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

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HARLEM COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS, INC.

"GOOD NEWS YOU CAN USE"

COMMUNITY

HARLEM NEWS

"Good News You Can Use"

Vol. 32 No. 33 August 14, 2025 - August 20, 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

On August 5, 2025, Harlem mourned the passing of Lloyd Williams, a visionary leader, President of the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce and co-founder of HARLEM WEEK, whose tireless work uplifted the community for over five decades. His death marks yet another profound loss for Harlem this year. Earlier, we said goodbye to Congressman Charles Rangel, who served Harlem in Congress for 46 years and was known as "The Lion of Harlem" and the last surviving "gang of Four." We also lost Dr. Hazel M. Dukes, a fearless civil rights advocate and President of the NAACP New York State Conference, who championed justice for nearly 50 years. These three giants shaped Harlem's cultural, political, and civic identity. In 2025, Harlem has truly suffered a great loss, but their legacies will continue to inspire generations to come. Their lives were a testament to Harlem's enduring strength, pride, and purpose. (see page 3)

HARLEM WEEK continues see activities for next weekend (pages 14-15)

Governor Hochul was in Harlem this past Sunday at the 110th Street Subway station for the renaming to Malcolm X plaza. (see page 9)

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Pat Stevenson
Celebrating
32 years Publishing

TRIBUTE To Lloyd Willams, President and CEO of the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce and Co-Founder of HARLEM WEEK

Lloyd A. Williams, President and CEO of The Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce and Chairman and Co-Founder of HARLEM WEEK, passed away peacefully last week surrounded by loved ones, following a private and courageous battle with prostate cancer. He was 80 years old. He is survived by his wife Valorie Roberson-Williams, son Lateef Adé Williams, daughter-in-law Valerie Pinckney-Williams, and grandson Lenox A. Williams. Funeral arrangements are pending.

Pat Stevenson began publishing community newspapers in Harlem 32 years ago. The first featured article was 'HARLEM WEEK." She has maintained a media sponsorship relationship with Lloyd Williams and HARLEM WEEK for the entire 32-year period.

An influential business and community leader, Williams worked tirelessly to bridge cultural, economic identity and civic engagement across Harlem and beyond for more than half a century. As President and CEO of the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce, the second oldest continuous business/civic organization in Manhattan (originally founded in 1896), he oversaw decades of economic, cultural and civic growth in Harlem, steering through major transitions including the COVID-19 pandemic to what is often described as a modern "Second Harlem Renaissance." Under his leadership, GHCC has also spearheaded efforts to address affordable housing, education, health equity, climate change and the digital divide.

Williams was the architect and co-founder of HARLEM WEEK, which started as a one-day event (HARLEM DAY) organized by the Honorable Percy S. Sutton in 1974 to create positivity in the community and promote the neighborhood's rich history and culture during a time of economic and social challenges. Under Williams' guidance as chairman, his childhood friend and event co-founder and executive producer Voza Rivers, and countless others—HARLEM WEEK has expanded into an 11 day globally recognized festival attracting over 2.5 million attendees and is one of the largest summer events in the Northeast, affirming Harlem's legacy and propelling its future growth.

Williams also held leadership positions and served on numerous boards including president of the Greater Harlem Housing Development Corporation (GHHDC), vice chairman of Harlem Arts Alliance, executive committee member of the NYC Tourism + Conventions Board of Directors, chairman of the President's Executive Advisory Board at City College of New York, founding board member of the Apollo Theater, and executive board member of the National Jazz Museum in Harlem.

Williams has served as a guest lecturer in the areas of urban development, economics, tourism, and business at colleges and universities including Cooper Union, Hunter College, The City College of New York, Rutgers University, Columbia University, Pratt Institute, Shaw University, University of Michigan, Fordham University, and The New School for Social Research.

Among other prestigious educational awards and presentations, Williams is also the recipient of an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from the internationally renowned, and prestigious University of the West Indies.

A lifelong Harlem resident, with family roots in the neighborhood dating back to 1919, Lloyd Williams was born January 16, 1945 in Jamaica and moved to New York City at the age of 2. He grew up on West 120th Street, between Lenox and Seventh Avenues, and was deeply immersed in Harlem's culture from a young age.

As a child, Williams was significantly influenced by his grandmother, who instilled in him the values of education and community engagement. His grandmother played a central role in motivating him to "make education a priority" and to use the principles of political activist Marcus Garvey to uplift people of color.

Williams' unofficial godfather, Malcolm X, gave him early exposure to civic leadership and activism and he credited mentors including the late Charles B. Rangel, Hazel Dukes, Harry Belafonte, Percy S. Sutton, and Basil Paterson, and close friends including Voza Rivers, Attallah Shabazz, Inez Dickens, Tony Rogers, H. Carl McCall, and Ken Sunshine, to help shape his worldview and lifelong commitment to Harlem, New York City and the "Harlems of the World." He was also a member of several organizations including the Prince Hall Masonic Lodge and a lifetime member of the NAACP and National Action Network.

2018 Hon. Keith Wright, Pat Stevenson, Lloyd WIlliams

2019 Lloyd Williams,Donna Walker-Khune, Chery Wills, Gary Byrd

Williams received numerous community accolades and has been recognized as one of the "Top 100 Most Influential New Yorkers" by City and State New York, one of the "Top 25 Most Influential Black New Yorkers" by the New York Amsterdam News and one of the "Most Influential Black Professionals" by the New York Christian Times.

Gwen Carr, Hazel Dukes, Barbara Johnson, Lloyd Williams

He has also written numerous articles which have been featured in local, regional, and national publications, co-produced TV specials on FOXTV, NBC4, CBS2, WNET, and WOR9, and co-hosted regular radio programs on WBLS-FM, WHCR.FM, and WLIB-AM.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks donations to be made to HARLEM WEEK.

Additionally, Williams cancer was discovered through routine screening, a testament to the life-saving importance of early detection. His family encourages others to prioritize regular checkups and screenings, as Lloyd believed deeply in the power of awareness and prevention, particularly among Black men.

PONDER THIS! Get Up and Do Something for Yourself

By Hazel Rosetta Smith

How long are we willing to remain stuck in the same scenario? There are people who wake up every day of the week stuck in S.O.S, the same old stuff.

This is not about those who are sick or shut-in, who are praying for healing. Their deepest desire is to be able to rise from their present circumstances.

This conversation is for those who wake up in good health, fully in their right state of mind, and yet have no initiative or insight as to what they should be doing to be better and do better.

Change in any format must be participatory. We may believe with all our heart that a change is going to come, but without the effort, a purpose, and a plan, that kind of thinking can be long and fruitless.

You may be deeply engrained with faith, complete trust, and confidence in God; without realizing that faith is action, clearly identified in the Bible in the writings of James 2:17.

Action does not contribute totally to the resolution in one step. There is an onward and upward roadmap and a process necessary to attain success, even in faith driven endeavors.

You oversee your decisions, and you are responsible for your actions. However, rational thinking must be at the forefront of hopes and dreams. Get up and do something, while you can.

Step back and revisit those hopes and dreams from prior years. The ideas that you tucked away and talked yourself into as being impossible may be doable now.

