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

COMMUNITY

# HARLEM NEWS

"Good News You Can Use"

Vol. 27 No. 32

August 11, 2022 – August 17, 2022

FREE



Harlem is ...  
Healing

see page 5



ALJA Hosts  
Centennial  
Celebration for  
Arturo "Chico"  
O'Farrill

see page 10



Dining with Miss  
Lil at Sylvia's  
60th Anniversary  
Celebration

see page 16



SAVE  
THE  
DATE

8.12  
to  
8.21



## 48TH Annual HARLEM WEEK Returns August 12-21

see pages 12-13



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OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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

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A Publication of: Harlem Community Newspapers, Inc.  
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PAT STEVENSON

HARLEM WEEK events will be happening from August 12th through 21, 2022. You will find HARLEM WEEK events on pages 12-13, so you can begin planning which events you will attend. However, go to the HARLEM WEEK website for updates and more events at www.harlemweek.com. This is one of the largest celebrations in New York, as Harlemites, New Yorkers and visitors from all over the world come together to celebrate Harlem, its rich culture and history. At HARLEM WEEK events there is something for everyone, including Senior Day and the Children’s Village. It is time for us to get back together in person. Please feel free to wear your mask.

For the past couple of weeks, I have had the privilege of celebrating my mom’s 91st birthday. She continues to live in my hometown, Savannah, Ga., and I brought her here to New York for two weeks. I have 8 siblings and 2 step-siblings. I also have 28 nieces and nephews, and have lost count of great nieces and nephews as they keep coming. In other words, I am from a big family! I know how blessed I am, and I thank God for all of them. I was blessed to grow up with 2 strong grandmothers who were totally different but gave me a well rounded set of values. My grandfather was always steadfast, a gentle giant who supported his family. My father was a veteran and talented artist, carpenter, tailor and cook. I am my mother’s first daughter. I was the first girl to be born for both my grandmothers, and I had all my aunts to myself for more than 5 years before another girl was born into the family. I grew up with a lot of love and support, so I cannot help but extend that to others. Again, I thank God for my family and for allowing us to continue to have our mother here with us.

This August, I am celebrating my 28th-anniversary publishing community newspapers. We will have a special historical editorial as we celebrate in our September 1st issue.

You can visit our website to see past issues, past videos, current events, advertising and subscription information, etc. at www.harlemcommunitynews.com. We are also on Instagram and Facebook.

Pat Stevenson  
Celebrating  
26 years  
Publishing



# Celebrating Our Ancestors

By Ambassador Susan Johnson Cook

Had my mother, Dorothy C. Johnson lived, she would have been celebrating her 100th birthday this month.

I stopped by my parents' graves, where they were buried together, just to reflect on the wonderful parents I had, and to thank God for blessing me with them. Because of them, I am prepared and able to walk into any room, near and far, public and private sector.

My mom was a second-generation busi-

ness owner, and for most of her life, was the only Watchguard/security agency business owner of a business still running. It is now in its 60th year of operation. To the community, she was always referred to as Mrs. Johnson.

She knew how to dress, always wore her hat to church, took us on family vacations and parented strictly, but lovingly.

Some of my best recollections were Sundays around my mom's table, with

friends, family and neighbors, eating the wonderful meals she prepared. We laughed until our bellies hurt. Few would want to leave our home. Some would stay so long, that the sun would come up on Monday mornings.

Here is a motivational moment reminding us to remember and celebrate our ancestors, and thank God for them. I just wanted to share this motivational moment as a reminder to thank God for those He has placed in our lives.



## Take part in NYC's redistricting process.



**We're gathering input from all 5 boroughs on the new city council lines that will impact your neighborhood for the next decade.**

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- Attend a public hearing in person or virtually:
  - 8/16 5:30 – 9 pm Museum of the Moving Image, Astoria
  - 8/17 5:30 – 9 pm Lehman College, The Bronx
  - 8/18 5:30 – 9 pm Staten Island Borough Hall
  - 8/21 3:30 – 7 pm Medgar Evers College, Brooklyn
  - 8/22 5:30 – 9 pm Schomburg Center, Harlem
- Visit [nyc.gov/districting](https://nyc.gov/districting) for interactive maps and more information
- Email us your thoughts to: [PublicTestimony@redistricting.nyc.gov](mailto:PublicTestimony@redistricting.nyc.gov)
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## People with Medicare, Mark Your Calendars!



Open enrollment is October 15<sup>th</sup> to December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022. During this period, you can sign up for or switch your Medicare Prescription Drug Plan and/or Medicare Advantage Plan. You may also be eligible for programs that help with your Medicare costs. Give us a call. We can help.

**For more information, call Aging Connect at 212-244-6469 and ask for "HIICAP" or "SHIP"**



This project was supported by a grant from the U.S. Administration for Community Living.

# Deb Romain Consulting Services Shows You The Way

By Lil Nickelson

Deb Romain knows how to design, create and install wayfinding signs which help people find their way from point A to point Z.

As the sole owner of Deb Romain Consulting, LLC ("DRC"), Deborah Romain creates interior and exterior wayfinding systems and solutions, enhancing the user experience as people find their way through a facility. She understands that directing people on their journey should be a pleasure, a delight, informative, and an experience that erases frustration and anxiety.

Romain holds a Bachelor of Business degree from Baruch College at the City University of New York. She has completed programs at Columbia University's School of



Continuing Education, NYC Department of Small Business Certificate, MWL Construction Certificate/Mentorship Program and The Eugene M. Lang Entrepreneurship Center's Community Business Certificate Program.

You name the type of sign or material; her company, DRC, has probably manufactured one. Signs and visual communication tools include health hazard notices, hygien-

ic sign holders, emergency and temporary signs, decals, labels, parking lot and logistics, vinyl, ADA/fire safety/building code signs, lab signs, badges, nameplates, plaques, banners, branding, building ID, elevator and main directories, awards and other custom signage (interior and exterior).

At DRC, they are sensitive to the needs of individuals as they navigate a building. Their signage systems and programs serve to reassure people that the facility places their interests first. Their top priority is to help people get to their destination within the building. DRC accomplishes this by producing clear directional, informational, and attractive wayfinding signage systems. DRC then uses the system as an opportunity to market your services.

Along the way, DRC offers additional suggestions for other elements in their client environments, and before you know it, DRC's offerings multiply. DRC threads consistency through great design. Their team is composed of industrial graphic designers, technical project managers, production personnel and skilled installers, whose morals and work ethics drive their passion, quality of work, and the value they contribute to implementing a client's vision. DRC's team members are a high-caliber, multilingual solutions-oriented group of dreamers and doers.

To date, DRC has designed and furnished signs for the construction industry, hospitals, and schools. Their services include graphic design, surveys, project and production management, and

installation. DRC believes in information technology. Sometimes it's digital and sometimes it's on a wall; either way, DRC makes spaces informative.

DRC has landed prestigious projects in the Arts, Education, Government, Healthcare, Private Industries and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, And Mathematics academic disciplines) for clients like Columbia University, Bernard M. Baruch College, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Hudson Valley Hospital Center, and JPMorgan Chase, to name just a few.

DRC is a NYC/NYS MWDBE certified business looking to expand in this third decade of the 21st century by helping to brand restaurants, boutique hotels, and multicultural projects like the

Studio Museum in Harlem, the National Black Theatre in Harlem and the Universal Hip Hop Museum. This reporter hopes that women executives like Thelma Golden, Director and Chief Curator of The Studio Museum in Harlem, and Sade Lythcott, Chief Executive Officer of The National Black Theatre are open to working with a wayfinding sign business owned by a talented Black woman professional like Deb Romain.

