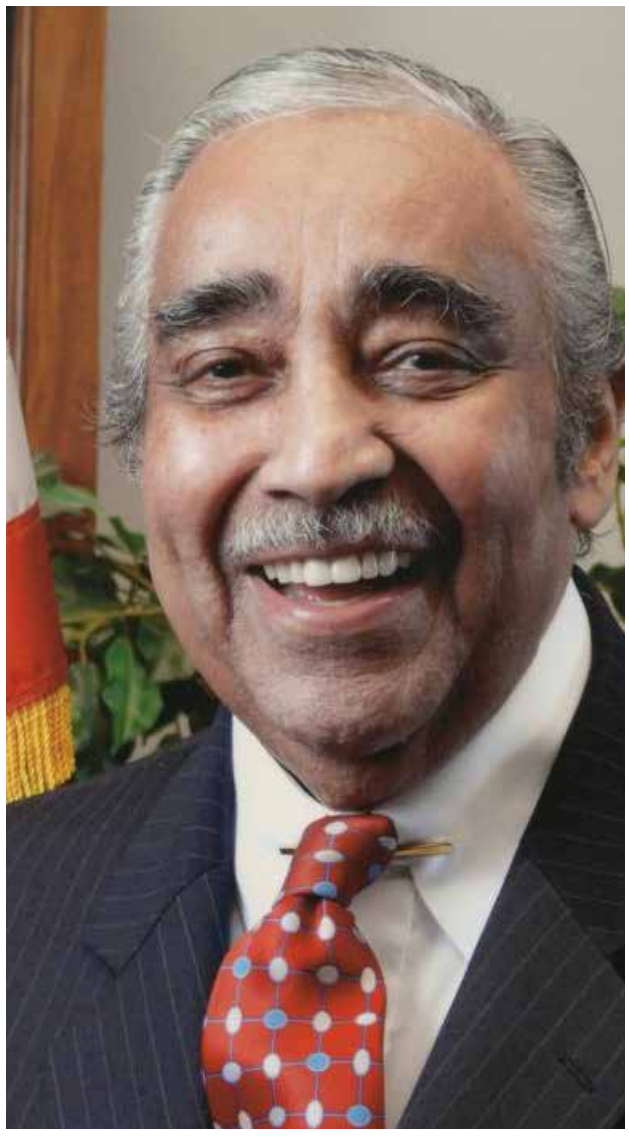
Congressman Charles B. Rangel June 11, 1930-May 25, 2025



"We all have a large stake in preserving our democracy, but I maintain that those without power in our society, the black, the brown, the poor of all colors, have the largest stake not because we have the most to lose, but because we have worked the hardest, and given the most, for what we have achieved."

-Charles B. Rangel

Our condolences to family and friends of the Honorable Congressman Charles B. Rangel. Congressman Rangel presented Harlem Community News with a proclamiation on our 20th Anniversary, 11 years ago. He met with us on many occasions offering advice. He was a champion of the Black press. He will be truly missed.

-Pat Stevenson,
Harlem Community News

Statement from his family:

With deep sorrow and profound respect, the family of The Honorable Charles B. Rangel announces his passing on May 26, 2025, at the age of 94.

A towering figure in American politics and a champion for justice, equity, and opportunity, Congressman Rangel dedicated over four decades of his life to public service. Representing what is now New York's 13th Congressional Districts from 1971 to 2017, he was a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus and the first African American to chair the powerful House Ways and Means Committee. The final living member of Harlem's Gang of Four political coalition, Charlie was affectionately known as "The Lion of Lenox Avenue."

Born on June 11, 1930, in Harlem, New York, Congressman Rangel rose from humble beginnings to become one of the most influential voices in American legislative history. A decorated Korean War veteran, he returned home to earn degrees from New York University and St. John's University School of Law, beginning a lifelong pursuit of justice, civil rights, and community empowerment.

Throughout his career, Congressman Rangel fought tirelessly for affordable housing, urban revitalization, fair tax policies, and equal opportunities for all Americans. His legacy lives on through the Charles B. Rangel Center for Public Service at The City College of New York, which continues to inspire and train new generations of public servants.