Anything worth doing necessitates time, fortitude, and serious study. Not even God gives us what we want when we want it, the first step is on us.

Before you decide to take on something that you have always wanted to try, do the research to get as much information as you can about it.

There is information available and there are free programs on every subject imaginable to those who want to know. Do not give up until you have checked all avenues.

Respect what you have done and take pride in yourself as you prepare to step out on new adventures.

The Sankofa bird with its head turned backward is a part of the Asante Adinkra symbols used by the Akan people of Ghana to symbolize taking from the past and bringing it into the present to make positive progress to build a successful future.

Something is waiting for you. Believe it and receive it. What you can accomplish may be the biggest surprise of your life. Now is the time to get around to it.

Like the Nike Corporation symbol states, just do it! Do not listen to the naysayers or linger with the doubters. Follow your feelings and see how far they take you.

[Hazel Rosetta Smith is a journalist, playwright, and artistic director for HSTM-Help Somebody Theatrical Ministries. Contacts: misshazel@twc.com and online www.hazelrosettasmith.com]

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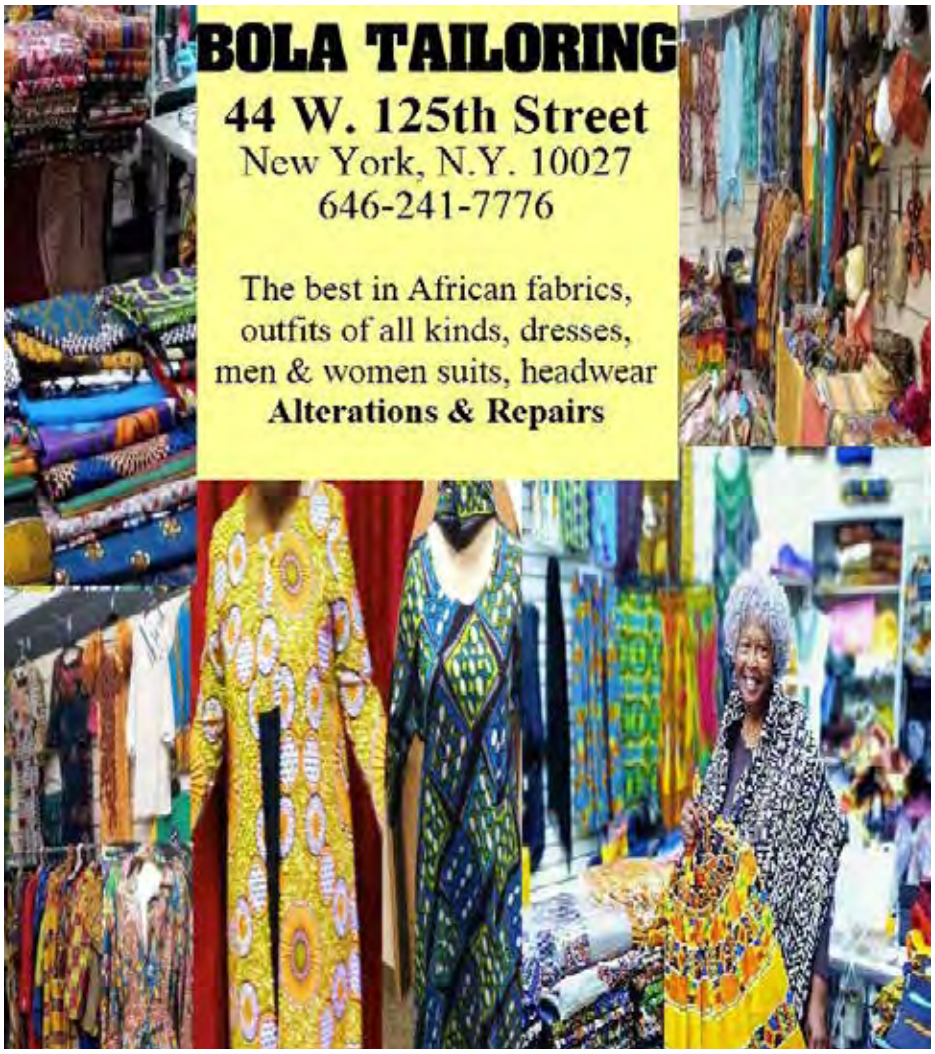

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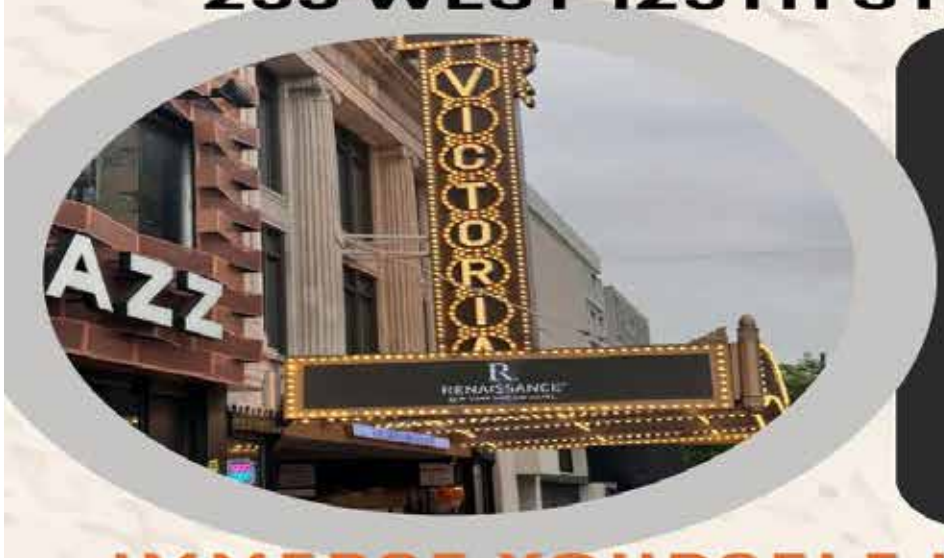

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Helping New Yorkers Save Up to $1 Billion with First-in-Nation Municipal Student Loan and College Assistance Program

By Mayor Eric Adams

My mother was a single parent who worked three jobs just to make sure my siblings and I had a roof over our heads and food on the table—so I know the struggle to live a better life is real.

A college education can help New Yorkers go far, but the financial burden of that education can be overwhelming. For far too many New Yorkers, pursuing a college degree leads to a lifetime of debt. Many of these New Yorkers are city employees, like Shiniqua, who — after pursuing two Master's degrees, including a Master's in Public Administration — was left with $240,000 in debt. That is an unimaginable sum for most New Yorkers and it shouldn't be the price you have to pay to achieve your dreams.

That is why, earlier this year, our administration announced a partnership with leading student loan-forgiveness company, Summer, to help wipe out $360 million in student loan debt for 100,000 hard-working public servants. And now, we are proud to expand this program to all New York City residents and help working-class New Yorkers keep up to $1 billion in their pockets.

