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HARLEM COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS, INC.
"GOOD NEWS YOU CAN USE"

The Harlem Community Newspapers, Inc. Connecting Harlem, Queens, Brooklyn and The Bronx

COMMUNITY

# BROOKLYN NEWS

"Good News You Can Use"

Vol. 32 No. 34 August 21, 2025 - August 27, 2025

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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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PAT STEVENSON

This week in the Harlem Community Newspaper, we highlight the finale events of HARLEM WEEK, a vibrant celebration of culture, community, and legacy (see pages 9–14). This year’s closing events paid heartfelt tribute to the late Congressman Charles Rangel, a beloved political giant and community advocate, as well as Lloyd Williams, co-founder of HARLEM WEEK and CEO of the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce. Our deepest condolences go out to the family of Mr. Williams; his memorial service will be held at Salem United Methodist Church in Harlem on August 23rd.

We also extend our sympathies to the family of Dr. Eda Hastick, the late wife of Roy Hastick, founder of the Caribbean-American Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Hastick, a quiet pillar of strength in the Caribbean-American community, passed away recently, following her husband who left a strong legacy years earlier. May their memories continue to inspire future generations.

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**Pat Stevenson**
**Celebrating**
**32 years Publishing**

# HARLEM WEEK Jobs Fair Ignites Opportunities

On August 13th, the historic campus of City College of New York transformed into a beacon of hope and opportunity as Harlem Week 2025 hosted its highly anticipated NYC Jobs and Career Fair. Against the backdrop of a nationwide rise in unemployment, the event served as a powerful countermeasure, bringing together thousands of job seekers, employers, and community leaders in a collective push to connect talent with opportunity.

From early morning, the college grounds buzzed with energy. Attendees arrived in droves, many dressed sharply in suits and business attire, ready to make lasting impressions. The fair was a vibrant mosaic of ambition and resilience, reflecting Harlem's enduring spirit and its commitment to economic empowerment.

The event featured a wide array of employers, including major players like Chase Bank, alongside representatives from New York City and State agencies. Industries represented spanned construction, education, healthcare, hospitality, and technology, offering a diverse range of roles for candidates at every experience level. Recruiters engaged in on-the-spot interviews, resume reviews, and networking sessions, creating real-time pathways to employment.

One of the standout features of the fair was its robust lineup of workshops, which tackled some of the most pressing themes in today's job market. Sessions on green jobs drew particular interest, highlighting the growing demand for sustainable careers in energy, infrastructure, and environmental services. Attendees learned about emerging roles in solar installation, urban farming, and eco-conscious construction, fields poised for growth as New York continues its push toward climate resilience.

Workshops also focused on entrepreneurship and business development, offering guidance for aspiring founders and freelancers. Experts shared insights on launching startups, securing funding, and navigating the gig economy. For many participants, these sessions sparked new ideas and confidence to pursue independent ventures amid shifting employment landscapes.

Technology was another key focus, with panels exploring careers in coding, cybersecurity, and digital marketing. Employers and educators emphasized the importance of upskilling and lifelong learning, encouraging job seekers to take advantage of training programs and certifications that could open doors in high-demand sectors.

Harlem Week's Jobs and Career Fair wasn't just about employment, it was about empowerment. Community leaders spoke passionately about the need to invest in local talent and ensure that economic recovery includes historically underserved neighborhoods. The event underscored Harlem's role as a hub of innovation, resilience, and opportunity.

As the sun set over City College, the impact of the fair was already being felt. Connections were made, interviews scheduled, and dreams reignited. For many, Harlem Week 2025 was more than a career fair—it was a turning point.

With unemployment still a national concern, events like this remind us that solutions start locally. Harlem showed the country what's possible when communities come together to lift each other up—and the ripple effects may be felt far beyond New York City.

**photos by: Nadezda Tavodova Tezgor**

# PONDER THIS! Love is Easy - Give It a Try

*By Hazel Rosetta Smith*

If we believe God works in mysterious ways; recognize God's ways are not our ways. In our impatient and selfish way, it is beyond our comprehension to recognize what God is doing. Thank God for those who believe there is a God working it out on our behalf, for the good of us all; considering how easily we continue to create a hot mess of things. How can it be that we, the people, live on this magnificently abundant planet and what we have the most of, is not what we give?

Before the name Christian become the term for believers in Christ, the commitment was to "The Way". The example in the life of Jesus was to show a new way. The way was based on a concept of loving one's neighbor as one's self. That simple message continues to fall short, generation after generation, on the simple minded.

As we click daily into social media or watch the news, real or fake, it is obvious that far too many have not gotten the memo yet. Some tweets are so recklessly insulting and heartbreaking; they have divided communities in lieu of healing a nation. Countries worldwide are falling into destruction and disgrace; head honchos and leaders have not read the message either. Love is the way and there is no way to get around it.

We, the people, make love hard. What we make hard can be easy naturally. Simple loving gestures like shaking a hand, listening to another's idea, caring enough to share your provisions so everyone can eat and if you are able, stand up and give them your seat.

Some people have been so traumatized by a love relationship they have branded love in no uncertain terms as a horrific experience never to fall prey again. They actually believe love is as tantamount as selling your soul to the devil. They say love makes one vulnerable; it is a detrimental to the independence they are holding onto, alone and lonely.

I say and hopefully there is a whole bunch of you who believe as I do. No human being was ever created to be without love. We are all innately endowed with it, God's greatest gift. We need it and we should be seeking opportunities to give love and show love in every aspect and area of our life.

If you are seeking a description of what love is about, take your search to the Bible. You know that dusty book somewhere in your house, lol. Or perhaps closer at hand, pull it up on your latest device (1Corinthians 13). Live, laugh and love.

[Hazel Rosetta Smith is a journalist, playwright/director and founder of Help Somebody Theatrical Ministries. She is a former Managing Editor and Woman's Editor of the New York Beacon News. Contact:_misshazel@twc.com and online at www.hazelrosettasmith.com]

