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Serving San Diego County's African & African American Communities

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#### 106th & Park - Blaze the Stage Many children in our community are blessed with the ability to express themselves musically. Whether they choose to pursue a career in medicine, law, technology or entertainment, one commonality...

See *Stage* on A8

## **Black & Missing:** Serving the Community of Color **Missing Persons**

By Kimetha Hill Staff Writer

Every day 2,300 people are reported missing in this country. Forty percent of the missing persons population is comprised of people of color. The Black & Missing Foundation, founded in 2008 works to help solve cold cases and related incidents of persons of color who are missing.

The foundation is a national organization that focuses on all persons of color. Though Black & Missing is located on the east coast, it serves a national audience.

"Our focus and goal is to provide an even playing field for all missing persons. We do not turn away any cases and we are not trying to dishonor the national community, but we feel that equal representation is important," Natalie emphasized. "We want to reunite and provide closure for families." A non-profit organization based out of Baltimore, Maryland, the Black & Missing Foundation was founded by President, Derrica Wilson and Natalie Wilson, Director of Public Relations. Derrica and Natalie Wilson explained the purpose and need for the foundation, "We felt missing persons of color were not getting the exposure that their White counterparts were receiving. The foundation was founded in May of 2008, a short time after the Natalee Holloway case was garnered so much national attention. Simultaneously, there was a young Black woman, Tamika Huston, who went missing in Spartanburg, South Carolina. While Natalee Holloway's story flooded the news, the family of Tamika Huston struggled to garner media attention." Sadly, this story is far too common as at that time missing persons of color represented around 30% of all missing persons cases. However, White missing persons were disproportionately shown across media channels, while people of color were rarely, if ever, given any media exposure. "Research shows that missing persons of color embody about 40% of all missing persons cases, though that number is rising, cited Derrica. The media plays a large role in attention given to cases of missing persons and Derrica and Natalie shared insight on the disparity between cases of Caucasians who go missing as compared to cases of people of color, "There needs to be more diversity in newsroom. Diversity can give precedence into what stories are exposed and the level of exposure. As well, the police department See Missing on C6





Women's Multicultural Business Showcase See Showcase on B1



### **Rosa Parks Essay Reveals Rape Attempt**



Associated Press

Long before Rosa Parks rose to fame for her role in the civil rights movement, she wrote a detailed account of her attempted rape by a white neighbor who employed her as a housekeeper in 1931, the Associated Press reports: The six-page essay, written in her own hand many years after the incident, is among thousands of her personal items currently residing in the Manhattan warehouse and cramped offices of Guernsey's Auctioneers, which has been selected by a Michigan court to find an institution to buy and preserve the complete archive. The Associated Press was provided with some samples of the documents in the archive, including portions of the essay. Archivists had reviewed the documents for Guernsey's and provided descriptions of their contents. Civil rights historian Danielle McGuire said she had never before heard of the attempted rape of Parks and called the find among Parks' papers astounding. It helps explain what triggered Parks' lifelong campaign against the ritualistic rape of black

# **THE OFFENSIVE MEXICAN SIGNAGE OF MEMIN PINGUIN**





Publisher

Last week a sign went up for a new seafood restaurant in Chula Vista. The character featured was what looked like a person in Black Face similar to what "Whites" did at the turn of the last century, when dressed up as poor Blacks to be ridiculed on stage. To African Americans then and today, such portrayals are considered offensive and degrading. It was just this kind of reaction to the sign for this new business that lead to complaints to the San Diego Branch of the NAACP and its President, Lei-Chala I. Wilson, Esq. Wilson visited the establishment and informed the people there that the sign was offensive to African Americans and needed to come down within 48 hours. Ms. Wilson later recounted in discussing this issue with the Voice & Viewpoint, that the woman present seemed to ignore her request and told her to have a nice day. The matter didn't stop there. Mr. Roger Duncan, a North County resident received comments about this sign from friends living in Chula Vista, who by this time had seen the sign. Mr. Duncan wrote to the Mayor and City Council members of Chula Vista about the offensiveness of the sign and he said he received almost an immediate response from the Deputy Mayor, Rudy Ramirez, of the City of Chula Vista, who informed him that the City's Code Enforcement Division was