Our municipal student loan payment reduction and college savings assistance program will allow New Yorkers to reach for the American Dream without breaking the bank as New York City becomes the first major city in the nation to provide universal student loan and college savings assistance to all our residents. This is a major milestone for our city and a lifesaver for hard-working New Yorkers like Shiniqua.

Our program will help an estimated 1.4 million New Yorkers manage and pay down their existing loans with lower monthly payments and a pathway to debt forgiveness. It will also offer specialized assistance for parents and guardians of college-bound children, helping 1.6 million more New Yorkers. Together, our efforts will help 3 million working people keep up to $1 billion in their pockets by reducing student loan payments by an average of $3,000 per year, and, for those with advanced degrees, we expect the average payments to be reduced by $7,000 per year.

It will also help families save up to $10,000 per child through college planning resources. Additionally, we will help public servants and not-for-profit employees receive benefits from the federal government's Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, which enables debt to be forgiven after 10 years of service and payments.

Since day one, our administration has been focused on putting money back into New Yorkers' pockets. We are driving down the cost of living and spearheading initiatives like the Earned Income Tax Credit to return hundreds of millions of dollars back to qualified low-income New Yorkers, connecting New Yorkers in public housing to free high-speed internet and basic TV through Big Apple Connect, and cancelling $2 billion in medical debt for working-class New Yorkers. Additionally, this year, we successfully called on Albany to "Axe the Tax for the Working Class," which eliminates and cuts city personal income taxes for 582,000 New Yorkers and their dependents, putting $63 million back into their pockets. These programs, combined with other federal, state, and local programs to which we have connected New Yorkers, have helped put $30 billion back in New Yorkers' pockets.

All New Yorkers deserve to live in a city where they and their families can get ahead and thrive. Our citywide student loan and college saving assistance program, along with our other Money in Your Pocket initiatives, is a crucial step toward building a more affordable and equitable society — one in which working-class New Yorkers like my mother don't have to struggle to get by.

To learn more, visit nyc.gov/saveoncollege

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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

Governor Hochul Honors Harlem's Legacy and Cultural District and Malcolm X Plaza Station

In a historic move to honor Harlem's profound cultural legacy, Governor Kathy Hochul signed two landmark pieces of legislation during the 51st Harlem Week festival, cementing the neighborhood's status as a cradle of Black art, music, and thought. With the stroke of a pen, Hochul officially designated the Harlem Renaissance Cultural District and renamed the 110th Street–Central Park North subway station to 110th Street–Malcolm X Plaza.

The newly established Harlem Renaissance Cultural District will span from 110th Street to 155th Street, stretching from Fifth Avenue to the Hudson River. This area, long considered the epicenter of Black creativity and intellectualism, will now be formally recognized as sacred ground. "All of you who fought for that got it done," Hochul declared. "We did it. We got it done." The governor emphasized that this designation is not just a tribute to the past but a call to action for a new renaissance in Harlem, echoing the vibrancy of the 1920s with a modern resurgence of cultural pride and artistic innovation.

The renaming of the subway station to Malcolm X Plaza adds another layer of reverence to Harlem's streets. As Hochul explained, "From this day forward, the 110th Street–Central Park North subway station will have a brand new name… 110th Street – Malcolm X Plaza station." The change honors the legacy of Malcolm X, a towering figure in the fight for racial justice and human rights. Hochul reflected on his transformative journey—from incarceration to becoming a powerful voice for Black empowerment through Islam—and called him "an example to all of us on what are we doing with the time we have here on earth."

The announcement came amid the vibrant celebrations of Harlem Week, a festival that has for over five decades showcased the neighborhood's enduring spirit and contributions to American culture. The two new laws not only commemorate Harlem's past but also empower its future.

The Council on the Arts will now have the authority to designate the Harlem Renaissance Cultural District as a region of cultural significance, ensuring that its legacy is preserved and promoted for generations to come.

Harlem has long been a beacon of Black excellence, from the literary giants like Langston Hughes and Zora Neale Hurston to the jazz legends who filled its clubs with soul-stirring music. With these new designations, Governor Hochul has enshrined Harlem's role in shaping American identity and reaffirmed the state's commitment to honoring its diverse cultural heritage.

This moment marks a powerful affirmation: Harlem's story is not just history—it's living, breathing, and still being written

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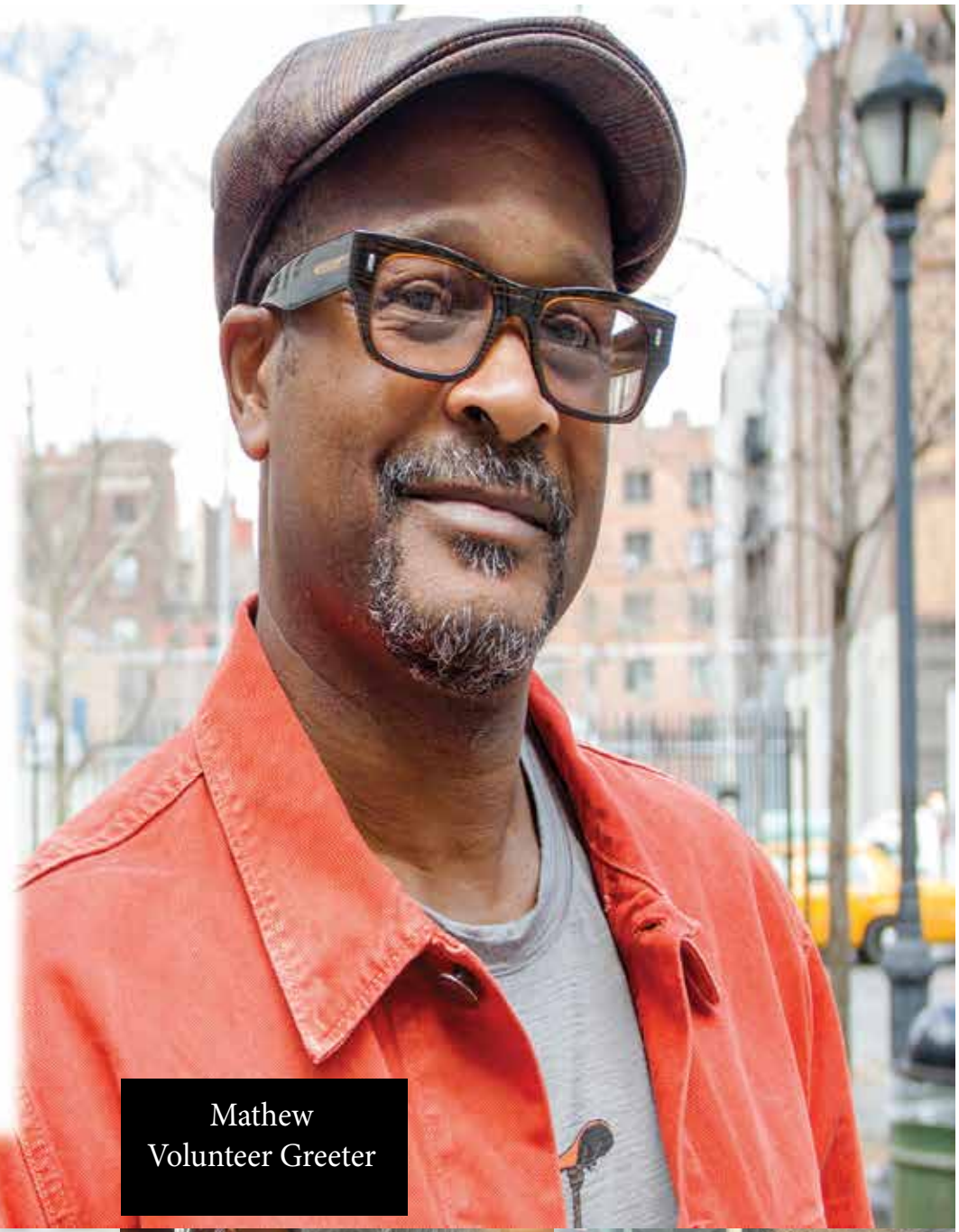

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Volunteer Greeter

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OUR TEAM

May
Volunteer Greeter

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Volunteer Greeter

The Apollo Returns to the Hot Hamptons!