Congressman Rangel, who was pre-deceased by his beloved wife, Alma, is survived by his son, Steven Rangel (Adelina), daughter Alicia Rangel Haughton (Howard), three grandsons, Howard R. Haughton, Joshua R. Haughton and Charles R. Haughton, and a host of family and friends. Private services will be held followed by a public Celebration of Life. Details will be shared in the coming days.

The Rangel family extends its heartfelt thanks for the outpouring of love and support during this difficult time.

"Former United States Congressman Charles B. Rangel, who served 46 trail blazing years in the House of Representatives and then dedicated his life to addressing the lack of modern infrastructure jobs in his old congressional district through a program at The City College of New York, died on Memorial Day. He was 94. A founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus who then made history as the first African American member of Congress to lead the powerful Ways and Means Committee, Rangel represented what is now New York's 13th Congressional District from 1971 to 2017. He then served as Statesman-in-Residence at The City College. In 2022, Rangel continued his mission of service by launching the Charles B. Rangel Infrastructure Workforce Initiative (RIWI) at CCNY to boost modern infrastructure jobs in upper Manhattan and the Bronx. Rangel was a war hero, history-making congressman, and master lawmaker. He served for 23 terms in the House of Representatives and was cited as the most effective lawmaker in Congress, leading all of his colleagues in passing legislation. He was the primary sponsor of President Obama's historic health care reform law. Recognized as one of the hardest working legislators in Congress, he sponsored 40 bills and resolutions that became law throughout his tenure. Among his greatest legislative accomplishments was: championing the national Empowerment Zone program, Affordable Care Act, Low Income Housing Tax Credit, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), Work Opportunity Tax Credit, Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), Africa Growth and Opportunity Act, and the 'Rangel Amendment' which sounded the death knell of Apartheid in South Africa. Demonstrating his commitment to education, he created financial mechanisms to construct and rehabilitate public schools across the country. Following Saint Matthew's teaching, he was a stalwart champion for the "least among us," dedicated to improving the lives of working families, fighting for jobs and education, and advocating for equality and justice. Born and raised in Harlem, he was first elected to Congress in 1970, after serving in the New York State Assembly and as an Assistant U.S. Attorney. Congressman Rangel retired from the United States Congress in 2017. He was a veteran of the Korean War, where he earned a Purple Heart and the Bronze Star.

-Statement from
City College

"A giant has passed from amongst us and is now in his eternal home! Although no longer present, in this life, Congressman Rangel will surely be missed. He leaves a legacy and many invaluable contributions to this community, nationally and internationally that will long be remembered. I feel deeply honored and privileged as a benefactor of Congressman Rangel's sage advice and friendship! Congressman, thank you!!"

-C. Virginia Fields

"It is with a heavy heart I share news of the passing of my dear friend, a beloved leader, and stalwart of our community, Congressman Charles B. Rangel. Through our numerous conversations and collaborations over the years, his guidance, support, and faith helped propel legislative initiatives like the Second Avenue Subway that expanded during his tenure and the Charles B. Rangel Infrastructure Workforce Initiative, which I helped establish as a lasting tribute to his legacy as a champion of creating pipelines for future generations. Congressman Rangel was an iconic figure and a devoted patriot as a veteran of the Korean War; as a founder of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC); the Lion of Lenox Avenue for his love and loyalty to Harlem; an institution through his many endowments of service to erect namesake programs like the Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Program, the Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Fellowship, the Charles B. Rangel Infrastructure Workforce Initiative, and the Charles B. Rangel Center for Public Service. Charlie was an inspiration and embodied the truest form of leadership in public service, steadied in his faith and faithfulness in the American people, and a giant unmatched in his leadership, compassion, and commitment to upholding the values of our nation. I will miss him dearly and am grateful for our time together, his mentorship, and most importantly, friendship we developed over the years."

- Representative Adriano Espaillat (NY-13)

Congressman Charles B. Rangel June 11, 1930-May 25, 2025, cont'd

The last member of the "Gang of 4 has Passed." Harlem's Gang of 4 included Mayor David N. Dinkins, NYS Secretary of State Basil A. Paterson, Manhattan Borough President Percy L. Sutton, and Congressman Charles B. Rangel. They were powerful leaders, attorneys, public servants and much more May they all rest in peace, joy and power.