Do you have a business that needs wayfinding signs? Contact DRC s for a quote at 718-208-8213; turnaround within 24-48 hours. DRC's mailing address is P.O. Box 190 Tuckahoe, NY 10707. Email should be sent to info@debromain.com, and the website is www.debromain.com.

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# Harlem is . . . Healing

## Outdoor Exhibit Opens in HARLEM WEEK

### Larger-than-Life Portraits Highlight Community Contributions

A larger-than-life outdoor public art exhibit is opening on August 12, 2022, on St. Nicholas Avenue between 120th and 121st Streets as part of the continuing Harlem is . . . Healing campaign by Community Works and New Heritage Theatre Group and in partnership with the NYC Department of Transportation's Art Program.

The sidewalk exhibit presents compelling portraits of nine of the 50 Harlem is . . . Healing honorees from all walks of life, who have helped the community weather two years of pandemic and social justice

turmoil, with a variety of activities from providing food and spiritual support, to sustaining youth groups, to creating artwork, to working to get guns off our streets.

"This is an invitation for the public to acknowledge

that our heroes are local people who work daily towards a better community," said Barbara Horowitz, Founder and President of Community Works.

The launch is part of HARLEM WEEK (Aug. 12 - 21) and in celebration of

the 125th anniversary of the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce. The exhibit will be available for public viewing for four months.

The five-foot panels, featuring stunning portraits and quotes, are presented through the NYC Depart-

ment of Transportation's Art Program's Art Display Case Exhibits initiative.

Visitors may read more complete tributes at Community Works' website <https://www.harlem-is.org> as well as at [http://www.instagram.com/harlemis-](http://www.instagram.com/harlemis-legacy/)

[legacy/](https://www.facebook.com/Community-WorksNYC/) and <https://www.facebook.com/Community-WorksNYC/>

For more information on the NYC DT Art Program, please visit [www.nyc.gov/dotart](http://www.nyc.gov/dotart).

*Photo credits: Community Works*

## harlem is...HEALING: Celebrating Heroes of the Pandemic



### An Outdoor Public Art Exhibition

*"Dental health,  
like success,  
is not a destination  
but a continuous  
journey"*

**Dr. George Williams**



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## Queen Bey Breaks Her Own Record!

By Black Press USA

Beyoncé's new album, "Renaissance," has taken the world by storm as expected, with a healthy helping of Chicago house music and classic 1970s disco.

The album immediately soared to the top of Apple Music in 100 countries. Sixteen of the top 21 songs on Apple Music are from "Renaissance," and the debut enjoyed more than 43 million streams on Spotify — a new record.

Critics across the country took note.

"It is consciously steeped in dance-music history, cannily embracing decades of samples and sounds: the 1970s disco of Donna Summer and Chic, Jamaican dancehall, internet-speed hyper pop," Michaelangelo Matos penned for the New York Times.

"She chose collaborators, references, and even specific keyboard sounds that pay homage to club-land memories while making her own 21st-century statement," Matos wrote. The new tracks include songs like "Cozy," "Cuff It," "Energy" and "Break My Soul."

"For at least the past decade, Beyoncé Giselle Knowles-Carter has been the world's greatest living enter-



Beyonce

tainer," Rolling Stone wrote.

"Beyoncé really made this album for the club," journalist Vincent Desmond tweeted. "No matter how much you love 'Renaissance,' you are going to love this at least five times more if you hear the album or any of its songs in the club. It goes so crazy."

As noted by Pitchfork, Renaissance was announced as "Act I" of an upcoming saga, and the album's liner notes confirmed that Beyon-

cé would follow it up with at least two more "acts."

"She has said that all the music was made during a creative burst at the peak of COVID and that it was inspired by her children, her husband, and her team," journalist Dylan Green wrote.

"But what could these multiple parts entail? One theory: The music is the driving force behind 'Renaissance' more than a specific narrative arc; if Act I is a culmination of

various forms of Black music and their effects on pop across the 20th and early 21st centuries, it's possible that Act II and Act III might look at the way it moves in the present and forward into the future," Green said.

"Beyoncé has accomplished a lot over her nearly 30-year career, but a full-blown musical trilogy is new even for her. Like every piece of art that bears her name, the anticipation is half the fun."



HARLEM COMMUNITY  
NEWSPAPERS, INC.

"GOOD NEWS YOU CAN USE"

Vol. 27, No 1 January 6, 2022



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# Home Buying In Harlem: Be Prepared to Buy Now

Rev. Dr. Charles Butler

Where are the affordable housing units in Harlem? There does not appear to be anything available. This is the most serious challenge facing low to moderate-income prospective first-time home buyers today.

They want to buy and have started the home buying process, but are finding the market prices beyond their purchasing limit. But, what I am finding to be encouraging, is the resolve these first-time buyers demonstrate. They are not willing to compromise on pursuing their dream. They are remaining focused on achieving their goal, and are undaunted by the escalated market value of homes in the community.

Prospective buyers must maintain a positive attitude, if they are going to complete this process.

Here are some key points to keep in mind: (1) You must have an absolute desire to become a homeowner. This desire to become a homeowner must be your primary focus. You must have an insatiable desire to become a homeowner. Nothing else should matter.

(2) Create a projected purchase date. Make a target of when you expect to be ready to buy. Push yourself hard to achieve this goal. Remind yourself constantly of your target. Let nothing get in your



way. With perseverance, you can achieve your dream of becoming a homeowner. Change the date if you realize you will not reach your target date. After all, this is your goal, and you must proceed at your own pace.

(3) Create a monthly household budget to help you monitor all spending. Discipline yourself to eliminate all wasteful spending and aggressively save as much money as possible for your home purchase. This is a huge challenge for most first-time buyers, because their monthly living expenses are prohibiting them from saving an adequate amount of money each month.

So, you might have to make extra money by taking on a part-time job or perhaps starting your own business. Conduct a person-

al inventory to determine if you have any unique talents, special aptitudes, or unusual abilities that could translate into starting a business venture to create additional income. Starting a business will not be easy, especially during this economic climate. Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement, Inc. (HCCI) offers small business workshops to assist prospective entrepreneurs in the essential steps in successfully operating a small business. You can go to our website, [www.hcci.org](http://www.hcci.org), for more information.

This is where you will need the financial discipline to say "no" to excessive spending and perhaps even cut out some luxury items. You must change your attitude towards spending and saving money in order to adopt the financial discipline required to complete the home buying process. If you intend to buy a home as soon as possible, start the process now!

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](mailto:cbutler@hcci.org).

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# HARLEM CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY EVENTS



## Uptown Night Market

**August 11  
4:00-10:00pm**

### Uptown Night Market

Uptown night market, under the arches. Creativity flowed through the air as our artistic merchants steal the show with their unbelievable talent. Well-renowned food vendors! 701 W 133 st. Harlem. Free entry.

**August 11  
10:00am-6:00pm  
Kids in Motion**

The Kids in Motion program engages children in active, outdoor play. An NYC Parks staff member leads 4 to 7 hours of free activities in NYC's playgrounds, including

organized sports, games, fitness and demos. MLK Playground, 113th St and Lenox Ave. No registration, free.

**August 11  
11:00am-5:00pm  
Hudson Valley Art**

Dara Birnbaum, works not seen in the U.S. for decades. Martine Syms: Grio College, working in moving images; Black Melancholia, a group exhibition presenting critical new scholarship on the contributions of Black artists. RSVP. <https://ccs.bard.edu/visit/reservations>. CCS Bard's Hessel Museum of Art, 33 Garden Rd, Annandale-On-Hudson,

NY 12504. Wed. – Sun. Free.

**August 13  
11:00am/1:00pm  
Forest Fables**

Stories grow like trees, and the seeds of so many stories began in ancient Greece and Persia. Join Gregory and puppet friend the BooHoonicorn. Sugar Hill Museum. 898 St. Nicholas Ave, at 155th Street, Harlem. Children 0 to 8 are free. Youth \$4, Adults \$7.