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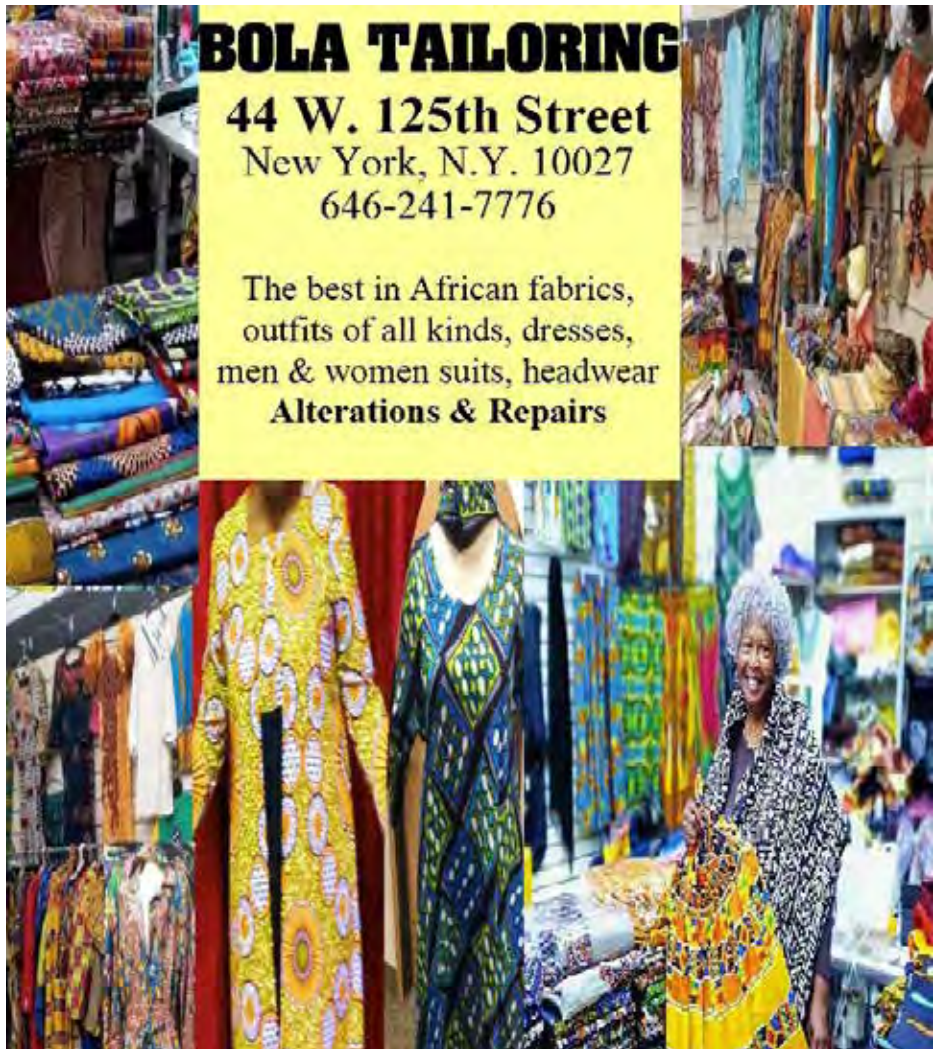

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# Quality of Life Ending the Culture of "Anything Goes"

By Mayor Eric Adams

Every day, everywhere I go — whether it's at a town hall, on the streets, or when participating in an interview — I hear about the quality-of-life issues that affect New Yorkers' daily lives. I am proud of the progress we have made bringing down crime and violence over the last three and a half years — and equally proud of our efforts to improve quality of life all across the five boroughs because that is what New Yorkers see and feel every day in our city.

Over the next week, we will complete the deployment of the NYPD's Quality of Life Teams — or "Q-Teams" — to every precinct across New York City to address the everyday issues that degrade life in our city, including noise, parking, encampments, public drug use, and more. We are also working to expand our response to these quality-of-life concerns with the "End the Culture of Anything Goes" campaign.

Simply put, "End the Culture of Anything Goes" means New York City is doubling down on our efforts to change the culture, laws, and investments that improve quality of life and prevent public disorder. While we have made great strides in addressing subway safety, severe mental illness, and chronic homelessness, we still see too many people struggling on our streets, often as a result of drug addiction. From "The Hub" in the Bronx to Washington Square Park in Lower Manhattan, public drug use is affecting quality of life and public safety for residents, visitors, and small businesses.

A key part to finally ending the culture where "anything goes" in our city requires Albany's help. In the upcoming legislative session, we are proposing the New York state Legislature debates and passes the 'Compassionate Interventions Act,' a follow-up to our largely successful 'Supportive Interventions Act.' If passed, the Compassionate Interventions Act will allow clinical professionals like doctors, nurses, and others to send individuals to a hospital for evaluation if they determine that a person's addiction makes them a danger to themselves or to others. And it will allow a hospital doctor to seek a court order to retain the person for treatment, if they are unwilling to accept treatment on their own.

This is an expansion of the work we first proposed on severe mental illness three years ago, and it would be an important tool in helping to end the drug addiction crisis we see all around us. Thirty-seven states already authorize involuntary commitments for substance use disorder, and it is time to bring this option to New York.

In the name of public safety, public health, and the greater public interest, we must rally together to pass the Compassionate Interventions Act. This piece of essential legislation will help those caught in the grip of addiction recover, improve quality of life, and build a culture of compassion.

In addition to legislation, we are looking to take more immediate actions as well, including through a $27 million investment in outreach workers and treatment. Specifically, among other initiatives, this funding would support a new drop-in space in "The Hub" in the Bronx to address the urgent needs there, and a new 'contingency management' program at NYC Health + Hospitals that focuses on solutions to keep people in treatment. This program gives people incentives for staying in treatment and not using drugs, and it has achieved positive results in other cities across the country and at U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs facilities nationwide.

The need to address public-safety and quality-of-life issues is at the core of what New Yorkers rightfully expect from their city government, and these are issues we have championed since the start of our administration. New Yorkers must be able to go about their lives without having to court chaos and dodge disorder at every step. Most importantly, we can no longer leave behind the New Yorkers most in need. We must make the investments necessary to support outreach, harm reduction, wraparound services, and housing — services that make lasting impacts in lives and communities.

It's time to finally end the culture of "anything goes" because when anything goes, nothing is possible. New Yorkers deserve more than that. We must keep New York City the safest big city in America, the greatest city in the world, and the best place to raise a family.

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# Home Buying in Harlem Be Prepared to Buy Now

By Rev. Dr. Charles Butler

There is no use whining or complaining about the housing situation in Harlem. Yes, home values are high, and they will remain high. New York City is one of the highest housing markets in the country. As a result, we will continue to experience the financial impact of a sellers' market. The problem is simple; there are more prospective home buyers seeking to purchase property than available homes on the market.

This is a simple rule of economics – supply and demand. The demand is far greater than the supply which continues to drive up the prices. To compound this challenge, the interest rates remain although stable higher than expected which adds to the high cost of homeownership. But you cannot allow the situation to dictate your quest for homeownership. You must start now. You cannot hesitate any longer.

Here are some tips to help you get started. (1) Start the home buying process now. The longer you procrastinate, the more time you will lose. The sooner you start the process, the faster you will be able to complete it. Attend the home buying education workshop to learn the steps in the process and to build some momentum towards purchasing a home. The home buying process is very complicated. You will need to develop a strategy to navigate through the financial pitfalls by learning how to assemble a team of professionals to assist you through the process. You will also be around like-minded individuals with the same goal and can support each other.