"Jazzmobile joins the legions of mourners around the world – especially within our Harlem Community who are deply saddened by the passng of our warrior, "Charlie." We extend our heartfelt condolences to his daughter, his son, all members of his family, and his many friends. Much has been said about the extraordinary achievements of Congressman Rangel, and we proudly join those voices in celebrating a life well lived."

-Jazzmobile

Charlie Rangel, the long-term Congressman and a heavyweight in New York politics as a member of Harlem's"Gang of Four", has died at 94. His colorful and charismatic personality, bowties, and raspy voice made him a character on Capitol Hill who was impossible to forget. Rangel was simultaneously larger than life but also approachable and engaging. Rangel was the last living member of the "Gang of Four" made up of powerful African American leaders in New York: David Dinkins (1927-2020), Basil Paterson (1946-2014), and Percy Sutton (1920-2009). The four dealmakers were powerbrokers at a time when political decisions were made in smoke-filled rooms over poker games. In 2010, President Obama suggested that Rangel resign from Congress "with dignity" after he was targeted by an ethics investigation that would eventually mean he had to give up the Chairmanship of the Ways & Means Committee. "This guy from Lenox Avenue is retiring with dignity," Rangel would later tell reporters as he departed Congress on his terms and at the time of his choosing. Rangel ignored Obama and remained in Congress for another six years with an aura that made many forget about the ethics investigation. Before serving Congress, Rangel did about every job in politics that existed. In 1961, Rangel was appointed by Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy to be an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Southern District of New York. Rangel was also a legal counsel for the New York Housing and Redevelopment Board. Charlie Rangel was born in Harlem in 1930. He would go on to represent one of the most storied parts of Manhattan for 46 years in the U.S. Congress. Along with the late John Conyers, Rangel was also a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus. "We all have a large stake in preserving our democracy, but I maintain that those without power in our society, the black, the brown, the poor of all colors, have the largest stake not because we have the most to lose, but because we have worked the hardest, and given the most, for what we have achieved," Rangel once said. Rangel was the first African American to serve as Chairman of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee. As chair and as a member of the Committee, Rangel played a central role in shaping U.S. tax legislation. He advocated

for progressive tax reform, closing corporate loopholes, and increasing tax equity. Rangel was also a strong supporter of Social Security and Medicare and defended and expanded programs aimed at reducing poverty and supporting working-class families. The legendary Harlem Congressman also championed federal investment in affordable housing and urban infrastructure, especially for Harlem and other underserved communities.

In a noteworthy policy move, Rangel also pushed to reinstate the military draft during the Iraq War—not to promote it, but to spark debate on the fairness of who bears the burden of war. Rangel earned a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star for his service in the Army during Korea. Rangel served as a member of the New York State Assembly from 1967 to 1971 and went on to defeat another New York political legend — Adam Clayton Powell Jr. in a primary, before winning in the general election in 1970. Rangel retired from Congress in 2016 at 86 years old. At a time when many are discussing the age of members of Congress and the many who have died in office over the past two years, Rangel was an exception who departed on his terms. Rangel's seat in Congress would go to Dominican-born Adriano Espaillat. The moment represented a shift in Harlem's demographics and the power of the Latino community in the Bronx.

- By Lauren Burke, NNPA

Foundation for the Revival of Classical Culture

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July 14th to August 1st, 2025. REGISTRATION CLOSES JUNE 15.

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Dates: July 14 - August 1, 2025
Time: Monday-Friday: 9:30 AM - 3 PM
Age: Requirement: Grades 6-12 ages 12 and above)
Location: 1125 Grand Concourse, Bronx
Subway B, D, 4; Bus BX35, BX1, BX2, BXM4
Registration and Tuition: $300 due by June 15
Early Registration — $250 if paid by May 31
Scholarships: Available as needed.
For more information: (929)551-9171; www.ffrcc.org, email:
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May 25th - Five Year Anniversary of George Floyd

By April Ryan, NNPA

The highly publicized Floyd death almost five years ago garnered worldwide attention and protests in search of justice on May 25, 2020, deadly case. Corporations saw the massive outpouring and offered support then. However, Morial summarizes the findings: "We use publicly available data. We use commitments that people have made." When it comes to corporate commitment to the Black community, it is a mixed bag, "I think even some that have remained committed have made cosmetic changes, have changed names of programs. They've dropped a program here and there. But some have maintained most of what they do," added Morial who spoke to the audience of the Substack show The Tea with April. The Urban League head also offered that some companies spread the support by contributing to HBCUs and civil rights organizations. The report also captures, in an Urban League written statement, how institutions, advocates, and the business community have mobilized since George Floyd's death to advance policing reform and racial justice.