**August 13  
11:30am-7:00pm  
Afribembe Festival**

AFRIBEMBE is a Pan-African festival that serves as an opportunity for us to rejoice in our creativity. It will transport us into our ancestral past in African rhythms and traditions. Harlem Art Park & East 120th Street Between Lexington and 3rd Ave. Free.

**Aug 13  
7:00am-1:00pm  
Summer Streets**

New York City's annual "Summer Streets" program to East Harlem for Aug 13, and 20. Initiative extended by nearly 2 miles to East 109th Street along Park Ave. Free.

**August 14  
7:00pm/9:30pm  
Phil Young**

Phil Young & the Harlem Hip Creamsicle Jazz! Must make reservations at [www.mintonsharlem.com](http://www.mintonsharlem.com). The birthplace of

Bebop and modern jazz. Live music Thursday to Sunday. Tel. 212-243-2222. Minton's Playhouse. 206 W 118th Street, New York. \$25.

**August 16  
10:00am-2:00pm  
Game Days**

Calling all children 12 years old and younger! Lawn games such as giant tic tac toe, hopscotch, jump rope, and more will be waiting for your arrival. West Harlem Piers, W. 125th St. Riverside Park Conservancy. Tel (212) 870-3089 email: [summeronthehudson@gmail.com](mailto:summeronthehudson@gmail.com). Free.

**August 17  
6:45-8:00pm  
Yoga Classes**

Enjoy free yoga classes, bring a towel or a



## Havana Music

yoga mat and water. "First-come, first-served" basis at Abby's Lawn. Check the Fort Tryon Park Facebook Page. Ft. Tryon Park, Ft. Washington Ave, by Margaret Corbin Plaza entrance. No registration. Tel. 795-1388. Free.

**August 17  
7:00-8:30pm  
Havana Music**

Summerfest joins New Heritage Theatre Group for Harlem/Havana music with Chino Pons. Grant's Tomb, West 122nd St and Riverside Drive. Free.

**August 18  
6:00-9:00pm  
Last Poets**

The last poets with Jamaaladeen Tacuma's Band of Resistance. Last Poets, at the Harlem Bomb Shelter in Associ-

ation with Summerstage & Harlem Week. Richard Rogers Amphitheater in Marcus Garvey Park, enter at 5th Ave & West 124th Street. Free.

**August 18 5:00pm  
Benefit Cruise**

Join HCCI to cruise from Harlem with a extraordinary show, dinner and dance event. Featuring R&B Legend Jeff Redd, and comedian Kevin Dotcom. The Harlem Congregation for Community Improvement, Inc. (HCCI) honors Leon Ellis, of Chocolat Restaurant and Alyah Horsford-Sidberry, of Cove Lounge. Pair of tickets, go to [www.hcci.org/events](http://www.hcci.org/events). \$250.



## Forest Fables



## Kids in Motion



# PONDER THIS! Did You See Jackie Robinson Hit That Ball?



By Hazel Rosetta Smith

My brother had no interest in baseball, my father's favorite sport. He preferred to snatch the wheels from my baby doll carriage to build a scooter with a crate and race through the streets with his friends.

I was my daddy's little girl, and I wanted to go wherever he went. At the age of 7, we went to Ebbets Field in

Brooklyn for what I thought was a really special baseball game. The Brooklyn Dodgers were playing the New York Yankees in the preseason exhibition game. But, it turned out to be more than I understood at the time and remains an unforgettable memory to this day.

My father and his friends, along with hundreds of other Black men, stood to their feet and raised their hats when Jackie Robinson, the newest player on the Brooklyn Dodgers, wearing Number 42, came onto the field. And he was Black!

It was written in the papers that the stadium held a crowd of 26,623 spectators on that day, and more than 14,000 were Black. Money was tight, yet, Black men were there for that momentous moment, and Black fans began filling Ebbets Field to cheer on Robinson, whenever the Dodgers came to town, after that game.

On our way home, my father tried to explain the ugly insults hurled at Robinson. I couldn't understand why whenever the ball came within inches of Jackie's hands, the stadium would erupt. No matter how good he played, the very sight of him on the field seemed to annoy those white people.

My father rehashed the game with my mother, listening to the news on the radio that night. Though he was proud, his anger and hurt were obvious, whenever he heard the negative commentary. Sportswriters reported that Robinson's promotion met a generally mixed reception among newspapers and white major league players. However, racial tension was present in the Dodger clubhouse. Some players wanted to sit out, rather than play alongside Robinson. Dodgers manager Leo Durocher had stepped in, "I do not care if the guy is yellow or black,



Jackie Robinson from Baseball to Coffee



Jackie Robinson hit that ball

or if he has stripes like a (expletive) zebra. I'm the manager of this team, and I say he plays. I will trade all of you."

In 1949, when other Black players made it to the Major League, my father's pride and support for Robinson never swayed. He reminded us that the Dodgers' signing of Robinson, began the end of racial segregation in professional baseball, and that was an undisputed fact.

When Robinson retired from baseball in 1956, a new morning brew appeared on

our kitchen table, celebrating Jackie Roosevelt Robinson, the vice president of the coffee company Chock Full O'Nuts. My father sipped and smiled every morning as he drank the coffee, starting the day with memories of his favorite athlete. My father and I used to also sing in unison, a popular song written by Buddy Johnson called "Did You See Jackie Robinson Hit That Ball?" (You can find the 1949 version on YouTube.)

I know for sure, that if my daddy was still around,

we would be the first in line on September 5, 2022, the opening day of The Jackie Robinson Museum on Varick St. in New York City. Thank you, Mr. Robinson, you are not forgotten.

[Hazel Rosetta Smith is a journalist, playwright, and artistic director of Help Somebody Theatrical Ministries. Retired, former Woman's Editor and Managing Editor of the New York Beacon. Contact Hazel Rosetta Smith at [misshazel@twc.com](mailto:misshazel@twc.com) and online at [www.hazelrosettasmith.com](http://www.hazelrosettasmith.com)]



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# AUDREY'S SOCIETY WHIRL

## ALJA Hosts Centennial Celebration for Arturo "Chico" O'Farrill



By Audrey J. Bernard  
Society Editor

Afro Latin Jazz Alliance's (ALJA) founder Arturo O'Farrill's father, Arturo "Chico" O'Farrill, would have been 100 on October 28, 2021. In a posthumous centennial celebration, Arturo hosted an intimate party on Monday, June 20, 2022, at the National Jazz Museum in Harlem, where he presented NJMH with a piece of Chico's historical music in honor of his centennial.

The stellar event was attended by family, guests, elected officials and special VIPs. The pride of the O'Farrills permeated the air,

### About Arthur "Chico" O'Farrill

Chico O'Farrill, whose roots were from Irish and German ancestry, was born in San Jose de Las Lajas, a part of a larger municipality called Tapaste which is in the province of Matanzas in Cuba. The O'Farrills were powerful traders, businessmen and lawyers, and Chico was expected to follow in their footsteps. He was sent to Riverside Military Academy in Georgia and later attended the University of Havana. Chico discovered jazz and started playing the trumpet when he came to the United States where he studied law while sneaking out at night to play music in the hot nightclubs where he discovered his love of music, and he began to study composition with Felix Guerrero, much to the dismay of the matriarch of the family, Theresa.

As Chico began his amazing journey, he composed complex multi-movement works that shattered the walls between jazz, classical, and Latin music. He composed these works for the likes of John Birks "Dizzy" Gillespie, Clark Terry, Art Farmer, Woody Herman, Gato Barbieri and many others. His arranging skills graced the recordings of Count Basie, Tito Puente, Machito, David Bowie, Ringo Starr and many others. In his later years, Chico was a pioneer in the field of Spanish language advertising, becoming the first "jingle" composer to employ authentic rhythms and sounds for clients like American Airlines and McDonalds.