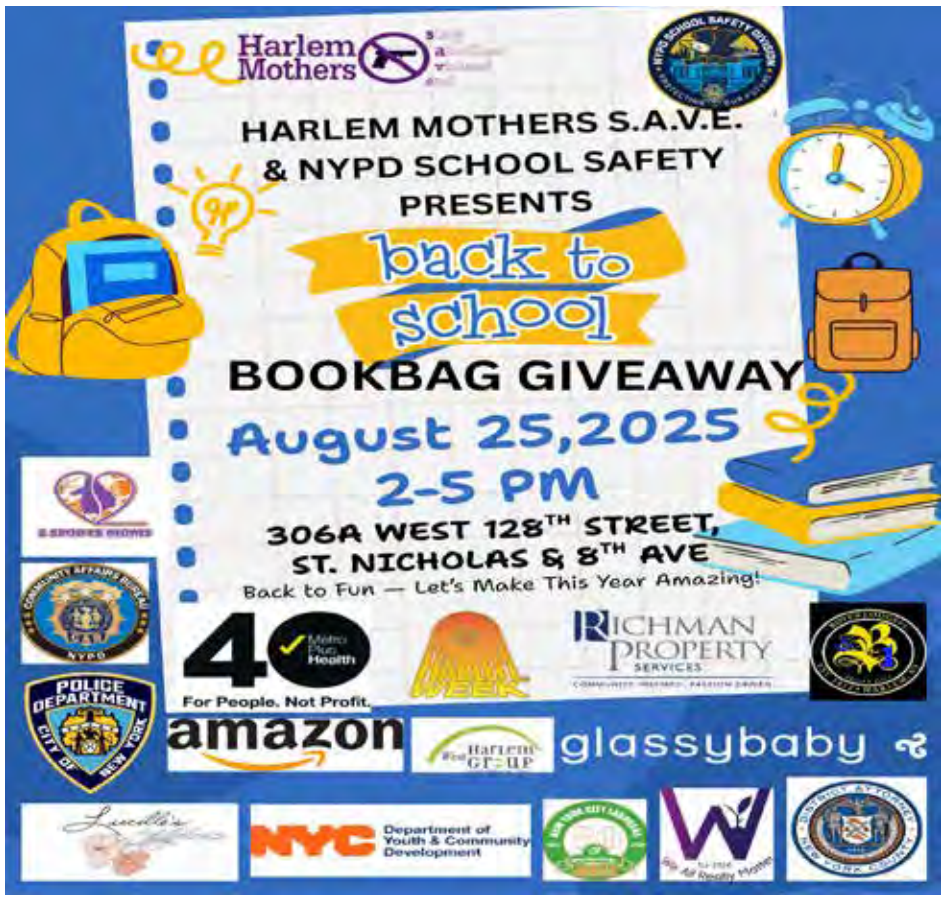
(2) Create a monthly household budget. You must have the discipline to stick to your budget. You must now start to aggressively save as much money as possible for the purchase of your home. Your budget will help you to identify areas of wasteful spending that are potential financial blind spots. By becoming aware of these "financial blind spots" you can adjust your spending habits to increase your savings.

(3) Calculate a realistic projected purchase date. To make your homeownership dream a reality will take some real hard work. You must maintain your focus with the single-minded purpose of achieving this goal. Keep your projected purchase date in sight. You cannot hit anything if you do not have a target. Create a realistic timeline to move through the process. Post reminders on your mirror, on the refrigerator, on your desk at work to help you maintain focus.

Celebrate every milestone you achieve, either reaching a savings goal or paying off a credit debt. Each step will bring you closer to your goal of homeownership. Remember, buying a home is not an overnight process. Take one step at a time. Remain positive. Keep the faith and you will achieve your dream of becoming 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



**Phil Young Experience at Langston Hughes House, 20 W. 127th St**
**Every Thursday - $20 Suggested Donation**

# Star-Studded HARLEM WEEK Fashion Show at H&M

by Keith L. Forest

In celebration of HARLEM WEEK 2025, H&M hosted a special in-store fashion presentation at its Harlem location on Friday, August 15th, featuring celebrity stylists Wayman and Micah. The event, held at 100 West 125th Street, showcased a special runway component that included Harlem Fashion Committee Managers Kim Dowdy and Misael Montas, who shared the runway with local hat designer Evetta Petty of Harlem's Heavenly Hats. These fashion insiders wowed the crowd with dual, trendsetting looks styled by Wayman and Micah, featuring H&M's latest fall styles.

The event, hosted by H&M Diversity Executive Donna Dozier and moderated by H&M Stylist and Merchandiser Aly Ndiaye, featured a conversation about the stylists' journey from Uptown to Hollywood. "Harlem has always been a creative force in the fashion space," Wayman shared. "When you walk the streets there is so much influence and inspiration you can build off of."

Micah echoed the sentiment, highlighting the neighborhood's unique and enduring style. "Harlem is so era-specific," he said. "From the Harlem Renaissance to the '90s hip-hop, to the early 2000s. You can look at something and just say, 'It's just so Harlem!'"

Among the attendees were Dr. Deborah Williams, the creative force behind "Her Game Too," Harlem's own Brownstone Fashion Boutique Owner Princess Jenkins, and HARLEM WEEK Executive Director Winston Majette.

Colombian-born designer Edwing D'Angelo, whose fashions have been featured at the Met Gala and the Tony Awards, also spoke at the event. "It's a pleasure to be here and share your journey," D'Angelo said. "I personally salute the legacy of Lloyd Williams, who passed away last week, and the HARLEM WEEK fashion committee who gave me my first break over 20 years ago. If it wasn't for this amazing event, there wouldn't be an Edwing D'Angelo Atelier."

HARLEM WEEK 2025 is made possible by its presenting sponsors, which include The Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce, Amazon Access, The City College of New York, National Park Service, and West Harlem Development Corp.

Event sponsors include Con Edison, Harlem Community Development Corp, 107.5 WBLS-FM, Mt. Sinai Hospital, 94.7 The Block, Chase Bank, Silicon Harlem, Office of Assemblyman Jordan Wright, NYC Parks & Recreation, Office of Assemblyman Al Taylor, NY Road Runners, NYC Public Schools, Office of NYS Senator Cordell Cleare, and The NY Police Department.

Co-sponsors are Coca-Cola, Black Health Matters, H&M, Mayor's Office of Media & Entertainment, Harlem Hospital, FOX-5 TV, Eli Lilly And Company, McDonald's, Memorial Sloan Kettering, PIX-11 TV, Metroplus, Northwell Health, Office of NY County DA, NYC Office of Small Business Services, FDNY, NYS Office of General Services, Olnick Group, Office of NYC Councilmember Yusef Salaam, United Way NYC, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, The MET, Melba's Restaurants, The Apollo, and Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute.

**(l-r) Donna Dozier Gordon, H&M Diversity & Inclusion Executive; Fashionistas Evetta Petty, Harlem Heavenly Hats; Harlem Week Fashion Committee Managers Misael & Kim Dowdy**

**(l-r) H&M Merchandiser & Model Aly Ndiaye; Designers**

**Harlem Fashion Committee Misael Montas, fashion by H&M styled by Wayman & Micah**

**Harlem Heavenly Hats Evetta Petty, fashion by H&M**

**(l-r) Harlem Fashion Committee Manager Kim Dowd,**

# HARLEM WEEK Finale: Summer in the Streets, August 16

Harlem Week 2025 culminated in a vibrant final weekend on Saturday, August 16, and Sunday, August 17, celebrating the neighborhood's rich cultural legacy and community spirit.

The two-day finale was an electrifying mix of music, fashion, and tributes, drawing thousands to Uptown Manhattan.

Sunday's programming, dubbed "Harlem Day," transformed the streets into a Broadway Row, featuring live performances from iconic productions including The Lion King, MJ The Musical, Hell's Kitchen, and Hamilton. These showcases brought the magic of Broadway directly to Harlem, honoring its deep ties to the performing arts.

A poignant Jazzmobile tribute honored Harlem native Congressman Charles B. Rangel, recognizing his decades of public service and advocacy. The day also included a heartfelt memorial for Lloyd Williams, Harlem Week's co-founder, and the CEO of the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce who passed away earlier this month. Williams was instrumental in shaping Harlem's cultural and economic landscape for over 50 years.