One of the most recent real-time reversals is the current request by Georgia Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene, pushing for a presidential pardon of Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin. He was the first officer convicted of the death of George Floyd for kneeling on his neck at the time of his death. President Trump can only pardon federal sentences. Keith Ellison, the Attorney General of Minnesota, says it's just "a rumor" right now. However, if a Chauvin pardon were to happen, President Trump could only pardon Chauvin of the federal prison sentence. He is currently serving 20.5 years. When it comes to the state of Minnesota, there are still 22 years left on Chauvin's state prison sentence. Ellison feels "it would be worse" for Chauvin to be pardoned. Chauvin would be transferred to a state prison to serve his 22-year sentence.

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URBANOLOGY: Unconditional Love

By William A. Rogers

We often hear the term unconditional love, and like the word love, we often have different interpretations of the meaning. We have all been socially programed to view ourselves, others, and the world in a certain way. Many are not aware that much of what they believe to be good, bad, right, wrong, beautiful, or ugly about themselves and others have been socially programmed into their subconscious minds from an incredibly young age.

Because of this, the concept of love can be confusing to many, and the concept of unconditional love is even more difficult to understand and appreciate. Conscious and unconscious conditions are often placed on our feelings of love for another.

A "good" man or woman" must act or look a certain way. This socially programmed way of thinking has created many lost opportunities for a meaningful relationship: due to a socially programmed misinterpretation of what a "good" person really is.

That is why loving someone unconditionally is not easy. It is first necessary to admit that you have been socially programmed to see things in a certain way. Then with an open mind, you must allow your conscience and subconscious mind to accept a person for who they are and for who they are not. There are no "ifs" in a relationship based on unconditional love; it is what it is and that is it. This, of course, takes courage.

In a socially programmed society, we are often motivated by what we believe others think of who or what we are. There are many lonely people who are not in relationships because they cannot find the "right" person. One must also use common sense. Loving someone unconditionally does not mean you should subject yourself to abuse physically or psychologically.

In the society that we live in, there will always be certain conditions in most relationships. It is rare to have a relationship that is based on a foundation of unconditional love. It is usually a process that takes time and a large degree of self-awareness.

You must learn to love yourself; if not, you cannot genuinely love another. It is also wise to understand that no person, place, or thing can make you happy. Happiness and sadness are usually internal emotions triggered by external socially programmed experiences. When you can accept the concept that you can control your internal emotions, being happy or sad becomes your choice.

The healing frequency of unconditional love is powerful and is the foundation of Taoist healing. Learning to allow the healing of others to become an external trigger for internal emotions of joy and pleasure can be a motivating force in the healing energy of the healer.

It is important to remember that no one can make you happy or unhappy, but your internal socially programmed emotions of happiness and sadness can be triggered by an external experience if you allow it to. To love unconditionally or to experience love at all, you must know thyself and understand that happiness is an internal emotion that you can control.

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HERBS ARE NATURE'S REMEDY

Healing the Liver with Milk Thistle

By Zakiyyah

There are many herbs that grow by the wayside, in the parks and empty lots, and growing up between the concrete that people try to kill off as weeds. These are some of the most potent herbal medicines at your fingertips. I have seen burdock, yellow dock, comfrey, marshmallow, Queen Ann's Lace, mullein, jimson weed, Echinacea, milk thistle in all these places.

Milk Thistle is most often used to treat liver problems, which run the gamut from cirrhosis, jaundice, hepatitis, and gallbladder disorders. Silymarin is the active ingredient in milk thistle that makes it an effective herb that also helps our body fight against diabetes, as it is both anti-inflammatory and antioxidant. A poor diet (which can damage the liver), toxic environment (which over-taxes the liver) and other related stressors: job, home, and emotional factors, all of which contribute to the creation of free radicals in our body. Milk thistle helps protect our body tissue from damage by these free radicals, and inhibits infection and disease.