By Audrey J. Bernard, Society Editor

On Friday, August 22, 2025, from 6pm to 10pm, The Apollo returns to the Hamptons for its first in-person fundraiser in the area since before the pandemic at Si Si Mediterranean Restaurant, 295 Three Mile Harbor Hog Creek Road, East Hampton, New York. In collaboration with On Our Toes in the Hamptons, presented by Ronald K. Brown and EVIDENCE, this exclusive evening of dinner, dancing, and celebration supports The Apollo's mission and its Apollo Rising 2.0 Capital Campaign, which funds the historic renovation of the iconic Harlem theater, and raises funds for year-round, world-class artistic, education and community programs.

The evening kicks off with cocktails from 6pm to 7pm followed by dinner and dancing from 7pm to 10pm. The full-scale restoration—set for completion in 2026—includes an expanded lobby with a bar and café, new and restored seating, upgraded backstage areas, repairs to the marquee, and modernized AV, lighting, acoustics, HVAC, fire suppression, and technology systems.

This intimate gathering marks a meaningful milestone for The Apollo, bringing together supporters and cultural leaders to honor its legacy of community, creativity, and impact. Guests will enjoy entertainment with DJ Cassidy, Doug E. Fresh, Chubb Rock, Dres, a special live performance by 2015 Apollo Amateur Night winner Wé Ani, and more. For more information about Apollo in the Hamptons, visit: Apollo in the Hamptons. Apollo in the Hamptons kicks off a broader Weekend of Cultural Elevation which concludes at Guild Hall with On Our Toes in the Hamptons,

FREE: 5th Annual Celebrating Creatives Of Color

On Saturday, August 23, 2025, from 11am to 12pm, The 5th Annual Celebrating Creatives of Color returns and for the second time and will be hosted at The Church and will showcase creative artists and authors of color from Sag Harbor and beyond, and provides an opportunity for artists and authors to display their work and interact with other art enthusiasts and collectors. All artwork and books will be for sale. Proceeds from this event will help support the Bridgehampton Child Care and Recreation Center (BCCRC) and The Church. Artists and Authors will donate 10% of their total sales to support these two important community organizations.

This year, the event will offer a special Author Event hosted by The View's Sunny Hostin as part of the celebration featuring readings from select authors including Harriet Cole, Don Lemon, Wendy Mills, Victoria Christopher Murray, Former Ambassador Suzan Johnson Cook, and Jennifer Morgan. All books will be available for purchase and signed after the reading. Participating visual artists include Judy Henriques Adams, Akili Buchanan, Daevon Byron, Andrew Canyen, Jeremy Dennis, Faith Evans, Beverly Granger, Garry Grant, Paloma Hostin, Jennifer Ivey, Rod Ivey, Michael Jelks, Paula Nailor, John Pinderhughes, Victoria Pinderhughes, Olney Marie Ryland, Shawn Rhea, Ernani Silva, Sharon Van Liempt, Sheniqua (Shea) Young. List in formation.

A warm wave of gratitude to the event organizers and Village of Sag Harbor residents from the Sag Harbor Hills, Azurest, and Ninevah Communities: Beverly Granger, Gwendolyn Hankin, Victoria Pinderhughes, Paula Taylor, and Olivia White. Their efforts have helped to bring attention to emerging and established creatives while supporting community institutions that provide access to enhanced cultural understanding and continued learning.

This event will conclude with a special recognition of art luminary John Pinderhughes. This is a FREE event! No reservations are required. Just show up! Donations are payable at the door. Purchase grab-and-go treats and linger to enjoy all the fair has to offer! For questions, please email CCCSagHarbor1@gmail.com. For information visit thechurchsagharbor.org

# # #

Black Dance Elegance: 'On Our Toes'

On Sunday, August 24, 2025, Ronald K. Brown's EVIDENCE, A Dance Company will host a Weekend of Cultural Elevation at Guild Hall, 158 Main Street, East Hampton, to celebrate the rich tradition of Black dance and artistry, while underscoring The Apollo's commitment to elevating Black creative expression. Join EVIDENCE for a spellbinding program commemorating and benefiting EVIDENCE's 40th anniversary season.

The Gala will feature Master Class in Classical Music; Community Dance Class; VIP Dinner, Music & Conversation and conclude with a post-performance cocktail reception in Guild Hall's Minikes Garden. For more information about On Our Toes in the Hamptons, visit: https://www.evidencedance.com/onourtoes2025.

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HARLEM WEEK "A Great Day in Harlem" Delivered Soul, Spirit and Celebration

Harlem pulsed with energy and pride on Sunday, August 10, as the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce launched the first weekend of HARLEM WEEK 2025 with its iconic flagship event, A Great Day in Harlem. Held at the Ulysses S. Grant National Memorial Park, the day-long celebration drew thousands of attendees for a vibrant showcase of music, dance, culture, and community.

The festivities began at noon with the opening of the International Village, a bustling marketplace of local vendors and artisans offering everything from handcrafted jewelry and fashion to international cuisine. Visitors wandered through booths that reflected Harlem's rich cultural mosaic, sampling flavors and crafts from across the African diaspora and beyond.

The entertainment unfolded in four dynamic segments, each spotlighting Harlem's artistic legacy and future. The Artz, Rootz & Rhythm segment featured emerging performers across genres, while the Gospel Caravan lifted spirits with powerful performances from local and international gospel artists, including the soul-stirring Greg Mitchell Choir and Bishop Hezekiah Walker.

One of the afternoon's most moving moments came from the Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute, whose AfriBembe Presentation traced the journey of the African diaspora through music, dance, and storytelling. It was a poignant reminder of Harlem's global roots and enduring cultural connections. CCCADI's 7th Annual Afribembé Festival brought together neighbors, artists, and families for a vibrant celebration of Black joy, Caribbean culture, and community pride, featuring performances, youth art, and local vendors as part of Harlem Week.

Members of Fathers Forward Inc. shared resources, giveaways for children, and apparel promoting fatherhood engagement. The nonprofit's mission is to support and equip fathers and father figures to strengthen bonds with their children, families, and communities.