Additional highlights included a centennial celebration of Malcolm X, a musical salute to Quincy Jones led by Ray Chew, and appearances by notable figures such as Busta Rhymes, NYS Attorney General Leticia James and Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine.

The final weekend stands as a powerful testament to the neighborhood's enduring legacy and vibrant future.

**photos by: Nadezda Travodova Tezgor**

# HARLEM WEEK Finale: Harlem Day, August 17

**photos by: Nadezda Travodova Tezgor**

# Harlem News Broadway Tickets winners during HARLEM WEEK

Harlem Community Newspapers awarded Broadway show tickets to four lucky winners as part of their HARLEM WEEK promotion. Participants were able to enter the giveaway at several events, including: A Great Day in Harlem on August 10, Summer in the City on August 16 and Harlem Day on August 17, as well as online.

"Hell's Kithen" -Shakeena Culler

"Alladin" - Jeanette Sullivan

"Lion King" - Tashany Kirby

"MJ the Musical" - Monifa Foster

HARLEM WEEK has been covered in the Harlem Community News for 32 years. HARLEM WEEK was the first feature event covered by Pat Stevenson when she began publishing ommunity newspapers in Harlem 32 years ago.

"Blacks on Broadway" has been a featured article annually for more than 30 years. the objective of the feature is to enourage readers to go to see Broadway shows and especially those who employ Black actors. to help readers decide which show to see. The newspapers publishes the headshot of all Black actors on Broadway..

photos by Nadezda Tavodova Tezgor

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# How Precise Diagnostic Tools Support Personalized Bladder Cancer Care

(StatePoint)

Every bladder cancer journey is different, and no single treatment or diagnostic path fits everyone. Accordig to patients who have experienced bladder cancer, the best care for you will depend on your personal situation.

"After experiencing recurring bladder cancer, I learned that understanding my path forward meant looking beyond general statistics and seeking out more precise care based on my individual case," says Michael F.

A More Complete Picture

Because doctors often tailor treatment decisions, it's best that the diagnostic procedures they use give them the most complete picture possible. One option your doctor may offer is Blue Light Cystoscopy (BLC), a diagnostic procedure designed to help your urologic surgeon better visualize tumors in your bladder.

BLC involves placing a special imaging agent into the bladder at least one hour before the procedure. During the procedure, the surgeon will examine the bladder lining using regular white light, then switch on a special blue light. The imaging agent causes the tumors to glow bright pink in the special blue light. The enhanced visibility helps define the edges of visible tumors and reveals a certain type of flat, cancerous lesion that can otherwise be difficult to detect.

BLC is currently used during TURBT (transurethral resection of bladder tumor) procedures and can also be used during cystoscopies to monitor progress during surveillance visits. Your doctor might recommend BLC to provide a more detailed view of your bladder and to help gather tissue samples that can provide information that aids in diagnosis and treatment planning. Having a better understanding of the characteristics of your bladder cancer can help your doctor determine or adjust your treatment plan, and choose an appropriate follow-up approach for you.

"Once my doctors began using blue light, it became a standard part of my cystoscopies, allowing them to identify areas of concern that had not been visible before," says Michael F.

Michael F's recurring bladder cancer required multiple rounds of treatment, including immunotherapy, chemotherapy and eventually gene therapy. Over the course of his treatments, he underwent 10–11 cystoscopies — most of which utilized BLC to identify suspicious cells that were otherwise undetectable. "With my robust form of cancer, the enhanced cystoscopies were able to reveal suspicious cells that turned out to be pre-cancerous. This helped my care team respond faster and more efficiently," he says.

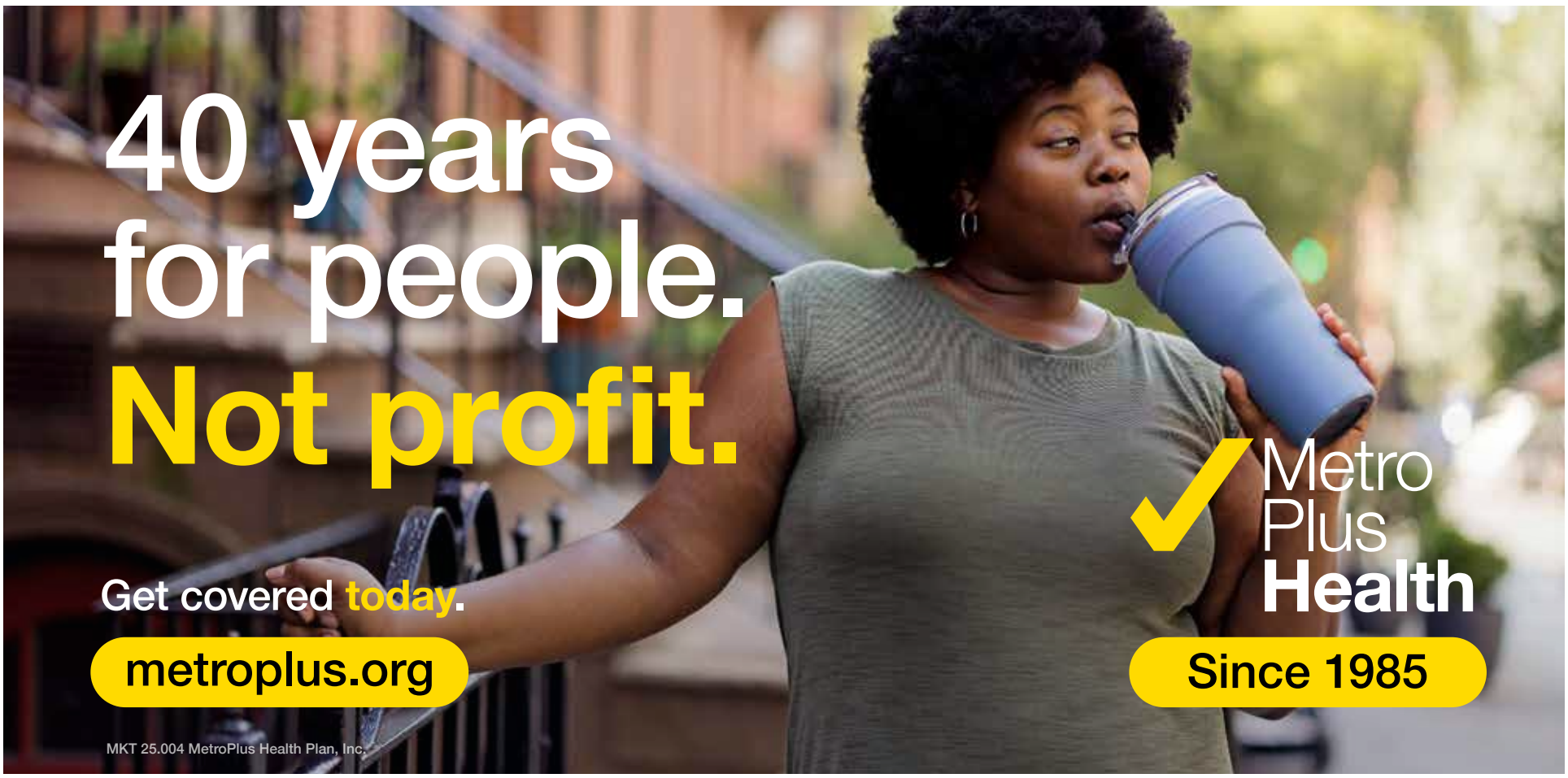
Your urologist will consider many factors when recommending diagnostics, and not every tool is right for every bladder cancer case. When discussing your care with your urologic surgeon, here are a few questions you might ask:

1. "Would Blue Light Cystoscopy be helpful in my case?"
2. "What are the options for getting an enhanced view of my bladder?"
3. "How do you personalize care plans for someone with my diagnosis?"