Because silymarin is not soluble in water (tea), milk thistle is more effective in capsule or tincture form to help enhance your liver's efforts to detox your internal environment.

QUESTIONS? If you have an area of concern about your health, send me an email and I'll cover it in upcoming articles (anonymously).

MAKE NATURE'S MEDICINE YOUR OWN

Always do your own research to discover herbs' full benefits and contra-indications. This information is to help balance your body's natural healing energies, and is not intended as diagnosis, treatment, or cure. Email: theherbalist1750@gmail.com; phone: 347-407-4312; blog: www.herbsarenaturesmedicine.blogspot.com.

Answers to Crossword on page 17

C	L	O	G	S		M	I	A			J	A	P	E
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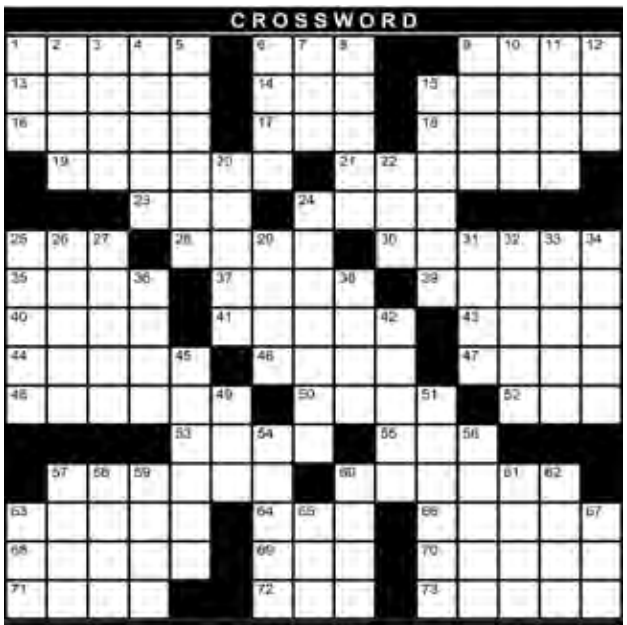
See answers on pages 20

CROSSWORD



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Statepoint Crossword
THEME: SOCCER

ACROSS
1. Heidi's footwear, pl.
6. *____ Hamm
9. Humorous anecdote
13. It doesn't take away tomorrow's troubles
14. Like Mother Hubbard
15. Popular pie nut
16. Hiker's path
17. Court
18. Makes better
19. *Number of soccer players on field for each team
21. *Winningest FIFA World Cup country
23. Common inquiries, acr.
24. Carmy Berzatto's restaurant, with The
25. Cul-de-____
28. In the buff
30. Preacher's platform
35. Poking instrument
37. Smidge
39. Sashay
40. Bald eagle's nest
41. *a.k.a. soccer field
43. Lice eggs
44. Located within
46. 3 squared
47. High rocky hills
48. Post-roller coaster ride state
50. Captain of Nautilus
52. ____ chi
53. Unforeseen obstacle
55. Acronym, abbr.
57. *FIFA headquarters location
60. *Soccer footwear
63. Uninterested
64. Hundred Acre Wood's wise resident
66. Parkinson's drug
68. Pool problem, pl.
69. Romanian money
70. Wooden ship caulking
71. Celt
72. Cotillion ball's main attraction
73. *____ Alexander-Arnold

DOWN
1. 100 lbs.
2. Elders' teachings
3. Kind of history
4. Widower's feelings
5. Forest spirit
6. Worked over with scythe
7. UN labor org.
8. Sun-dried brick
9. Exclamation, with Louise
10. Palm tree berry
11. ____ Mall, London
12. Ensign, for short
15. a.k.a. Lighthouse of Alexandria
20. *Provide with shin guards, socks and uniform, e.g.
22. Drake's genre
24. Playing roulette
25. *FIFA Women's World Cup current champion
26. Rome's Colosseum, e.g.
27. Singular of cornua
29. Kill (2 words)
31. "By ____ of" or "by means of"
32. "The ____," Dostoyevsky's novel
33. U in UV
34. *Lionel ____
36. Coloring substances
38. Teenager's breakout
42. Relating to blood
45. Dwell
49. African National Congress
51. Central American wildcat
54. Get ____ ____ of someone
56. Highway patrolman's gun
57. "Germinal" author mile ____
58. Desire
59. *____ Madrid
60. *C in AFC Richmond
61. Puff of marijuana
62. Spin, past tense
63. The Herm s Kelly, e.g.