already investigating the sign. As of Monday August 1, 2011, the sign had been removed and replaced with an octopus, to represent Mariscos El Prieto, translated "Darkie's Seafood." The name Mariscos El Prieto, is supposedly very popular as a seafood outlet in Mexico, but the issue over the particular character displayed, is not a first time occurrence here in the United States. In 2005, Mexico issued at least five stamps featuring this character known as Memin Pinguin which is evidently based on a 1940's fictional character of Cuban Mexican ancestry. The fictional comic book character, created by Yolanda Vargas, lived on the outskirts of Mexico City and was forever getting into trouble. At the time the stamps were issued, over 100 people including NAACP Chairman Julian Bond and local Branch President Wilson, wrote to then President of Mexico Vicente Fox and made this statement to him: "Given the rich

See Sinage on C6



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See Parks on C6







**Grace Kilpatrick** March 13, 1921 -July 26, 2011

Grace Kilpatrick was born to the late Zenobia and Dike Johnson in Monroe, Louisiana on March 13, 1921. She received Christ and was baptized at an early age. Grace met James L. Kilpatrick in Arkansas. James joined the United States Army and was stationed in San Diego, California during World War II. The affection that Grace had for James, knowing from her heart that she had a future with him; she relocated to San Diego, California in 1941. In 1943, James returned from serving overseas and it was then James and Grace were married. Only having an eighth grade education she was fortunate to work at several air craft manufacturing plants such as Ryan and Convair. In 1953, their union was blessed with their only child, James Jr. Grace was a devoted mother; she decided not to return to work until James, Jr. was six years old. She then began working at North Island Navy Air Station. While working civil service she received numerous awards and certificates for her diligence and faithful service. She retired from North Island Naval Air Station in 1987.

Mt. Erie Baptist Church her community providing fundraisers for whatever the cause was at that particular time. Her sweet spirit will be missed She is preceded in death her husband, parents by and her siblings, Octavia, Leon and Levi Johnson. On Tuesday, July 26, 2011 God called Grace Kilpatrick and she answered. She leaves to cherish her loving memories: her loving and devoted son, James Kilpatrick; three grandchildren, Charlotte, Jason, Janelle Kilpatrick and a host of other relatives and friends.



Willie Thomas November 19, 1944 - July 7, 2011

Willie Lee Thomas was born November 19, 1944 to Willie James Thomas and Etta Mae Brown in Paris, Texas. Willie was the eldest child of six siblings. He received his formal education in Paris, Texas.

In August 1962 he joined the United States Navy, where he served his country with pride and commitment until he retired in November 1984. While serving in the military, Willie was awarded the purple heart, which was earned during service in the Vietnam War.

He is preceded in death by his father, Willie James Thomas, and his two younger brothers, Bobby Ray Williams and Quinten Williams, Jr.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his loving and devoted wife, Velma Jean Thomas of San Diego, California; two sons, Williams Zanthony of San Diego, California and Michael Thomas (Maureen) of Bear, Delaware; two daughters, Latundra Carter (Herschel) of Houston, Texas Lashundra Thomas and of San Diego, California; grandsons, Walker two Lawrence, Jr. (Marisol) of Vista, California and Michael Grace was a member of Thomas, Jr. of Bear Delaware; two granddaughters, Ebone until her health began to Lawrence of Houston, fail. She volunteered with Texas and Mya Thomas the March of Dimes and in of Bear, Delaware; two great-grandchildren, Kyla and Jayden Lawrence of Vista, California; a mother, Etta Mae Williams of El Paso, Texas; one brother, Lawrence Williams; three sisters, Etta Faye Williams-Richardson (john), Barbara Anne Williams and Carolyn Williams-Johnson (Jackie) all of Texas; twelve nieces and nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.



Vikki Lanae' **Friar-Hendrix** May 23, 1953 -July 22, 2011

Vikki Lanae' Friar-Hendrix was born May 23, 1953 in San Diego, California to the late Census Friar and Juanelda Reed. She was raised by Daivd Reed. She received her formal education at Sherman Elementary, Gompers Jr. High and Lincoln High School. In 1977 she married the late Herbert Hendrix.