Arturo's birthday cake with a picture of him and his dad Chico O'Farrill

and one felt Chico's presence as witnessed through the beautiful cake presented to Arturo and his family by Settepani Restaurant. The cake, made by well-known Harlem Chef Bilena Settepani, was adorned with a photo of Chico, who initially rose to prominence working with the great jazz artist Benny Goodman.

During the program, which included presentations of proclamations from Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine, Council Member Shaun Abreu

and Council Member Gale Brewer, guests enjoyed delicious finger food, libations and cupcakes by Settepani Restaurant, who was the catering sponsor. Tito's Handmade Vodka was the corporate sponsor.

After the moving program, in which Arturo spoke eloquently about his father

and shared some fond anecdotes about his dad's tenacity and efficacy on jazz, it was announced that ALJA will honor and celebrate Chico's accomplishments and music during ALJA's 2022 Performance Series. Then, guests were treated to an impromptu jam session featuring Arthur and his remarkably talented sons. The evening ended with Arturo thanking his staff and Diane Thompson, Development Manager, Afro Latin Jazz



Georgina O'Farrill, Alison O'Farrill, Arturo O'Farrill, Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine, Adam O'Farrill, Zack O'Farrill, Isabel Rolston

Alliance, who produced a fabulous event! Guests left with a swag bag filled with O'Farrill's eclectic music and bankable memories. (Photos by Ronnie Wright)



(L-R) Zack O'Farrill, Stephanie Simon (NY 1 News), Adam O'Farrill, Arturo O'Farrill



The O'Farrill's delighted guests with a live jazz session



(L-R) Council Member Shaun Abreu, Arturo O'Farrill holding CM Abreu's proclamation, Georgina O'Farrill, Zack O'Farrill, Adam O'Farrill, Isabel Rolston



Council member Gale Brewer, Stephanie Simon, Eduardo (Eddy) Castell, Chairman of the ALJA Board



Zack O'Farrill, Arturo O'Farrill, Adam O'Farrill



Leah Abraham and Arturo O'Farrill with birthday cake



Settepani Restaurant's Dessert Chef Belina with her mom and restaurant owner Leah Abraham



(L-R) Leah Abraham, Ines Aslan, Council Member Gale Brewer, Marietta Ulacia



Eric Taller, Catherine Peila, Geysa Castro



# Why Black Kids Need Black Books

*By Maya Pottiger,*

While browsing the gift shop at the National Museum of African American History and Culture, librarian Kathy Lester watched a young Black girl grab a book and run up to her parents. Holding it up to them, the girl told them she'd read it at school, and it was one of her favorite books.

It was Grace Byers' "I Am Enough," which features a Black girl rocking her big, natural curls on the cover. Hearing kids speak like that shows there's a connection, Lester said.

In a 2009 TED Talk that's been viewed 31 million times, Nigerian novelist Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie talked about the danger of a single story. When children don't regularly see an

accurate representation of themselves, it “sends them a powerful and harmful message that they do not belong,” explained Katie Potter, senior literacy manager at Lee and Low Books, a New York City-based publisher, that’s been publishing diverse children’s books for the past 30 years.

Students who see themselves reflected in the books they're reading are typically more engaged and curious about different things they can learn from a book, said Derrick Ramsey, co-founder of Young, Black and Lit, a Chicago-area nonprofit focused on increasing access to children's books that center, reflect, and affirm the experiences of Black children. It's important to see "the joys of life and the experiences of Black culture,"

in books, Ramsey said.

“It makes them feel empowered and makes them feel like I can do this, too,” said Rochelle Levy-Christopher, founder and CEO of The Black Literacy and Arts Collaborative Project, highlighting the importance of cultural relevance. “If the story is based on things that we know about, that we’re familiar with, we get excited because we don’t have that representation. So, when we do, it’s that much more impactful.”

“Black children have the right to be in a world that includes them,” Potter said. “When Black children are exposed to and regularly engaged with texts that center Black protagonists and are written and illustrated by Black authors, they are validated, affirmed, and

shown that they matter.”

Both The BLAC Project and Young, Black and Lit are working to make these books more available to children.

At The BLAC Project, giving away free books is only the beginning. They curate books based on every kid's specific interests to make sure they're getting things that will engage them. But the organization also runs programs and events to provide mentors and resources to help create a more equitable starting point between BIPOC communities and their White peers.

Young, Black and Lit also makes sure to get books out into communities that need them. As part of their donation program, they're currently distributing 1,500



**The publishing industry still has a great deal of progress to make concerning the representation of Black children and protagonists in books**  
*Photo by Word in Black*

books every month to around 200 organizations across the country. One of their partners is Chance & Bri's Books & Breakfast, featuring Chance the Rapper, which brings programs and giveaways to Chicago neighborhoods.

These organizations provide vital resources, especially during the summer

months when it may be harder for students to have access to books.

“Although reading might be the last thing that children want to think about during the summer,” Potter said, “summer reading is important to keep their minds activated, and on track for the start of the next school year.”

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# 48TH Annual HARLEM WEEK Returns August 12-21

The 48th annual HARLEM WEEK returns August 12-21, 2022, for a 10-day live and virtual experience celebrating the people, arts, culture, entertainment, and history that Harlem is known for throughout the world.

Centered around the theme, "Inspiration, Impact, and Legacy," the first week of this year's HARLEM WEEK celebration will also include salute to Harlem luminaries, featured musical performances, virtual dance parties, livestreams and cornerstone events such as the Percy Sutton Harlem 5K Run/Anti-Gun Violence Health Walk, and A Great Day in Harlem. This year's celebration will also commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the NBA, legendary Rucker Park and Harlem inductees into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

"All New Yorkers are invited to take part in the HARLEM WEEK experience from Aug 12 - 21 as we pay tribute to key elements of our city. Both seniors and children will be able to celebrate lo-



cal education, restaurants, technology, and theater," said Lloyd Williams, Chairman of HARLEM WEEK. You'll hear music ranging from Jazz, Gospel, R&B, Hip-Hop, Soca, Latin, Caribbean, Afrobeat and more.

Remember - you haven't done this town 'til you've done it Uptown, so do it up in Harlem. We look forward to seeing you!"

HARLEM WEEK kicks off Friday, August 12, with the first major public event,

Senior Citizens Day. Taking place at the Adam Clayton Powell Jr. State Office Building, Senior Citizens Day events will include health demonstrations, health testing, performances, a Demystifying Tech-

nology panel, a Senior Hat Fashion Show, and more.

The celebration continues Saturday, August 13 with the Percy Sutton Harlem 5k Run & Anti-Gun Violence Health Walk. Centered around the theme "Save Our Children," the 2022 race and Health Walk serves as a call to action against gun-violence in our communities. Participants are encouraged to register here.

The first weekend of HARLEM WEEK will conclude Sunday, Aug. 14 with "A Great Day in Harlem," which will include performances and appearances by R&B artist Kenny Lattimore, salute to 90-year-old Caribbean Legend Lord Nelson (aka "The Soca Daddy"), Uptown Dance Academy, Artz, Roots & Rhythm, Impact Repertory

Theater, The Mama Foundation's Sing Harlem Choir, Isn't Her Grace Amazing Choir and a Concert Under the Stars Salute to Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On" album featuring Ray Chew and the Harlem Music Festival All Stars.

## Other HARLEM WEEK events

- Teen Takeover: The Code (8/12): Apollo Teen Takeover returns live on the soundstage of the iconic Apollo Theater for a one-night-only, exclusively teen event. On this magical night, guests are transported through music, dance, and visual arts, produced and presented by teens.