Michael F. often reminds others that statistics are general, not personal, and encourages speaking up when something doesn't seem right. "Staying informed of your care options, as well as being honest, open and proactive with your care team throughout your bladder cancer journey can help you get precise, personalized care," he says.

If you are interested in exploring BLC, speak with your urologist. For information about locations that offer BLC, visit https://rebrand.ly/BLClocations.

Every cancer care path is unique — and so are the tools that may be used along the way. BLC is one diagnostic option your urologic oncologist may use to help visualize your bladder more clearly, and provide timely, tailored treatment.



# Tech Products to Help You Kick Off The New School Year Right

(StatePoint)

As a new school year gets underway, it's time to zero in on the tech products that can help your students ease into their academic routines and succeed in the classroom. Here are some of the greatest products on store shelves today that can transform a student's relationship to school subjects ranging from STEM and language arts to music and physical education:

Math made magical: Put the best tools in the hands of your math wizard with the fx-991CW ClassWiz, the latest enhancement to Casio's scientific calculators. With an all-new quadruple-graded LCD display, your student will be able to easily find their cursor while writing and modifying expressions. All of the calculator's functions can be accessed through a convenient Math Catalog, which also hosts 47 scientific constants and 40 measurement conversions. By partnering the ClassWiz with an internet-capable mobile device and scanning a QR code on the calculator's screen, solutions can be graphed and visualized through the Casio-hosted virtual workspace, ClassPad.net.

Note-taking made simple: When it comes to synthesizing information, there really is no replacement for writing things down by hand. Now, there's a simple way to take notes the "old-fashioned way" while getting all the benefits of digitization. With a smart pen, your student's handwritten notes are compatible with all their devices. These notes are also editable, searchable and highlightable, taking the fuss out of studying for exams and organizing materials for essays.

Music made beautiful: Bring life and light to your young music student's world with the CT-S1. The sleek minimalist design and uplifting sound of this Casio keyboard will allow them to focus solely on the music, develop their unique style, and energize and encourage them to play more. With a simple interface, and a color palette to suit every aesthetic, the functionality and design of the CT-S1 is all about the individual musician, and its compact design and portability are well-suited for on-the-go students short on space.

Sports made supportive: Student-athletes can hone their skills in their sport of choice with new technology. From smart footballs that track spiral velocity and throw distance to connected soccer balls that measure trajectory, speed and spin, today's tech tools on the field function like a coach available to offer detailed, accurate feedback 24/7.

This school year, you can encourage your student to thrive. With the latest and greatest technology, they can be inspired and supported to meet their potential.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-Tuesday P. Brooks

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Tuesday P. Brooks

# Early Childhood Education Advocate Offers Advice to Parents

Janna Rodrique

BlackPressUSA interviewed Janna Rodriguez, an advocate, educator, and champion for early childhood education. She's the founder and owner of Innovative Daycare Corp in Freeport, NY, where she has created a nurturing, bilingual, and inclusive environment serving children of all abilities.

Janna leads advocacy efforts through organizations including the CDA Council, NAEYC, Small Business Majority, Childcare Changemakers, and the CSEA/VOICE Union, where she represents thousands of family childcare providers across New York State. Her efforts ensure that children—especially those from underserved communities—have access to a strong educational foundation and a brighter future.

Q: What should parents consider when enrolling their child in an early childhood education program?

A: Parents should first consider the program's philosophy and whether it aligns with their values and goals for their child. It's not just about finding care—it's about finding an environment that nurtures the whole child: physically, emotionally, socially, and intellectually. Look for programs that have developmentally appropriate practices, a strong focus on safety and emotional well-being, and educators who genuinely understand child development. Accreditation and staff qualifications matter, but so does observing how teachers engage with children daily.

Q: From your perspective, how should a parent decide which early childhood program is best for their child?

A: Choosing the right program is a personal decision. Parents should visit multiple programs, ask questions about curriculum, ratios, and communication, and watch how their child responds during a visit. The best program feels like an extension of the home—warm, welcoming, and attuned to each child's unique needs. Trust your instincts. An early childhood program should empower your child to be curious and confident while also supporting you as a parent.

Q: We live in a multicultural country. How does the early childhood education community ensure it's reflective of that reality?

A: Quality early childhood programs must honor diversity. At our program, we intentionally create a bilingual environment and celebrate different cultures through music, art, and storytelling. This isn't an occasional themed week—it's woven into our daily interactions. Representation matters; children should see themselves and their peers reflected in books, toys, and the people who care for them. Beyond the classroom, early childhood professionals need continued training in cultural competency to foster true inclusivity.

Q: You're very effective at making the case that we need to do a better job of valuing the early childhood education workforce. How do you see things right now? What's going well and where do hurdles still exist?

A: We've made progress in elevating conversations about early education, especially since the pandemic exposed its essential role in our economy. However, many educators still face low wages, limited benefits, and societal undervaluation. What's going well is that advocacy is growing; educators are organizing, unions are strengthening, and policymakers are listening. The hurdle remains translating awareness into sustainable funding and policy changes that ensure educators receive professional pay and respect for the critical work they do.

Q: You recognize that people of color are more likely to face disparities in affordable childcare. How do you help in this regard? What more do you think others should be doing to help?

A: As a Latina educator and advocate, I've experienced these disparities firsthand. Our program prioritizes access for low- and middle-income families and participates in programs like the child care assistance program in New York to make care affordable. Beyond our own classrooms, I advocate for systemic change through my role in childcare organizations and lobbying efforts, pushing for increased subsidies and equitable policies. Others can help by challenging biases, supporting minority-owned early childhood programs, and urging leaders to address racial inequities in funding and licensing.

Q: Successful education outcomes require parents to build on and expand lessons taught in early childhood education. How can parents advance what you and your team try to teach at your program?

A: Partnership with parents is essential. We encourage parents to read daily with their children, ask open-ended questions, and allow for unstructured play at home. Consistency matters—when families mirror the routines and positive behavior guidance we practice in our program, children thrive. We also provide digital tools and weekly lesson plans so parents know what we're focusing on and can reinforce those skills through everyday activities like cooking, nature walks, and family conversations.

Q: Please share an example of a student you know who's benefited greatly from their time in your early childhood program. How did you know they were excelling? What made it such a positive experience?

A: One child joined us with significant developmental delays and struggled socially. Through individualized attention, collaboration with specialists, and a nurturing environment that built confidence through play, this child flourished. Within a year, they were communicating more clearly, forming friendships, and demonstrating problem-solving skills we hadn't seen before. The success came from teamwork—educators, therapists, and parents aligning around the child's strengths and needs. Watching that transformation reaffirmed why high-quality, inclusive early childhood education is life-changing.