God called Vikki home on July 22, 2011 at 9:36 A.M. at Scripps Mercy Hospital in San Diego, California. She is preceded in death by her two sisters, Deonne LaGrone and Kim Friar; her brother, Marvin Reed and granddaughter, Yunik Turner.

She leaves to cherish her memories: mother, Juanelda Reed; stepfather, David Reed; brothers, Rickey Reed of San Diego, California and Keith Friar of Los Angeles, California; four daughters, Renee Anders, Tracy Thomas, Kylia Turner and Kelly Ramsey; twelve grandchildren and a host of family and friends to celebrate her homegoing.

Arrangements entrusted to California Cremation & **Burial Chapel** 





**Ebon Brandt Taylor** February 11, 1980 -July 12, 2011

Ebon Taylor was born to Brandt Taylor and Ruth Taylor-Nelson in San Diego, California on February 11, 1980. He lived a full and eventful life, surrounded by family and friends who he loved and valued.

Ebon graduated from San Pasqual High School in Yuma, Arizona. In 1999 Ebon enrolled in the United States Marine Corps, where he served for six years and fought for two terms in the "Operation Iraqi Freedom War". He was a proud soldier who loved his country and believed in protecting it.

After leaving the military Ebon graduated from San Diego City College, with an Associate degree in Arts and Communication. Ebon was looking forward to continuing his education and had enrolled in National University. He even formed his own technology shipping business called "Hell Catcher".

At the age of 31, Ebon was called home to Jehovah on July 12, 2011. He will join his father Brandt Taylor, stepfather Elmus Nelson, grandfather Jay T. Taylor, grandfather Thomas Vincent Derr, grandmother Ruth Derr, uncle Cleo Johnson and Hattie Johnson. Ebon was survived by his mother Ruth Taylor-Nelson, grandmother Melrea Taylor, brother Keith Stewart, sister Ebony Taylor, sister Aynmarie Nelson, sister Erica Nelson and a host of other relatives and friends. Arrangements entrusted to California Cremation & **Burial Chapel** 



Stacy "Mr. Bone" Johnson July 8, 1975 -July 18, 2011

Stacy "Mr. Bone" Johnson was born on July 8, 1975 in Rolling Fork, MS to Ernest Lee and Lillie Mae Johnson. A legal resident of Texas, Stacy attended the local elementary and middle schools, before graduating from Rolling Fork High School in 1993.

Stacy, a young father, immediately joined the military and was stationed in San Diego, CA where he met and married Randa and her 8 month-old-son Demonte. They would later move to Texas for a number of years bringing another son (Dallas) into the union. Eventually they transferred back to San Diego where the final piece to the puzzle would be added. His baby girl Nashira.

Stacy, who had already developed a passion for motor sports, was eventually introduced to what is referred to as the "Motorcycle Set", where he joined a club called New Breed Black Sabbath MC of San Diego, CA.

In September of 2010 Stacy was sent on a one year tour of duty to Manama, Bahrain. Stacy resided in Bahrain for nearly ten months before being fatally injured in a motorcycle accident on July 18, 2011.

Stacy served his country for nearly eighteen years where he was so fortunate as to have traveled the world and connected with an enormous

this issue continues to surface. Today, the comic book character continues to enjoy hundreds of thousands of readers in Latin American countries, but this should not be seen as an excuse to use the character in the United States, where racism has made the character as offensive as some of the stories surrounding Memin in Mexican and Latin American publications.

The real point here is not to allow objection and protest to be used to promote and market a restaurant that otherwise might go unnoticed by most folks.

#### Parks

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women by white men, said McGuire, whose recent book "At the Dark End of the Street" examines how economic intimidation and sexual violence were used to derail the freedom movement and how it went unpunished during the Jim Crow era.

#### Youth

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Dr. Warren closes his piece with two questions and I will respectfully try to answer them as best I can.

First he asks; where are the jobs this summer?

The answer: There are jobs for young people in all sectors of the economy but these jobs are scarce and very hard to obtain.