- Percy Sutton Harlem 5k Run & Anti-Gun Violence Health Walk: SAVE OUR CHILDREN (8/13): The Percy Sutton Harlem 5k &







Anti-Gun Violence Health Walk, “SAVE OUR CHILDREN,” sponsored by New York Road Runners and The Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce, has attracted runners and walkers from the Tri-state area. With the theme “SAVE OUR CHILDREN,” everyone is invited to join the walk and make a statement against gun violence in our communities. (8-12 pm)

• Great Jazz on the Great Hill (8/13): Bring a picnic, blanket, and dancing shoes for Great Jazz on the Great Hill, featuring live music and swing dancing in a beautiful park setting. The event will feature performances by Jimmy Heath Legacy Band, Antonio Hart Quartet, and Tammy McCann. Enter Central Park at 106th Street and Central Park West. This event is

presented by Jazzmobile and the Central Park Conservancy. (4-7 pm; Great Hill in Central Park West)

• A Great Day In Harlem (8/14): The day will begin at 12pm with the opening of the International Village featuring vendors and exhibitors with items for sale, ranging from arts & crafts, jewelry, clothing, unique accessories, international foods, and more. Enter-

tainment from the stage is presented in four segments. Artz, Rootz & Rhythm featuring local, community, and emerging performers of varying genres; The Gospel Caravan featuring local, national, and international gospel performers; and the day closes with the Concert Under Under the Stars featuring national and international performers performing, backed by the Harlem

Music Festival All-Star Band led by “Music Director to the stars,” Ray Chew. (12-7 pm; Ulysses S. Grant National Memorial)

HARLEM WEEK will also be experienced around the world virtually through its website, HARLEM-WEEK.com with additional performances, summits including Economic Development Day, the Health

Summit, a Broadway Summit, the Harlem On My Mind Conversation series and the new Harlem Virtual Village where visitors can shop with exhibitors and vendors online as well as watch activities from the stage in an interactive platform on the site.

For a complete list of events, please visit [www.harlemweek.com](http://www.harlemweek.com).





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Some College or Trade School ☐ College Graduate ☐

**Annual Income:** under 24K ☐ 25K-49K ☐ 50K-99K ☐ 100K+ ☐

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## Producer and Activist Regina Taylor Is On Fire!

The song “This Girl Is On Fire” aptly describes acclaimed Golden Globe Award and NAACP Image Award-winning actress and activist Regina Taylor, who has been in NYC making the rounds to discuss her hot new projects with the press.

Taylor is in pre-production on a film entitled “Justified,” which also stars Academy Award and Golden Globe Award-nominated actress Aunjanue Ellis, who received critical acclaim playing in King Richard.

Taylor also gives a critically acclaimed portrayal as Marion Shields Robinson, the mother of former First Lady Michelle Obama, on the Showtime series, The First Lady. Taylor can also be seen on the CBS series Blue Bloods, playing NYPD Captain Terrell.

In addition, Taylor is currently a part of a collective called the African Diasporic Network that will debut Echoes of Us: Now and Always, from July 15-17 at the Marines Memorial Theatre in San

Francisco.

The narrative is a combination of monologues that tell the versatile stories of African-Americans.

Taylor will be joined by several other renowned artists including novelist Pearl Cleage, playwright, screenwriter and associate professor at the Tisch School of the Arts Richard Wesley, actress Anna Maria Horsford and Bay area actor, poet and spoken word artist and rapper, Jamey Williams.

Taylor recently wrote a stage play entitled Déjà Vu for New York’s Signature Theatre, where she has been a writer-in-residence since 2013. She also partnered with her alma mater’s Southern Methodist University’s Meadow School of the Arts, to create a multi-faceted activist driven mixtape entitled the black album. Her most recent television credits include 2020’s Lovecraft Country

Taylor has a career that spans over 40 years. Born in Dallas, Texas, her mother, Nell Taylor, was a social worker and poet. She and her family later moved to Muskogee, Oklahoma. While there, she experienced racial bias while attending a racially integrated school. She went on to study at Southern Methodist University.

It was while she was studying at Southern Methodist, that she had her first two acting roles, 1980’s Nurse and the critically acclaimed 1981 TV movie Crisis at Central High, based on the Little Rock Nine. Taylor received praise from critics for her



memorable performance as Minniejean Brown, one of the Little Rock Nine students.

Taylor made her feature film debut in 1989’s Lean On Me. She later became well known for her role as Lily Carter in the early 90s TV series, I’ll Fly Away, which earned her the Golden Globe Award for Best Actress, an NAACP Image Award and two Emmy nominations. From there, Taylor received critical success in a number of films including Losing Isaiah (1995), Clockers (1995), Spirit Lost (1996) and The Negotiator (1998). She earned critical praise in her role as Anita Hill in the made-for-TV movie Strange Justice (1999).

As a theater actress, Taylor was the first black woman to play Juliet in Romeo & Juliet on Broadway. Her other Broadway credits include Macbeth and As You Like It. She also appeared in Off-Broadway and regional productions and has also written, directed and starred in several plays.

*Photos courtesy Regina Taylor*





# Moshood Celebrates 28th Anniversary With Fashion Showcase

By Keith L. Forest

In celebration of Black Business Month, and in honor of the 28th Anniversary of his flagship Brooklyn store, global fashion designer Moshood, brought his legendary New Roots to Culture Fashion Showcase to the village of Bedford-Stuyvesant.

Hosted by Laurie Cumbo, Commissioner of Cultural Affairs for the City of New York, and Filmmaker Joseph Grant, the explosive fashion extravaganza took place at Restoration Plaza, and featured live musical performances, and Moshood's signature African-inspired fashion creations.

Other notable civic leaders in attendance included U.S. Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, New York State Senator Kevin Parker, Bed Stuy Gateway BID Executive Director Dale Charles and New York City Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, whose mother Patricia Williams annually models for the show.



**NYC Public Advocate Jumanne Williams, Patricia Williams & Moshood**

Williams annually models for the show.

The high-spirited event kicked off with a live performance from the Kunle Might Sunrise Band, featuring lead singer Moses "Kunle Mighty" Ayankunle, a celebrated multi-instrumentalist born into a family of talking drummers. Dressed in traditional West African garb, the band's percussive rhythms bathed the audience with hypnotic, syncopated licks straight from the motherland. The

high-energy 10-member band, which is steeped in the percussive JuJu, high-life and Afropop sounds, was formed in Sunrise Spiritual Church. The band is managed by Kunle Ade, who is the son of legendary Nigerian JuJu singer, and multi-disciplined musician, King Sunny Ade.

In addition to the live music, the festive celebration included authentic, fashion-forward designs from a variety of emerging Black designers. Daryl



**Hand-painted creation by designer, artist Lisa Fashion**



**Model wearing authentic denim creation by Empress Wendy's Rasta Royal Elegance collection**

Gordon, a Brooklyn-based accessories and hat designer, was the first designer to take to the stage to present the latest creations from his Brooklyn-inspired Daryl G Designs collection. Arise and Shine, a Brooklyn-based global design

company, followed with their African-inspired Nigerian bling designs. Up next was artist, designer, and cancer survivor Lisa Fashion, with her one-of-a-kind wearable art. Mo Glover, who debuted her intergenerational, African-inspired designs during Moshood's 27th Anniversary showcase, returned with her latest looks, paying homage to the Kings and Queens of Brooklyn. Designer Wolete Mariam, aka Empress Wendy, bedazzled the runway with bold, Afrocentric designs from her Rasta Royal Elegance collection. Closing the show were Moshood's authentic designs and ready-to-wear creations.