# URBANOLOGY: A Tribute to A Leader

*By William A. Rogers*

In 1973 Hope R Stevens became the first Black president of the Uptown Chamber of Commerce (UCC). Percy Sutton recommended Lloyd Williams (godson to Malcolm X), a client of attorney Sutton to work with Hope.

I was the president of the Black Pre-Law Society at the City College of New York at the time. Haywood Burns was my faculty advisor. He was a "people's lawyer" and the dean of the newly formed CUNY Law School. I met Haywood when I was at the Harlem Branch of the Black Panther Party when he learned that Attorney Sutton sent Lloyd Williams to work with Hope, Burns recommended me to be an intern in Hope's office.

Hope made Lloyd the director for UCC and I was made the Deputy Director. When Hope died in 1982. Harlem Businessman Lloyd Dickens became the president of UCC. He appointed Lloyd to be the Executive Vice President, and I became the Executive Director of UCC.

When Lloyd Dickens died in 1988, The UCC board of directors appointed Lloyd Williams the President and CEO of the Uptown Chamber of Commerce, I was appointed as the Executive Vice President.

HARLEM DAY was the first major program that was developed under the new leadership of UCC under the direction of then Manhattan Borough president Percy E. Sutton in 1974. The theme for the first HARLEM DAY was "The Beginning of the Second Harlem Renaissance."

In 1979 under the leadership of Lloyd Williams who was also the president of LMR Resources, a strategic marketing company, the first Harlem Tour and Information Guide map was developed for UCC. . I was the Executive Vice president of LMR. At that time we were able to confirm after researching city records that the Greater Harlem Area was from 90th street to 169th street from river to river.

Shortly after the map was published and distributed throughout the world by the then New York City Convention and Visitors Borough, now NYC, the Harlem Tourism and Hospitality Industry truly began. The map showed the many historic landmarks, restaurants, institutions of higher learning, historic churches, and the places to go to experience the music and art of Harlem.

All of this was made possible because of the leadership and personal sacrifice of Lloyd A Williams, who died on August 5, 2025. We will truly miss him and his leadership. There will be a special tribute to Lloyd Williams on the Saint Nicholas stage at 135th street on 51st annual HARLEM DAY celebration of HARLEM WEEK on August 16th.

When history reflects on the many accomplishments made by the heroes during the Second Harlem Renaissance, Dr. Lloyd A. Williams will be at the top of the list. I am honored and have gratitude for the opportunity to have had a partnership that has lasted for over 60 years.

A special tribute will be given to Lloyd A. Williams at the August 14th Cultural Tourism Summit. The Summit will take place at the Harlem Renaissance Marriott hotel. The first segment of the summit will focus on a data demonstration of the Connect Harlem app. For the City Within A City Project.

The Connect Harlem App will be a continuation of the concept that Lloyd Williams provided. The leadership to help create the 1979 Greater Harlem Informational Map and Guide.

**Lloyd Williams, Anna Rogers (mother of Tony), Tony Rogers**

In 2025 the map and guide will be digital but like it's 46-year-old predecessor it will be used as an economic development tool for the Harlem Tourism and Hospitality Industry and a tribute to the leadership of my friend, my brother my leader Dr. Lloyd Williams

# HERBS ARE NATURE'S REMEDY

## Part II - More Herbs and Essential Oil Remedies for Intestinal Disorders

By Zakiyyah

Whether you struggle with an occasional bout of acid reflux, the pains of IBS or gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) – all can cause extreme discomfort.

Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) is another common disorder that affects the stomach and intestines. Symptoms include cramping, abdominal pain, bloating, gas, and diarrhea or constipation, or both. IBS is a chronic condition that you will need to manage long term.

Below is a very effective topical massage oil to massage the stomach every afternoon (ideally between 3-5pm).

Intestinal Massage Oil: made in a carrier oil blend of Moringa and Tamanu; blended with essential oils that repairs damaged intestinal lining, eliminates bacterial infections that often accompanies IBS, and improves intestinal mucosa. This formula (blended in a 3% Dilution) includes the essential oils of cardamom, birch bark, Nargarmotha, Cypress, Helichrysum, Frankincense, and some anti-inflammatory essential oils which include dill, grapefruit, tarragon, cucumber, ylang ylang and ginger; plus a few essential oils to strengthen the immune system, eliminate infection and stimulate better digestion - Oregano, Bay Laurel, and Rosemary Verbenone.

To learn the specifics of how to make this formula, and identify and then heal the source of disease in your body, send an email to inquire about upcoming herb courses launching in September.

. . . **MAKE NATURE'S MEDICINE YOUR OWN**

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**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | O | L | L | ■ | ■ | R | A | P | ■ | ■ | H | O | U | R |
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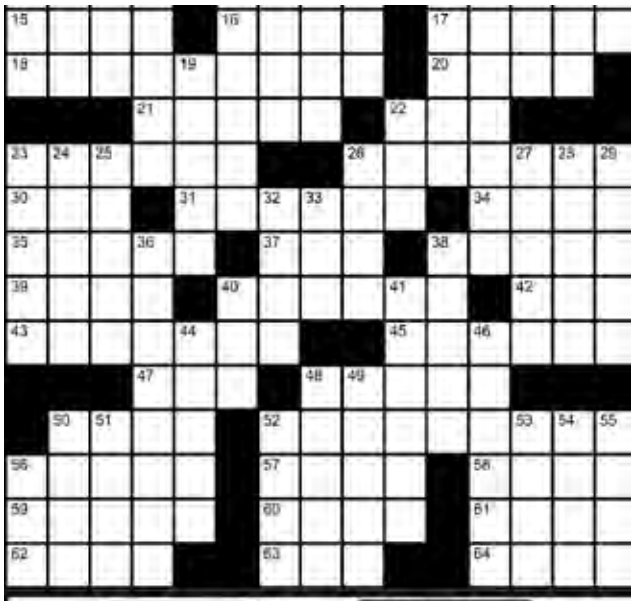
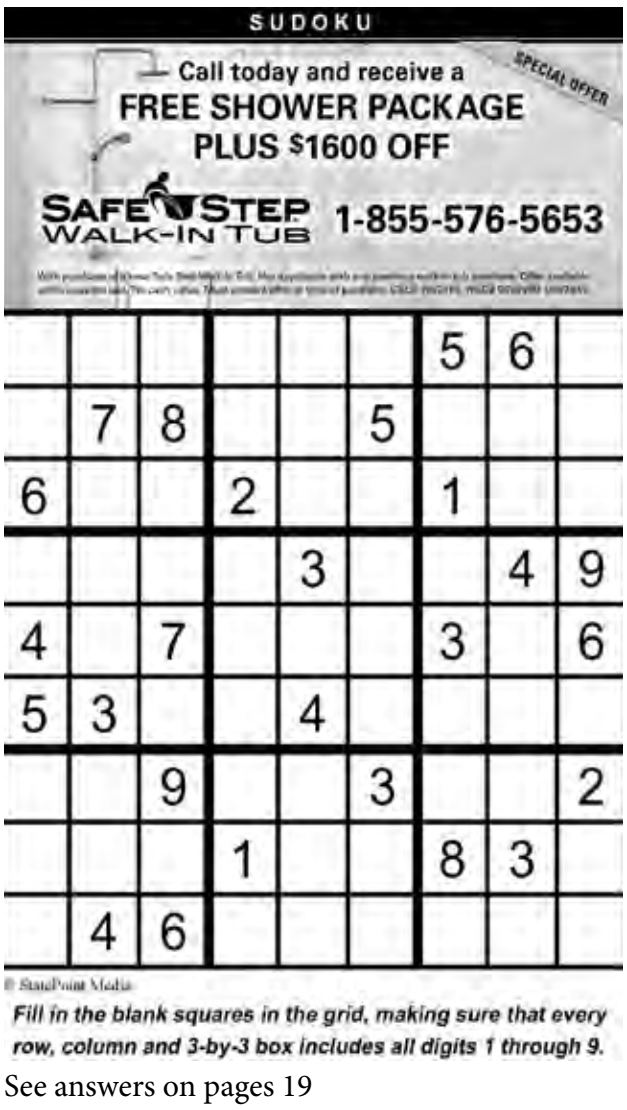
See answers on pages 16