The musical tributes were nothing short of electric. The Jeff Foxx Band delivered a funk-filled homage to Kool & The Gang, igniting the crowd with timeless hits. Later in the evening, Ray Chew—renowned Music Director of Dancing with the Stars—joined forces with legendary DJ Kid Capri and the HARLEM WEEK All-Star Band for a soulful tribute to Roberta Flack. Their performance under the stars was a fitting crescendo to a day that celebrated Harlem's musical heartbeat.

Beyond the stage, the event featured performances by the Uptown Dance Academy, NY Theatre Workshop, and a surprise appearance by a WBLS guest artist, adding layers of excitement and artistry. Announcements and scholarship presentations by the Manhattan Theater Club highlighted HARLEM WEEK's commitment to education and youth empowerment.

A Great Day in Harlem followed a packed Saturday lineup that included the Percy Sutton Harlem 5K and Children's Run, the Hazel Dukes Memorial Family Health Walk, and Great Jazz on the Great Hill—a collaboration between Jazzmobile and the Central Park Conservancy.

Harlem Community Newspapers conducted a promotional Broadway ticket giveaway promotion, as part of their "Blacks on Broadway" promotion. Hundreds at the event registered. The drawing was held shortly after 3pm and the winner of a pair of tickets to see "Hell's Kitchen," announced from the stage, was Shakeena Culler. Shakeena was still present at the event and went back to the Harlem News booth to take a photo with publisher, Pat Stevenson and writer Hazel Smith.

As the sun set over Riverside Drive, the echoes of gospel choirs, funk anthems, and community cheers lingered in the air. A Great Day in Harlem was more than an event—it was a living tribute to Harlem's enduring spirit, its cultural legacy, and its vibrant future. HARLEM WEEK 2025 is officially underway, and if this weekend was any indication, the best is yet to come.

Photos by Nadezda Tavodova Tezgo

HARLEM WEEK 2025 Percy Sutton 5K Run and Walk

On Saturday, August 9, Harlem's streets pulsed with energy and pride as thousands gathered for the annual Percy Sutton Harlem 5K Run and Walk, a signature event of Harlem Week 2025. Held in honor of the late Percy E. Sutton—civil rights activist, attorney, and former Manhattan Borough President—the race celebrated Harlem's rich legacy of culture, resilience, and community.

Starting at 8 a.m. near 136th Street and Edgecombe Avenue, participants embarked on a 3.1-mile journey through some of Harlem's most iconic landmarks. Runners passed by Alexander Hamilton's summer home, the City College campus, and St. Nicholas Terrace, soaking in the vibrant spirit of the neighborhood with every stride.

The event wasn't just about fitness—it was a full-on celebration. Live music echoed through the streets, spectators cheered from sidewalks, and local vendors added flavor to the festivities. The race was presented by New York Road Runners (NYRR) in partnership with the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce, reinforcing the event.

This year's race welcomed over 5,000 participants, including more than 150 walkers in the Striders program and 400 youth runners through the Rising NYRR initiative, which encourages kids aged 2 to 18 to embrace running in a fun, supportive environment. The Run for the Future program also

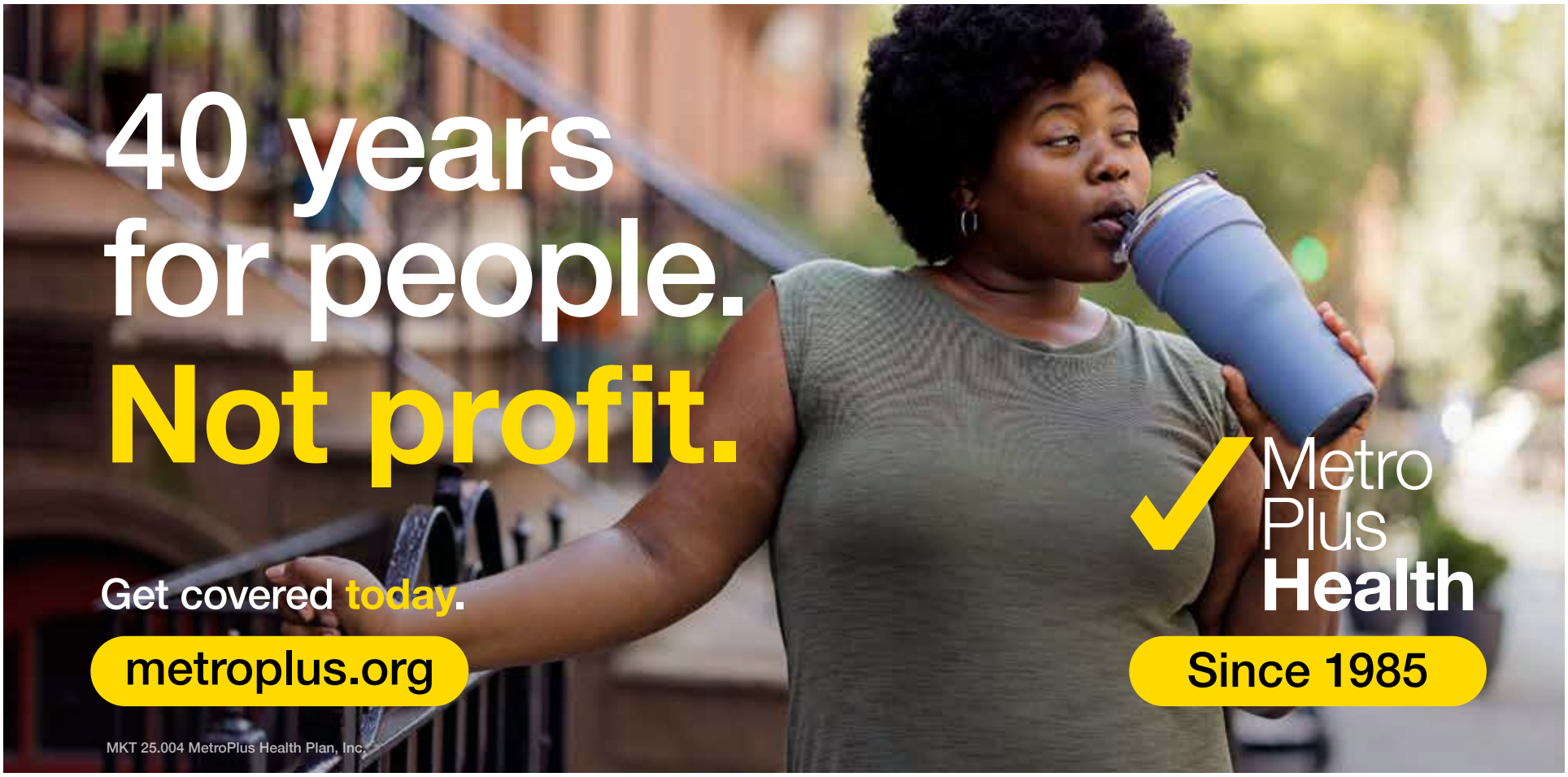
returned, empowering high-school girls to complete their first 5K while gaining life skills in public speaking, financial literacy, and wellness.