The outdoor festival, which took place on the eve of Black Business Month, was designed to drive traffic into the Bedford-Stuyvesant business district. Like most small businesses, COVID-19 took its toll on the Nigerian-born designer's business. However,

er, thanks to his growing e-commerce platform, and with assistance from Bed-Stuy Gateway BID, Moshood has been able to keep his doors open. Grateful to the village that helped sustain him, Moshood hopes the fashion show will encourage those who attended to support other local businesses within the corridor.



**Model wearing authentic wearable art creation by Lisa Fashion**



**Model wearing authentic afro creation by Empress Wendy's Rasta Royal Elegance Collection**



**Moshood Spring 2023 collection**



**Tremaine Wright, long-time Bedford-Stuyvesant and current Chair of New York State Cannabis Control Board**



## Dining with Miss Lil at Sylvia's 60th Anniversary Celebration



By Lil Nickelson

I love the way that the Woods family continues to celebrate and build on the legacy that their parents, the late Herbert and Sylvia Woods left them, namely, the world's famous Sylvia's Restaurant.

The family recently celebrated the restaurant's 60th anniversary with the community, elected officials and tastemakers, who enjoyed Sylvia's annual free buffet and festivities.

Sylvia's, which is located at 328 Lenox Ave., aka Malcolm X Blvd. in Harlem, was packed with loyal patrons and elected officials. We saw NYC Mayor Eric Adams, Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine and his Northern Manhattan Office Director Athena Moore, NYS Assemblyman Al Taylor and NYS Senator Cordell Clark. GHCC President Lloyd Williams presented a proclamation on behalf of NYS Assemblywoman Inez E. Dickens and radio royalty WBLS Dr. Bob Lee and Keisha Sutton James (the late Percy E. Sutton's granddaughter) were among the movers and shakers who came out to celebrate the restaurant's six decades in the community. Lt. Gov. Antonio Delgado stopped by in the late afternoon as well.



After an opening prayer from Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson, pastor at Grace Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon, NY, patrons were treated to a free breakfast, consisting of some of the traditional menu offerings: smothered chicken, grits and a mini biscuit, from 8 am to 11 am. While dining, the residents listened to the musical sounds of Calvin Cody West Johnson. With the love that was in the air, it felt more like we were dining in some church's fellowship hall, than a restaurant's outdoor seating area.

Sylvia's has always felt that way to me, and it's a family tradition that continues through her children, grandchildren and beyond.

While Groove Phi Groove Fraternity prepared people to register to vote, Health & Hospitals Harlem had free COVID testing and distributed promotional materials about ambulatory care services and monkeypox and HIV prevention. Even the FDNY had a table where residents received an official

guide to fire and life safety. There was a brother from Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity passing out food to the long, but swift-moving line of breakfast seekers. I dined with two senior women, one was a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and the other was a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, like me. Phyllis Spencer, a fitness instructor and model in Harlem, lead those that wanted to participate in a 20-minute exercise program. I joined in on the fun

after devouring the delicious smothered chicken breast and grits.

Janice Marie Robinson & friends, and WBLS' personality DJ Red Alert broadcasted live in the afternoon. DJ Stormin' Norman was broadcasting live starting at 5 pm for the 1962 happy hour, which featured \$5 throw-back drink and food specials. How many other restaurants have an all-day affair to celebrate their blessings?

Photo credits: Lil Nickelson

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# Study Shows Americans Aren't Planning for Future Healthcare Needs

(StatePoint)

If you haven't spent time considering what your healthcare needs will be in the years or even decades from now, you're not alone.

Recent research suggests that many aging Americans aren't aware of the full range of options available to them. As we age, our healthcare needs intensify, and experts say that the U.S. healthcare system will need to embrace home healthcare options to meet the demand of an aging population.

The new national survey, titled "Aging in Place: Assessing Senior's Understanding of Home Healthcare Options," conducted

by Bredin on behalf of Cross Country Workforce Solutions Group, shows that while most people aged 50-79 years old would prefer at-home care as they age, 91% of respondents have not proactively researched the care they may need as they grow older. Further, 34% have not thought about their care needs, and awareness of existing managed-at-home care programs, was low among the survey respondents.

"By living at home, seniors can maintain their independence and be close to their loved ones and community, and by and large, that is what they want to do. At-home care can both meet the needs of those requiring long-term care,

while alleviating some of the mounting challenges faced by hospitals and healthcare systems," says Pamela Jung, president of Cross Country Workforce Solutions Group, a division of Cross Country Healthcare, the nation's leading provider of in-home clinical and non-clinical care for aging seniors.

As you explore your options, consider the following tips:

- Leave no stone unturned: From transportation to medical appointments to help with household tasks, consider what your potential needs might be and research programs in your community to address them. While there are assistance pro-

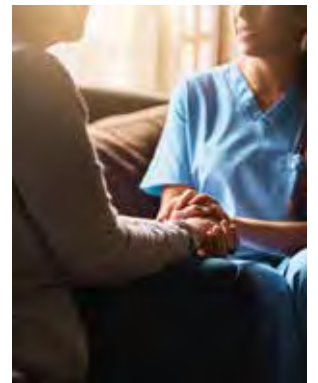
grams available to help seniors age with dignity, the Cross Country Workforce Solutions Group survey found that the majority of older Americans are unaware of an important one: Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), a national program of comprehensive care for adults age 55 and over who would prefer to remain living at home rather than in a nursing facility. In some communities, PACE is known as Living Independently for the Elderly (LIFE). These programs can make living at home a safer and more affordable option than institutionalized care.

"This program has provided me with the best

caregiver. She is a great person with a great heart, and she goes above and beyond during my home care services," says Luther Bell, PACE participant. "I feel like I have improved a lot in many ways because my caregiver meal preps for me, provides quality care, and our daily interactions bring positivity to my life."

- Start a dialogue: Talk to your family and friends about your wishes and where you would like to receive care. Also, continue to have regular conversations with your doctors about your health.

- Consider your budget: While the average senior collects just \$18,000 annually in social security, 57% of survey respondents have not considered the budget they will need for aged care services and support. Take time to learn how much



various aspects of care will cost, factoring in standard living expenses.

For additional survey results and information about home healthcare, visit [www.crosscountryhealthcare.com/aging-in-place](http://www.crosscountryhealthcare.com/aging-in-place).

"At a time when the burden on hospitals and health systems has at times compromised their ability to deliver quality care, living at home with support can provide optimized care and independence to seniors," says Jung.

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## “Abbott Elementary’s” Janitor Is Cleaning Up On TV

Award-winning actor William Stanford Davis currently appears on the hit ABC series “Abbott Elementary” as the opinionated yet lovable janitor, Mr. Davis. He also recurs on the sports series “Swagger” as Coach Max, in a story based on Kevin Durant’s youth basketball playing experience with the AAU circuit for AppleTV+.

This classically trained actor, born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri, is a veteran of both stage and screen. He has amassed an impressive resume that is over 70 credits long, appearing in some of the most popular and award-winning tv shows over the years, most notably, playing the popular Potato Pie in Donovan’s Gym on Show-



William Stanford Davis

time’s long-running Golden Globe-winning series “Ray Donovan” and Mr. Kym on Tyler Perry and OWN’s flagship successful series, “If Loving You Is Wrong.” He has also guest starred on critically lauded programs such as “Perry Mason,” “Curb Your Enthusiasm,” “Snowpiercer,” “Chicago Med,” “Criminal Minds,” “The Big Bang Theory,” “Lincoln Heights,” “Ally Mc Beal,” “Touched By An

Angel,” and many, many more.

In film, Stan recently starred alongside Nafesa Williams and Sharon Neal in the film “A Holiday Chance,” which premiered in November 2021 on AppleTV+ and Hulu as well as the films “Please Stand By,” starring Dakota Fanning and Toni Collette, “So B It,” starring Cloris Leachman and Alfre Woodard and “Handsome,” starring and directed by Jeff Garlin.