*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

**Statepoint Crossword**

THEME: FOOTBALL

**ACROSS**

1. *The Coaches ___ or The AP Top 25 ____
5. *Super Bowl halftime performer Kendrick Lamar's genre
8. 1/168th of a week
12. Purse to match a gown
13. Karl of politics
14. Model builder's wood choice
15. *YDS, TD or INT
16. Black like certain tree
17. *Last season's NFL MVP
18. *Worth 6 points
20. Way, way off
21. Owl cries
22. Come and ____ it
23. Ape
26. Stucco or aluminum on a house wall, pl.
30. "Wheel of Fortune" request
31. Bette Green's "Summer of my __ Soldier"
34. Stag, not doe
35. Like an uncomfortable mattress
37. European Economic Community
38. *NFL Hall of Famer Greene or comedian Hart
39. Seed coat
40. Cylindrical flowe r cluster
42. Stir or fuss
43. City in Illinois
45. #10 Down's counterpart
47. Small dog's bark
48. Adams of "Summe r Of '69" fame
50. *Point value of a safety in football, pl.
52. *Worth 3 points in football (2 words)
56. Behind a stern
57. Raise the roof
58. Classroom parasites
59. Blooper
60. Actor and singer
61. Some are slippery
62. Scraps
63. Ballpark fig.
64. Dark loaves

**DOWN**

1. Bothersome one
2. *Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Graham
3. Molokai party
4. Leechee, alt. sp.
5. R2-D2, e.g.
6. Declares to be true
7. *College, home to football's Nittany Lions
8. *Football intermission
9. Paella pot
10. Addict
11. *What the NFL's Jim Brown famously did
13. Fixed up
14. Bleated
19. Hoagie, alt. sp.
22. Bathtub hooch
23. Green side
24. Accustom
25. Imitate
26. *Quarterback's downfall
27. The N of U.S.N.A.
28. Move smoothly
29. Mister in Madrid
32. ____-view mirror
33. What Harry and Sally did
36. *Pre-championship games
38. Work the dough
40. High tea vessel
41. Bucolics
44. Gustatory sensation
46. Hook, line and sinker person
48. Coffin holders
49. Rekindled
50. Type of ski lift
51. Drift like aroma
52. Type of fish net
53. Like acne-prone skin
54. Climber's destination
55. It's more, to some
56. Don McLean: "A long, long time ____..."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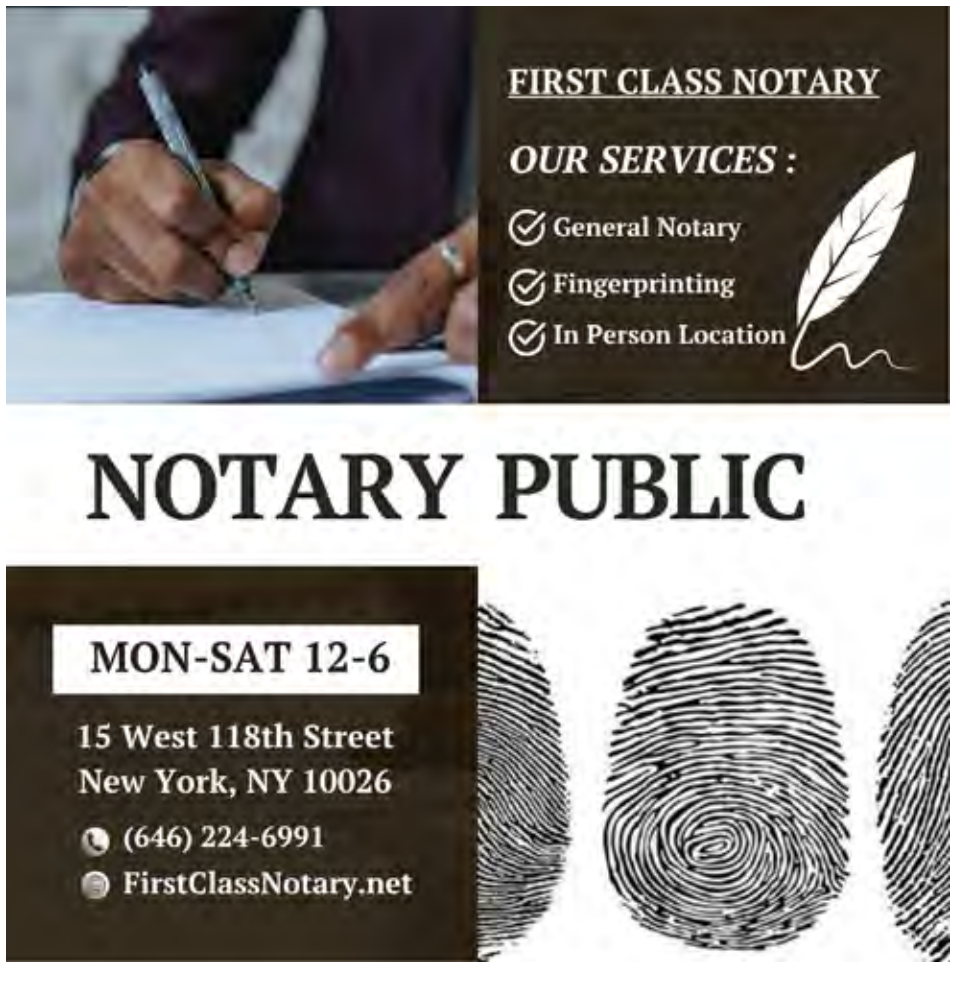

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# "Lead Boldy: Seven Principles from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr" by Robert F. Smith

Review by Terri Schlichenmeyer, Harlem News contributor

Watch and learn.

If you've ever had to do something thorny or tricky, something you've never done before, that's how you get good at it: you watch a video online or see someone do it in person before trying it and putting your own spin on it. See one, do one, show one, they say. As in the new book "Lead Boldly" by Robert F. Smith, it's always best to learn by example.

Though he was there at the March on Washington in August of 1963, Smith doesn't remember it. He was an infant in his mother's arms then, but he grew up on stories of that day, and other accounts of Dr. Martin Luther King's efforts. He cut his teeth on tales of Jim Crow, the Green Book, and the lack of generational wealth. Understanding this history is why, in his business, he reaches for the seven principles that Dr. King taught.

Leaders, he says, know the importance of equal opportunities and they work to change wealth gaps, and to raise up future generations of Black citizens – often through CDFIs (Community Development Financial Institutions), which help underserved areas.