It is worth noting that Qualcomm has put 21 youth to work this summer within their corporate headquarters, CareFusion has employed 20 students and both Sea World and Jack in the Box have hired more than 50 students each as part of San Diego Workforce Partnership's Hire-A-Youth program. These youth have come from Southeastern San Diego, City Heights and other communities throughout the City and County of San Diego. Through the leadership of Council President Tony Young, the City of San Diego has provided additional Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to help place more than (200) youth into jobs throughout the City of San Diego. This program is off to a later start with most students starting work experiences in August and continuing into the upcoming school year.

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amount of people to develop some of the most amazing friendships.

Stacy was an only child and was preceded in death by his father, Ernest Lee Johnson as well as his mother Lillie Mae Johnson. He leaves behind a devoted wife, Randa Johnson of San Diego, CA. Three sons, Jordy Johnson of Rolling Fork, MS, Demonte Fagan of San Diego, CA, Dallas Johnson of San Diego, CA. One daughter, Nashira Johnson of San Diego, CA and "Rage" Johnson (his beloved Pit Bull). He is also survived by a host of family, friends and loved ones to mourn his passing.

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#### Missing

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shares the story with media, which also determines which cases are exposed."

Natalie went on to state, "The community needs to speak up, however, there is this "no snitching" mentality and we need to get rid of that. We need to demand that we get equal justice so that our missing persons get equal time."

"We also need to follow up once a report has been filed. There are cases where families have filed police however those reports; reports were never formally filed by the police. Therefore it is important to follow up on those initial reports," added Derrica.

The Black & Missing

Foundation has a good relationship with police department.

"We are a fairly new organization and we have an excellent rapport with the District of Columbia Police Chief and Assistant Police Chief. We work together with the police department as they inform us of missing persons cases," explained Natalie.

A good working relationship is essential to solving cases and the Black & Missing Foundation successfully bridges communication between law enforcement and families with missing persons.

"We work with families to be an advocate and mediator with the police department. We're seen as a resource for the community and the police department."

For families dealing with missing relatives, there are important steps to take on the path to solving that case,

"You must report your loved one missing. If you know something isn't right, go to the police. When you file a report make sure to have a recent photo of the person missing as time is of the essence," Natalie and Derrica emphasized.

"Provide police and media with as much information as possible. It's also important to communicate and get to know your neighbors. As parents, we must talk to our children and listen; children have so much to say, and sometimes as parents we overshadow our children with parental rights," they emphasized.

"Also, it's important to be involved in schools and churches in your community. When one of your neighbors is dealing with a missing loved one, help them with searches and pass out fliers. Anything is better than sitting and waiting for something to happen."

For cases of missing persons to be solved, Black & Missing urges that it is important that people trust law enforcement. Families and friends of missing persons must get a case number and follow up on those reports.

President of Black & Missing, Derrica Wilson is a former police officer, having worked with the Arlington County Police Department and the City of Falls Church Police Department. Natalie Wilson is the public affairs specialist for the District of Columbia Office of Tax and

Revenue in addition to her role as co-founder and director of public relations for Black & Missing.

For additional information on the Black & Missing Foundation, please visit http:// www.blackandmissinginc. com/cdad/index.cfm.

#### Sinage

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heritage and history of Mexicans of African descent apparent in the art, culture and literature of Mexico, it is with a mixture of disappointment and anger that we, the undersign, are writing to express our dismay at the issuance of the commemorative Memin Pinquin stamps."The Mexican Postal Service made a decision not to reissue the stamp.

It appears that six years later,

Next Dr. Warren asks; how many youth jobs does funding exist for?

The answer: Not nearly enough.

Through federal funding, city funding and additional private sector donations and placements, San Diego Workforce Partnership will be able to place between 750 and 900 youth into summer jobs throughout San Diego County. Considering that there are more than 200,000 working age youth in the County of San Diego, this number is anemic. And while many youth will find jobs on their own, or opt not to work this summer because they are engaged in positive activities (camps, academic programs, sports, volunteer work, etc.) the reality in our poorest communities is that the opportunity to work is increasingly out of reach.

What makes this situation even more frustrating during this lingering recession is that there may be no clearer example of true economic stimulus than a summer job. A return on investment study conducted by San Diego Workforce Partnership in the summer of 2009 shows that every \$1 a student earns has an impact in the local economy of more than \$1.90 (meaning that the money will be spent and respent in