On stage, he was honored with an Ovation Nomination for Best Supporting Actor in the 2006 Actors Studio Production of August Wilson’s “Fences,” and he performed in the musical production “North on South Central,” which won five NAACP Theatre

Awards in 2004. He also counts “Cages” written by Leonard Manzella and directed by Jon Rivera at the Matrix Theatre in Los Angeles, CA, “The Anteroom” (also for the Actors Studio), The Circle West Production of “Legacies,” at The Matrix Theatre (written and directed by the late John Bishop) and, the world premiere of “Two Ships Passing,” at the Pan Andreas Theater in Hollywood.

In addition to acting, Davis has directed many productions, including Lawrence Fishburne’s play “Riff Raff,” a production of “Shame” at the Elephant Asylum Theatre, and “The Old Settler,” at the Pico Playhouse. In a career that’s had many outstanding highlights, Davis earned an



William Stanford Davis and Leon Cassimere in “Zoo Balloon” episode  
Photo Courtesy DGE

Emmy Award in 2002 as part of the cast of Rasheen Crawley’s, “The Movement.”

He is a lifetime member of the Actors Studio and has directed actors

for over 15 years both at the Actors Studio and for his own company for both group and master classes to help usher in the next generation of professional actors.

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# Wellness: Consulting the I Ching

The I Ching, also known as the Book of Change, has been used by political, business, scientific and philosophic leaders for thousands of years and has influenced medical and scientific advancements that will take the human race well into the 21st century and beyond. I have studied Taoist philosophy for a number of years, and I continue to be intrigued by the concept that energy is all things, and all things are energy. Energy can be viewed as vibrations with many different frequencies.

The Taoist concept of life being nothing more than the interaction between Yin (negative) and Yang (positive) energy is now a universal scientific fact.

Everything in the visible world and invisible world is vibrating and in constant movement. Scientific research has shown that concentrated control of the frequency and vibration of an object can move it into a dimension outside of our understanding of space and time. The frequency of the subconscious mind of humans also can move

outside our understanding of space and time. This is why consulting the I Ching has been practiced for thousands of years; and why it has served as a source of guidance to some of the most vital questions in the continued evolution of the human race.

Gottfried Von Leibnez, the German mathematician and philosopher, was able to confirm his system of binary mathematics, which served as the foundation for computer science; after being introduced to the, I Ching in 1675. In 1953 Dr.

James Watson and Francis Crick announced the discovery of the genetic code consisting of sixty-four binary triplet figures called DNA; which corresponds amazingly with the sixty-four binary triplet hexagrams used when consulting the I Ching.

In 1949 Swiss psychologist, Carl Jung, wrote the foreword to one of the best-known Western translations of the I Ching by C.F. Baynes and Richard Wilhelm. Jung theorized that consulting the I Ching allowed the subconscious mind to move

past our understanding of space and time.

I have taught classes about the I Ching at the City College Continuing and Professional Studies program. Consulting the I Ching, I was one of my most popular workshops. I used both the coin and the traditional yarrow stalk method to show how you can use this ancient oracle to assist in finding guidance to vital questions and decisions.

If you would like to learn more about how the Taoist concept of energy can improve your health, please con-

tact me to make an appointment at the Harlem Ki Energy Center at 646 329-6727. If you would like to be introduced to one of the world's most profound sources of universal wisdom, send an email to Onuwon@gmail.com.

C. G. Jung first used the term synchronicity in his foreword for the Wilhelm/Baynes book. Synchronicity means, in short, that there are no coincidences. All things have a purpose; perhaps that is why you are reading this dialog.



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Urbanology: HARLEM DAY IS 48 Years Old



by W.A. Rogers

Inspiration, Impact, Legacy is the theme for the 48th annual HARLEM DAY celebration, which will take place on Sunday, August 21, 2022. HARLEM DAY was organized by the Uptown Chamber of Commerce in 1974, at the request of the

Honorable Percy E. Sutton, then-Manhattan Borough President. Over the years, HARLEM DAY turned into HARLEM WEEK, and the Uptown Chamber of Commerce became the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce. HARLEM DAY has always been celebrated on the third Sunday in August. HARLEM DAY's first theme was "The Beginning of The Second Harlem Renaissance." I must admit, when Mr. Sutton talked about tourism being a major revitalization and economic development tool, not only for New York City, but also for his beloved Harlem, it was difficult for me to see his vision then. Granted, Harlem was

considered the Black Cultural Capital of America, due to the global success of the First Harlem Renaissance. This was the reason the all-white Harlem Board of Commerce changed its name to the Uptown Chamber of Commerce in the late 20s, but, if tourists did not feel that 42nd street was safe at night, Harlem was considered downright dangerous at any time during the 70s and 80s. Back then, the media coverage of Harlem and other urban communities was not positive. The focus was on crime, drugs and slums, caused by abandoned buildings. Charles Gillett was the president of the New York Convention

and Visitors Bureau, the marketing and advertising arm of New York City and the forerunner of the current NYC & Company. Gillett shared the vision of the powerful Manhattan Borough President, that tourism would be a major marketing tool to revitalize the city. Gillett was a jazz fan, and knew that many famous Black jazz musicians would hang out and have late-night jam sessions at a club located on the corner of 135th Street and Malcolm X Blvd called the Big Apple. As musicians widely referred to their hometown, NYC, by its nickname, the Big Apple, it was a no-brainer that the first New York City tourism market-

ing campaign created by Gillett was to rename New York City, the Big Apple. HARLEM DAY was another tourism campaign taken on by the New York Convention and Visitors Bureau in partnership with the Uptown Chamber of Commerce (UCC) at Sutton's request. UCC had elected its first Black President, Hope R Stevens, Esq. Lloyd Williams was recruited by Stevens to be the Chamber's first Black Vice President. I was an intern in Mr. Stevens' Law office, so he made me the first Black program director. The late Mr. Sutton's dream has continued to evolve. By 2019, Harlem was named one of the top

three locations of interest by tourists coming to New York City, according to data collected by NYC & Company, which is still a major sponsor of HARLEM WEEK. And, with the upcoming opening of the Harlem Renaissance Marriott Hotel, Harlem will soon again become a major tourist location in New York City. For more information about the 48th annual celebration of Harlem Week, visit [www.harlemweek.com](http://www.harlemweek.com) for event schedules. To learn more about Harlem tourism options, visit [www.goharlem.com](http://www.goharlem.com). Those who are interested in visiting Harlem may email [artwartravel@gmail.com](mailto:artwartravel@gmail.com).

Answers to Puzzle on page 21

Word search grid with answers: LOGIN, ANCE, OWLS, INANE, FBI, UMI, AK, SCULL, ACR, DADDY, ERASER, RODNEY, WOK, RICE, PAM, NICE, TRAGIC, URAL, NASA, SLOSH, POLE, GLOBE, URS, A, IMAGO, MULL, MAUL, LAYOFF, NEEDED, LEK, FOOD, GEM, FOLDER, RYDELL, CURIA, ALE, USUAL, GRAVY, TAD, CONTE, ISLE, EGO, ENDED



HERBS ARE NATURE'S MEDICINE

By Zakiyyah

A major part of my upcoming book, The Energetics of How Herbs Heal, Without Drugs or Surgery, focuses on the power of our zodiac signs. Here is some in-depth information about the three Air signs. Gemini Health Concerns - Geminis are restless by nature. They suffer more than most people, with colds and flu, partially due to their reluctance to get rest when needed. Geminis' fingers, hands, arms and shoulders are also trouble spots. Libra Health Concerns - Libra governs the Excretory System, and those born under that sign must avoid overdoing things and being too nervous, which can lead to more

serious medical conditions. Because Librans tend not to be assertive, an argument becomes overwhelming, resulting in such stress symptoms as back weakness, kidney trouble and eczema. Aquarius Health Concerns - Aquarius rules the Meridian System. Aquarians have strong constitutions, an overall propensity for good health, and a very emotional nervous system. They need to guard against poor eating habits and excesses of all kinds. Since this sign rules the ankles and calves, a good exercise regimen can help them avoid weakness in these areas. Take our integrative self-healing Master Herb Course in essential oils, chakra