Leaders build community, then they work to move everyone forward by encouraging STEM education in local schools, and by ensuring that the latest technology is within reach of all citizens. They meld both sides of America into one cohesive citizenry to harness the power of togetherness, and to create equity and opportunities. Leaders build bridges between their group and others, and they work to keep them strong. A good leader is brave enough and willing enough to step up and declare that something's wrong, and to see that that thing is fixed.

And finally, you can "lead boldly" by taking the reins, gathering your team, and continuing on with efforts to better all citizens in all corners.

Looking for some inspiration from the C-Suite?

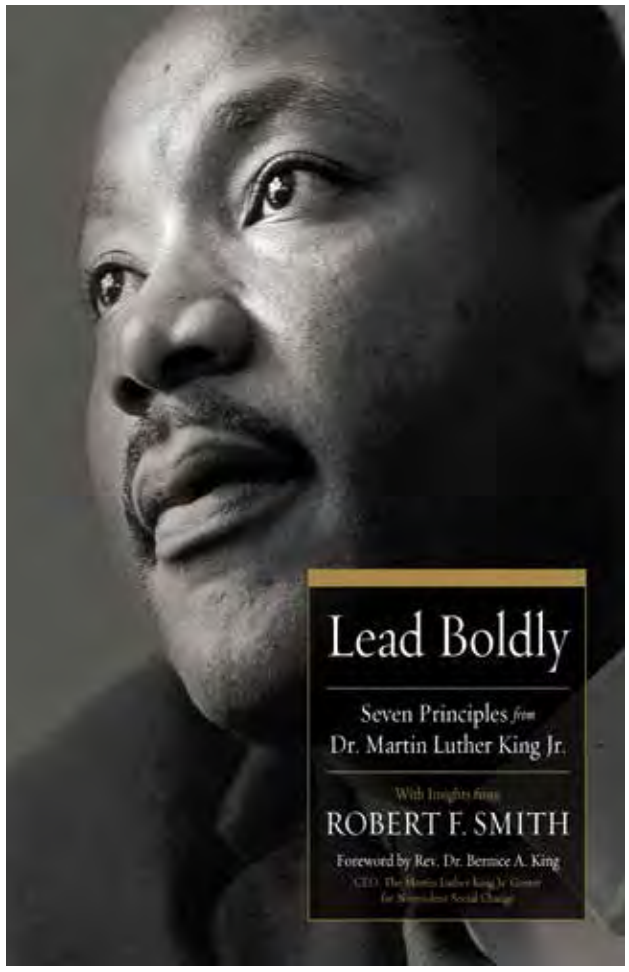
You might find it inside "Lead Boldly," but you might also notice that what you'll read here is somewhat inadequate. Rather than hearty information, it's a lot of opinion – valid opinion, but opinion nonetheless – that may work better for younger, up-and-comers. Worse: there's really not enough of it.

That can be frustrating. Author and head of Vista Equity Partners Robert F. Smith starts each chapter with a different speech by Dr. King, and he then makes each relevant for anyone who hopes to make change. After those rousing words, though, readers may be left wanting more direction. You'll be fired up… and then cooled down quick, probably because this book is relatively short, at just 240 pages, roughly half of which is speech transcripts. That leaves the other half to cover a lot of ground.

Which it does, but just not enough.

This isn't a bad book; it's full of great information but it feels incomplete. Perhaps the best way to get the most out of it is to study the speeches and use Smith's lessons as a launching pad. Do your own homework and then let "Lead Boldly" inspire you further.

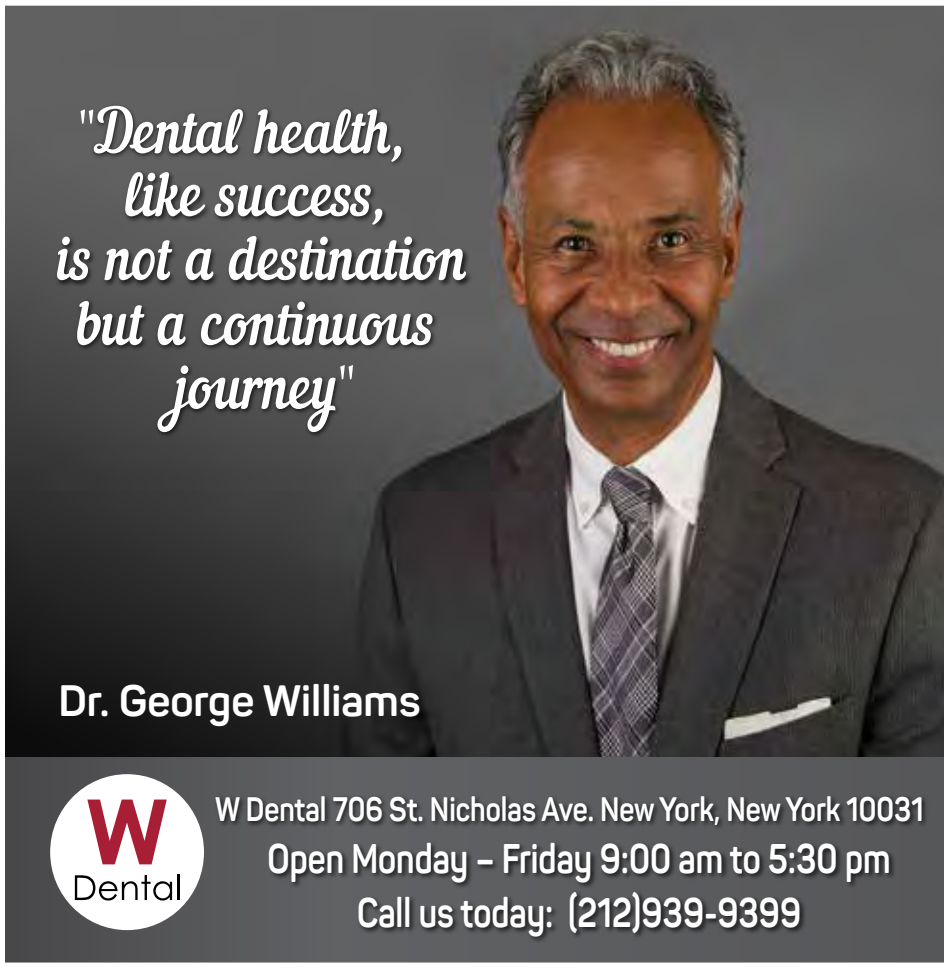
**"Lead Boldly: Seven Principles from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr."**
by Robert F. Smith
c.2025,
HarperCollins Leadership
$31.99
240 pages




**Answers to Sudoku on page 17**

## SUDOKU ANSWERS

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



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***Soul food, Salad Bar, and Breakfast***

# Celebrating HARLEM WEEK 2025

## Manna's Scholarships for the Class of 2026

Manna's founder, Betty Park, lost her youngest son, Charlton, in November of 2022. During his short time on earth, he was youthful and generous. After his passing, she decided she would like to award scholarships in his memory as a reflection of who he was. The scholarships are for high school seniors graduating in 2026. The application deadline is March 31, 2026 and scholarships will be awarded in spring 2026. Go to our website (www.soulfood.com) click on the "Scholarship Program" tab for more details.

Manna's Scholarship Recipients from the class of 2025

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