Ted Metellus, NYRR's Chief Event Production Officer, emphasized the event's unique blend of culture and inclusivity: "The Percy Sutton Harlem 5K is all things Harlem—history, art, music, and community. What's been amazing is the diversity of participants, not just in background but in ability".

Held at the James Baldwin Lawn – 135th Street Plaza in St. Nicholas Park, the race served as a powerful tribute to Harlem's past, present, and future. Whether running, walking, or cheering from the sidelines, attendees were united by a shared love for Harlem and its enduring legacy.

As Harlem Week continues with more events celebrating the neighborhood's contributions to arts, business, and culture, the Percy Sutton 5K stands out as a shining example of how movement can bring people together—physically, emotionally, and historically.

Photos by Nadezda Tavodova Tezgor



HARLEM WEEK 2025

HARLEM WEEK™ CELEBRATE OUR MAGIC

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16TH |

"SUMMER IN THE CITY"

1:00PM TO 8:00PM
ON W. 135TH ST BTWN. ST. NICHOLAS AVE. & MALCOLM X BLVD.

Celia Cruz & Tito Puente

ST. NICHOLAS MAIN STAGE
BTWN ST. NICHOLAS AVE. & F. DOUGLASS BLVD.

- **HARLEM WEEK & HARLEM MUSIC FESTIVAL**
  SALUTES **TITO PUENTE, CELIA CRUZ** & **EDDIE PALMIERI**
  WITH MULTI-GRAMMY AWARD NOMINATED
  BOBBY SANABRIA'S MULTIVERSE BIG BAND
  FEATURING **JANIS SIEGEL, ANTOINETTE MONTAGUE, JENNIFER JADE LEDESNA**, AND **GERARDO CONTINO**

Eddie Palmieri

- **3 FASHION SHOWS:**
  FASHION FLAVA, ADULT URBAN, "BACK TO SCHOOL"

Food, Beverage, & Dessert Venders

BTWN F. DOUGLASS & AC POWELL JR. BLVD
- INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITORS & VENDORS
- **THE UPMARKET PAVILION**

BTWN AC POWELL JR. BLVD & MALCOLM X BLVD
- **ALEX TREBEK HARLEM CHILDREN'S "SPELLING BEE"**
  11AM TO 2PM @ SCHOMBURG CENTER
  FOR RESEARCH IN BLACK CULTURE
- INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITORS & VENDORS

Children's Spelling Bee

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON **HARLEM WEEK** VISIT **WWW.HARLEMWEEK.COM**
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HARLEM WEEK 2025

HARLEM WEEK™ CELEBRATE OUR MAGIC

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17TH |

HARLEM DAY

THEME: "IT'S A FAMILY REUNION - LET'S CELEBRATE"
12:00PM TO 7:00PM
ON W. 135TH ST BTWN. ST. NICHOLAS AVE. & 5TH AVE.

107.5 FM WBLS WBLS.COM

ST. NICHOLAS MAIN STAGE

BTWN ST. NICHOLAS AVE. & F. DOUGLASS BLVD.

- FEATURING PERFORMANCES FROM THE TONY AWARD-WINNING **"HELL'S KITCHEN"** & **"MJ, THE MUSICAL"**. PLUS **SING HARLEM, DJ KID CAPRI, RAY CHEW & THE HARLEM MUSIC FESTIVAL ALL-STARS** SALUTE TO **"THE DUDE" QUINCY JONES**

Quincy Jones

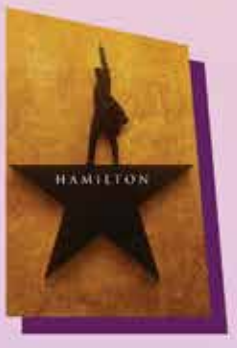
BTWN F. DOUGLASS & MALCOLM X BLVD

- **BROADWAY / THEATER ROW**
- HARLEM HEALTH VILLAGE
- **HARLEM TEEN POETRY SLAM** 11AM TO 2PM @ HARLEM YMCA
- INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITORS & VENDORS

CENTER STAGE

BTWN AC POWELL JR. BLVD & MALCOLM X BLVD.

- PERFORMANCES FROM BROADWAY: **"THE LION KING" & "HAMILTON" CELEBRATING ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY!**



Hamilton

NY CITY CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL - DAY 2

BTWN MALCOLM X BLVD & 5TH AVE

FIFTH AVENUE STAGE

- NY COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY ALVIN BRAGG **SALUTE TO HARLEM'S ANTI-GUN VIOLENCE HEROES**
- **HIP-HOP HALL OF FAME**
- SALUTE TO **HON. CHARLES RANGEL** & **DR. HAZEL DUKES**
- PERFORMANCE FROM JAZZMOBILE: **PAUL WEST & BETHUNE BIG BAND LYNETTE WASHINGTON QUARTET**

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.

HERBS ARE NATURE'S REMEDY

Part - Remedies for Intestinal Discomforts

By Zakiyyah

Whether you struggle with occasional bouts of acid reflux, the pains of IBS or gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) – all can cause extreme discomfort. The symptoms are worsened if you consume the wrong foods/beverages. Coffee, alcohol, spicy/fatty foods, carbonated drinks, and chocolate are all common offenders.

Below are a few herbal remedies.

SLIPPERY ELM, which has extremely high mucilage and nutritive value, makes a great tea for acid reflux. Mucilage is a gel-like substance produced by many herbs that forms a coating over irritated and inflamed tissues, helping to protect against damage from stomach acid.

GINGER has anti-inflammatory properties that help ease intestinal discomforts. This warming tea also reduces gastric contractions, which can help prevent acid flowing back into your esophagus.

FENNEL, like Ginger, reduces gastric contractions, though it is traditionally used to ease gassiness and bloating, which can make a soothing addition to your tea. A few Fennel seeds can also be chewed to relieve the bad breath that often accompanies reflux.

LICORICE has the benefits of soothing indigestion, heartburn, and acid reflux. Chewing a bit of the root increases the production of mucus to reduce stomach acidity, helps with nausea, and also has anti-inflammatory properties.

To learn how to make your own formulas, send an email to inquire about upcoming herb courses launching in September 2025.