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See answers on page 20 and 22

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**CROSSWORD**

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THEME: BACK TO SCHOOL

ACROSS

- 1. \*Beginning of a computer class?
- 6. Mandela's org.
- 9. Horned birds
- 13. Silly and insignificant
- 14. U.S. counterpart to British M15
- 15. Inuit skin boat
- 16. Long oar
- 17. Acronym, abbr.
- 18. Movie "\_\_\_\_ Day Care"
- 19. \*End of a pencil, sometimes
- 21. \*"Back to School" star
- 23. Asian restaurant frying pan
- 24. Anne \_\_\_\_ of gothic fiction fame
- 25. \_\_\_\_ Beesly of "The Office"
- 28. Cote d'Azur city
- 30. Opposite of comic
- 35. Major mountain

chain in Russia

- 37. It launched Columbus, acr.
- 39. Walk through slush
- 40. Lindsey Vonn's prop
- 41. \*Geography class prop
- 43. Bear in the sky
- 44. Idealized image of someone
- 46. Reflect deeply
- 47. Stake driver
- 48. Dismiss (2 words)
- 50. Not want
- 52. Albanian money
- 53. \*Cafeteria ware
- 55. Rare find
- 57. \*Paper holder
- 60. \*Fictional high school in "Grease"
- 63. Pope's court
- 64. Barley brew
- 66. Run-of-the-mill
- 68. Boat contents
- 69. Little bit
- 70. Tale, in France
- 71. Small island
- 72. I, to Claudius
- 73. Terminated

DOWN

- 1. Fleur-de-\_\_\_\_
- 2. Sometimes it's enough
- 3. Wild ox of India
- 4. On spouse's side
- 5. Infamous Baby Face
- 6. A long way off
- 7. Network at 30 Rock
- 8. Wispy clouds
- 9. Yemen's neighbor
- 10. \_\_\_\_ receiver
- 11. The Tramp's spaghetti-slurping companion
- 12. Limit, to some
- 15. Bovine milk dispensers
- 20. Increasing
- 22. Month X
- 24. Reverberate
- 25. \*Student
- 26. Scent, usually pleasant
- 27. Malaysia native
- 29. "Keep \_\_\_\_ and Carry On"
- 31. \*One at high school reunion
- 32. Small Asian ungulate
- 33. September edition,

e.g.

- 34. \*Dry-erase marker predecessor
- 36. Toy construction set
- 38. Having the know-how
- 42. Lament for the dead
- 45. When one is not oneself (2 words)
- 49. Joker to Batman, e.g.
- 51. \*Do this in Math class
- 54. \*Do this in Speech class
- 56. Subatomic particle
- 57. Sable and beaver, e.g.
- 58. \*Type of exam
- 59. Like SNL
- 60. \*Grader's suggestion
- 61. City in Sweden
- 62. "A day \_\_\_\_ and a dollar short"
- 63. Some special effects, acr.
- 65. Fall behind
- 67. Type of Christmas lights

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# "What the Children Told Us"

by Tim Spofford

REVIEW by Terri Schlichenmeyer, Harlem Community News contributor

What was your favorite possession when you were a child?

Of course, you remember it, the weight of it in your hands, the way it fits your fingers, the envy of your peers, the pretending fun of it, and the security of knowing it would be waiting for you after school. Toys are essential in childhood, and important in adulthood, and in the new book "What the Children Told Us," by Tim Spofford, they're key in understanding racism and inequality.

Kenneth and Mamie Clark had both grown up with the benefits that

Black middle-class life bestowed on its members in the 1930s and '40s. Still, they were both grad students when they eloped, and after their marriage, his research and her job kept them in different cities. Her family didn't approve of him; Kenneth was driven, Mamie was focused, and in those Jim Crow years, they both keenly understood the effects that racism has on the human psyche. Rather than let it deter them, though, they complemented and supported one another and used that inequality to form their careers.

In 1939, Mamie began studying the effects of racism on young children, determining that self-awareness of race was set by age four, and publishing three articles on findings that gained attention from established psychologists. The following year, Kenneth, who'd become quite passionate about psychology, helped Mamie to set parameters for a project based on some of the data that "gnawed" at her. He also found the main ingredients for that project: four plastic baby dolls, identical except for their color.

Then, the Clarks invited 253 Black children, ages three to eight, into a conference room in an integrated school in the North and the segregated South. They asked the children a question: which doll – the white one or the brown one – looked more like you?

Two-thirds of the Black children chose the white doll.

Questions. You're going to have a bunch of them, once you're finished with "What the Children Told Us." The first one will be: why haven't the Clarks taken their place next to other influential people in Black history?

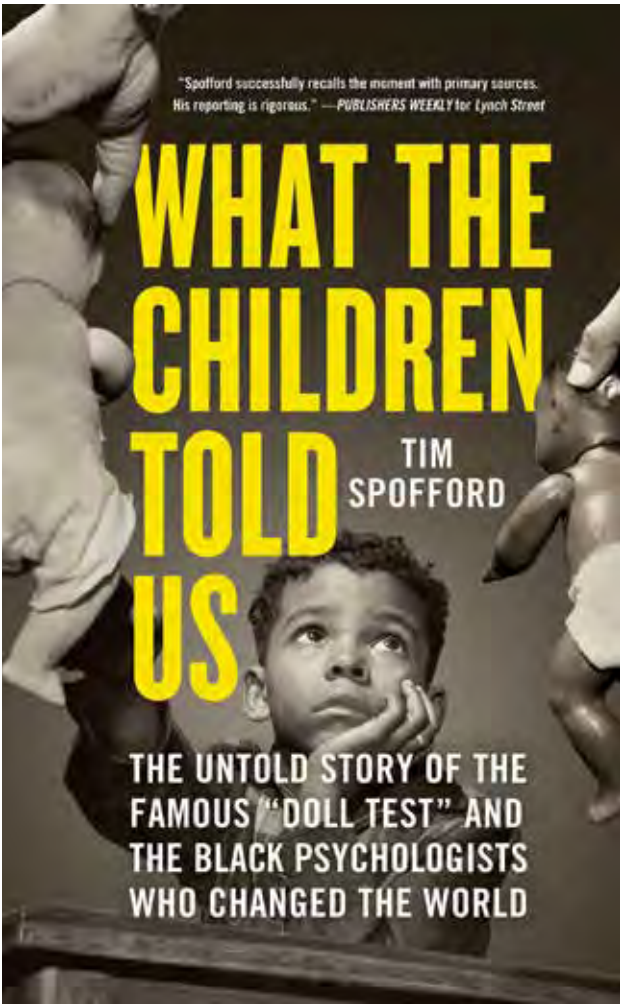
The answer may be because most stories stop at the "doll test," but not this one. Author Tim Spofford tells this decades-long story almost in three pieces: the Clarks' backstory, which unspools pleasantly like an old-time movie; the "doll test" years in

which the study was refined and processed and the Clarks' many years after the test which, quite surprisingly, were so important that they almost turn everything else into a footnote.

It's a story you need to read, and it may leave you with more pesky questions. It may also inspire you, because this is that kind of book. "What the Children Told Us" shows that heroes exist and activism is not child's play.

"What the Children Told Us: The Untold Story of the Famous 'Doll Test' and the Black Psychologists Who Changed the World" by Tim Spofford

c.2022, Sourcebooks \$26.99 368 pages



## SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

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