SUDOKU

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8	9					5		
4	2						8	1
		5					9	4
				2	1		6	
	4			6				8
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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

See answers on pages 19

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PAGE 18

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"The Battle for the Black Mind"" by Karida L. Brown

Review by Terri Schlichenmeyer, Harlem News contributor

"Use your brain!

If you had a dime for every time a teacher, parent, or supervisor told you that, you'd be rich. Stop fooling around. Consider what you're about to do. Act with resolve, not impulse. It's the best way to work, the optimal method for learning and, as in the new book **"The Battle for the Black Mind" by Karida L. Brown,** it's what so many have fought for.

In the months after the Civil War ended, it became apparent to both Black and white people in both North and South that education for four million suddenly-freed former slaves was "a matter of national security." It was obvious that those citizens would require formal learning soon, maybe job training – but what kind and how much?

While Mary Smith Peake had "laid the foundation" for Hampton University already by then, two white men with vastly different intentions traveled south after the war to seize control of Black education. Edmund Asa Ware, who became the first president of Atlanta University (now Clark Atlanta University) built schools that "aimed at nurturing Black intellectualism and potential," while General Samuel Chapman Armstrong, who was the first president of Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute (now Hampton University) had plans to "'civilize'" formerly enslaved people through physical labor and farm work.

Booker T. Washington was one of Armstrong's best-known protegees.

In 1881, Washington became the first president of Tuskegee Institute and was later instrumental in forming the "Tuskegee Machine" which, says Brown, didn't altogether help "Black families and shoved a singular curriculum down their throats." There were forty-five Black colleges and universities in America then, though education for most Black children was still lacking.

It remained so in the Jim Crow era when, although literacy rates grew, education beyond a few years of elementary school was "rare" for Black Americans. By then, says Brown, Black women had stepped up to do the work, becoming teachers, bookkeepers, experts in strategy, fundraisers, staffers. managers, and marketers – sometimes, all at once…

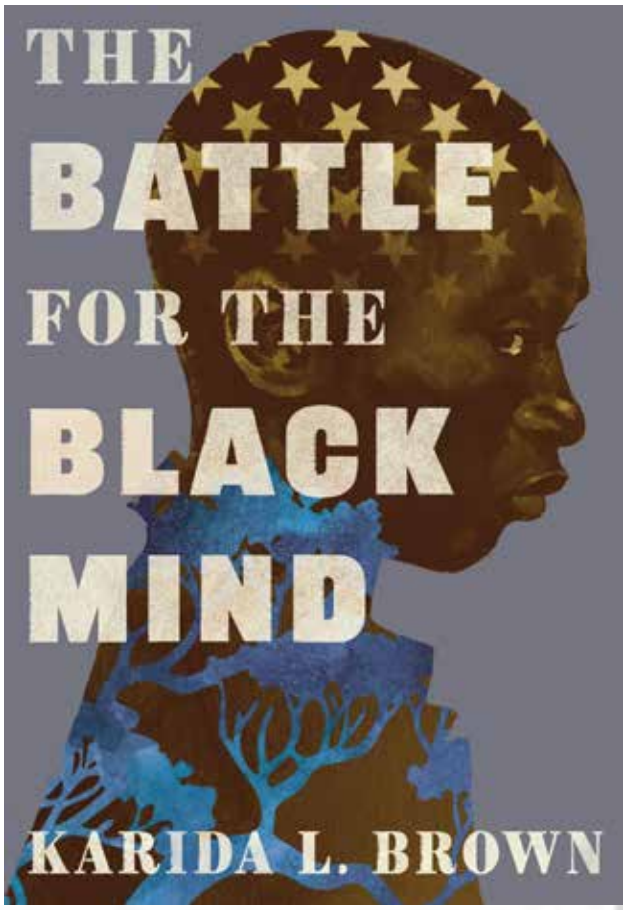
Blending personal observations and experiences with good backgrounding, author Karida L. Brown tells this story in a conversational tone that invites readers to peek down the halls of history's HBCUs and into classrooms. She writes *to* readers, rather than *at* them, which helps to open minds for what's inside "The Battle for the Black Mind."