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

C	A	R	D			C	O	P			H	I	R	E
W	H	I	R		O	H	I	O		R	A	C	E	R
M	E	S	A		F	A	L	L		E	L	A	T	E
	M	C	G	U	F	F	E	Y		P	L	O	D	
			O	S	I	E	R		N	A	P			
P	R	U	N	U	S			L	O	Y	A	L	T	Y
O	A	R		R	H	E	S	U	S		S	I	R	E
P	I	G	G	Y		G	I	G		A	S	C	U	S
U	S	E	R		P	A	S	S	E	D		I	C	E
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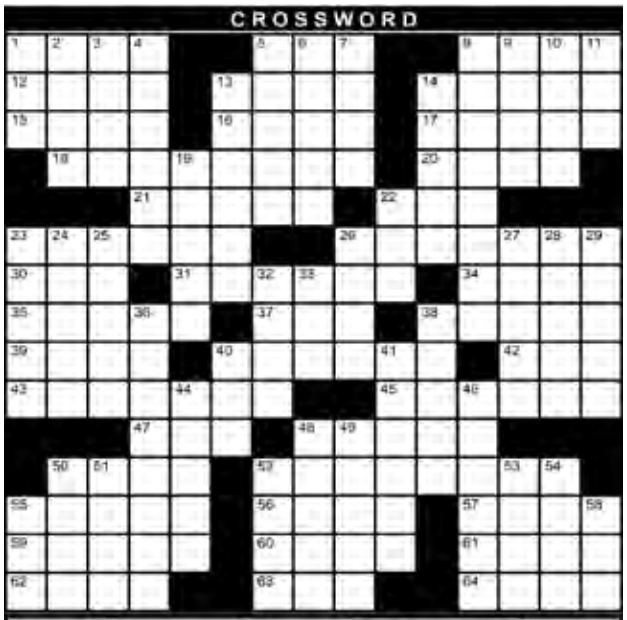
S	L	A	T	E		H	I	V	E		M	I	S	O
A	P	S	E			O	D	E			S	C	A	T

See answers on pages 16

CROSSWORD



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SUDOKU

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

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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

Statepoint Crossword
THEME:
BACK TO SCHOOL

ACROSS
1. *Report ____
5. One on the beat
8. Put on the payroll
12. Fan sound
13. Buckeye State
14. Indy entrant
15. Table mountain
16. 2021 movie "The Harder They ____"
17. Carry away, in a way
18. *____ Readers
20. Weary walk
21. Basketry stick
22. *____ time for preschoolers
23. Plums and cherries genus
26. Allegiance
30. Crew propeller
31. Rh in Rh disease
34. Your majesty
35. Miss of the Muppets
37. Band event
38. Asci, sing.
39. Olympic castaway
40. *Didn't fail
42. Frozen H2O
43. Took a penny-farthing, e.g.
45. *Punctuation marks for famous words
47. Maltese or Havanese, e.g.
48. *Use Play-Doh
50. Cheap trinket
52. *3+x=10, e.g.
55. Soviet place of exile
56. Curtis, to friends
57. Beehive state
59. *Olden-day notebook
60. Honey-producing facility
61. Sushi restaurant soup
62. Location of altar
63. Type of poem
64. Sing like Ella Fitzgerald

DOWN
1. Mountain basin
2. Attention grabber
3. Reduced Instruction Set Computer
4. Hiccup's Toothless, e.g.,
5. Irritate by rubbing
6. Persian Gulf ship
7. Multi-
8. *"Get out of class room" permit (2 words)
9. International Civil Aviation Organization
10. Retired, shortened
11. Bard's before
13. Lacking cordiality
14. Settle a debt
19. Unethical loaner's practice
22. Us, in Mexico
23. Temporary store
24. Reason to strike
25. Prodded
26. Totes or tugs
27. Permissible
28. Cease-fire
29. Many affirmatives
32. "Good grief!"
33. Bro's counterpart
36. *School alum
38. Next step for juvenile
40. Margaret, for short
41. Describe as similar
44. Elks' hangout
46. Poppy derivative, pl.
48. Marine cephalopod
49. *Grading arch
50. Big one at 7-Eleven
51. Regrettably, exclamation
52. Sound reflection
53. Auditory
54. U.S. space agency, acr.
55. Geological Society of America
58. *Van Halen's "____ for Teacher"62. Baptism or shiva, e.g.
63. 2025, e.g.
64. "The Young and the Restless" network, acr.
66. Boat propeller

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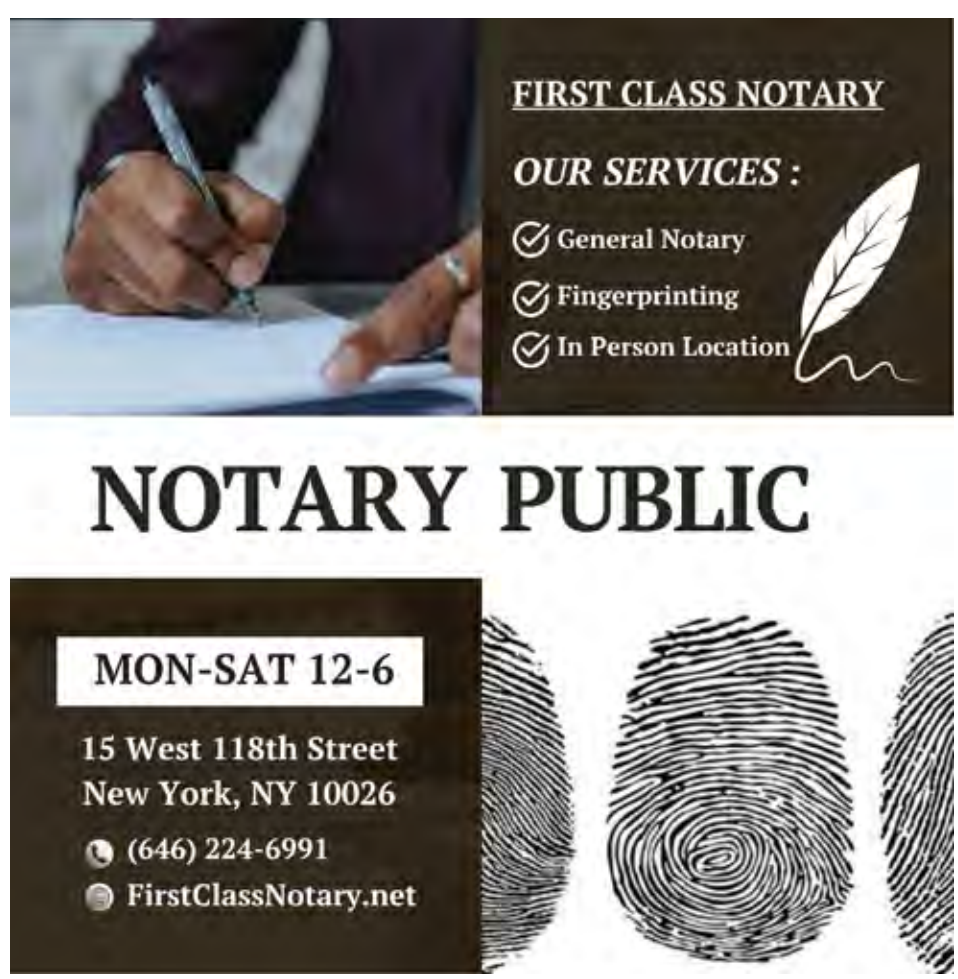