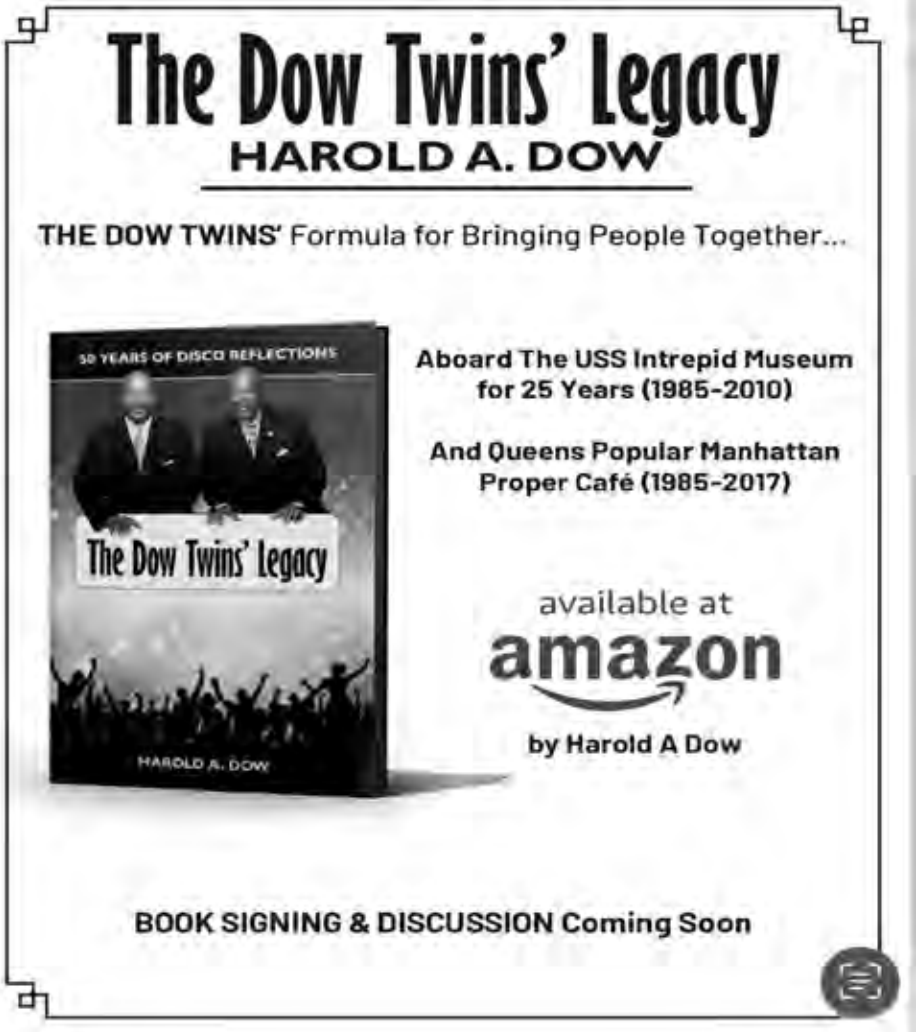
You may not need to be reminded about racism in Black American education, but the secrets she shares and the lines she draws are highlighted to seem like new information. Here, readers can see more clearly the connections between the early twentieth-century and now, and how Project 2025 could change the trajectory. Fortunately, Brown also offers advice and ideas for taking action and ensuring that upcoming generations can win the next "battle."

"The Battle for the Black Mind" is a lively book that you can read for information, history, or just because. But beware: it might make you want to get up, contact your Representative or Congressperson, and ***act. It's*** the kind of book that'll make you think.

\

"The Battle for the Black Mind"
by Karida L. Brown
c.2025, Legacy Lit
$30.00
256 pages





Answers to Sudoku on page 19

SUDOKU ANSWERS

2	7	8	6	5	4	3	1	9
6	1	4	8	9	3	7	2	5
9	5	3	7	1	2	8	4	6
8	9	1	2	4	6	5	7	3
4	2	7	9	3	5	6	8	1
3	6	5	1	7	8	2	9	4
5	8	9	3	2	1	4	6	7
1	4	2	5	6	7	9	3	8
7	3	6	4	8	9	1	5	2

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