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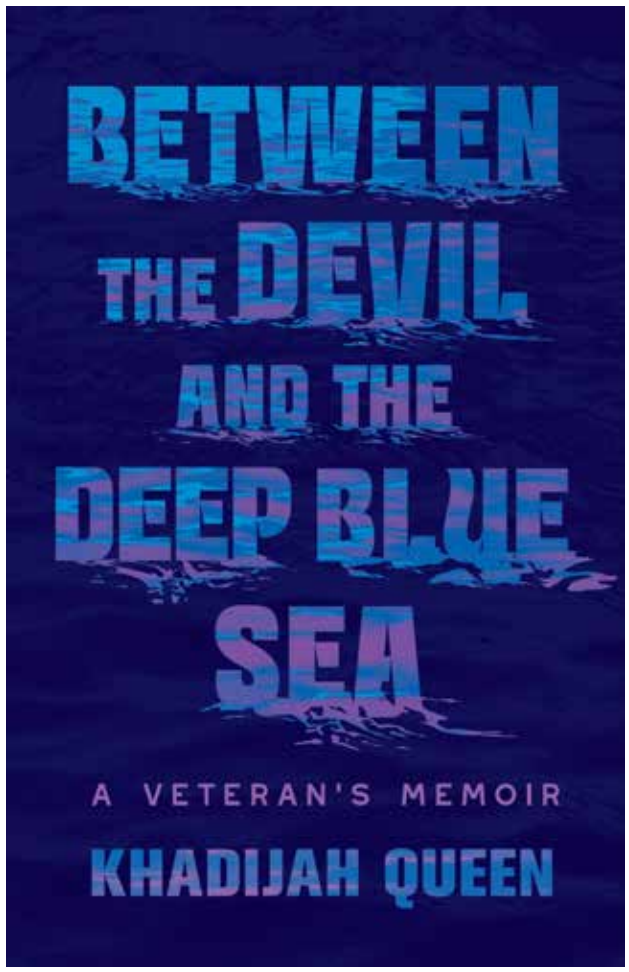
"Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea: A Veteran's Memoir" by Khadijah Queen

Review by Terri Schlichenmeyer, Harlem News contributor



Keep your head down. Stay steady, mind your business, and don't compare yourself to others. You are where you are for a reason, don't lose sight of it. There's a prize at the end, and endurance is the only way to get it. You have a job to do and, as in the new memoir "Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea" by Khadijah Queen, you'll do it until you can't.

Khadijah Queen hated Inkster, Michigan.

She had begged to stay in L.A. but her mother ignored her pleas and moved the family to Inkster to take care of the at-risk children of Queen's addicted eldest sister. Not old enough to stay in "Cali" by herself, but old enough to work and contribute to the household, Queen rushed to sign up for classes at a local Michigan college because she knew education was the only way to escape the situations that had her family in a stranglehold.

Alcoholism, drug abuse, no money, problems came like storms and when those problems forced her to drop her classes, she decided to join the Navy. A few years of service, she knew, and her college education would be free.

Happily, Boot Camp wasn't so bad.

There were a handful of Black recruits and personnel who held Queen up when she felt sad and they gave her hope. She learned in Navy Boot Camp that she was a leader, but she wasn't fully ready for it. She wanted to serve on a submarine and once there, she tried to just do her job but her white male shipmates made it difficult.

She endured their hazing and sexual harassment. She endured their racism and juvenile jokes. She endured a noose left laying on her study manuals.

Less than six months aboard, she says, "my anger had become a living thing, and even though I didn't want it, I kept that anger close. It leapt ahead of me when it had to."

Prepared to be stunned.

From the first few pages to this books' roaring end, "Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea" grabs readers by the throat and doesn't let go. You plainly see author Khadijah Queen's need to get away from near-poverty; it paces like a lion in a small cage. You'll cringe at her maturity that doesn't quite go far enough because you've probably been there, too. When she's about to get in trouble for speaking her mind or because she's impatient, you'll squirm, knowing what's coming. Authentic language puts you in uniform. Tragedy will hurt your heart. So will some of the people in this book when you learn what happens to them, but the story would be lesser without the rich presence of each of them and without Queen's no-nonsense-ness, her boiling impatience, and her profanity-laced honesty.

Veterans may have some things to say about this one-of-a-kind book, as will feminists, and neither of them, nor you, should miss it. Start "Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea" and it'll keep your head down good.

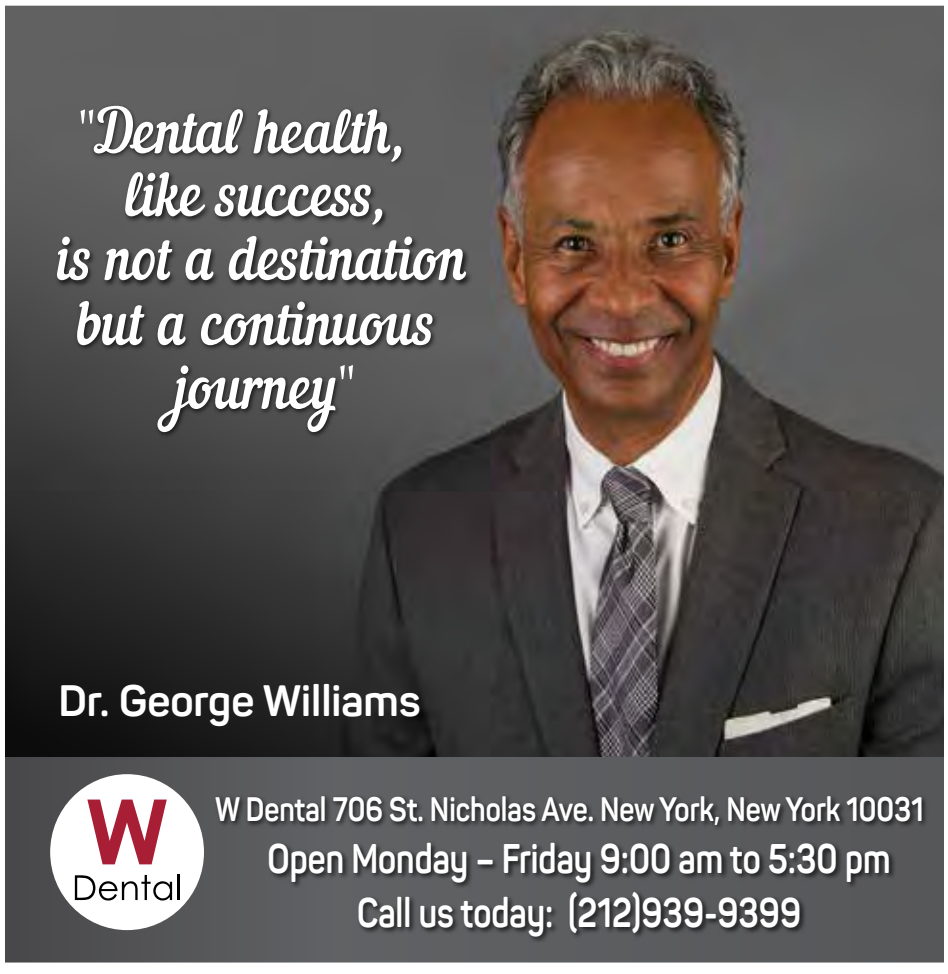
\

"Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea: A Veteran's Memoir"
by Khadijah Queen
c.2025,
Legacy Lit

Answers to Sudoku on page 17

SUDOKU ANSWERS

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



Manna's

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

Park Family Gives Scholarship at the HARLEM WEEK 50th Anniversary event in November 2024

320 Saint Nicholas Ave, Harlem, NY
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www.soulfood.com

Join Us in Honoring The Life & Legacy of
Lloyd Williams, Co-Founder of HARLEM WEEK
CEO, Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce