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The Seattle Medium

A Message From The People... To The People

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2015

After Year Of Legal Pot Sales, State And Local Taxes Top \$70 Million

By Gene Johnson
Associated Press

(AP) - Washington launched its second-in-the-nation legal marijuana market with just a handful of stores selling high-priced pot to long lines of customers. A year later, the state has about 160 shops open, tax revenues have soared past expectations and sales top \$1.4 million per day.

And who knows - the industry might even start making some money.

Washington pot farmers, processors and retailers have complained all year that heavy state and federal tax burdens, along with competition from an unregulated medical marijuana market, have made it difficult for them to do business.

But at least some relief is here: This month, two new laws take effect, one to regulate and tax medical marijuana, and one to cut Washington's three-level excise tax on pot to a single, 37-percent tax.

Despite some industry gripes and those tweaks to Washington's legal pot law, which voters passed in 2012 to legalize marijuana for adults over 21, officials and legalization backers say the state's slow and deliberate effort to regulate marijuana has been a success.

A year after stores opened on July 8, 2014, here's a look at the state of legal weed here.

THE TAXES

Washington's racked up more than \$250 million in marijuana sales in the past year — roughly \$62 million of which constitute marijuana excise taxes. That's beyond the state's original forecast of \$36 million. And when state and local sales and other taxes are included, the total payday for the state and local governments tops \$70 million.

That's real money, if only a drop in Washington's \$38 billion two-year budget. Colorado's recreational sales began Jan. 1, 2014, and brought in taxes of \$44 million in the first year.

The tax revenue could continue to keep climbing.

And as other states watch Washington and Colorado, the only other state with legal marijuana sales, bring in more money, they're ever more seriously considering following suit, as Oregon and Alaska have already.

"Nobody's counting on the revenue from cannabis sales to save us, but it has an impact," David Zuckerman, a Vermont state senator and legalization advocate, said during a recent visit to Seattle. "The more important thing is that

the sky didn't fall in Colorado. The tidal wave hasn't hit Seattle. They're showing us that this can be done."

... AND THE TAXES

The flip side has been the burden of the taxes on pot businesses, with marijuana taxed 25 percent each time it moves from the growers to the processors to the retailers. That's been especially tough on retailers, who must pay federal income tax on the marijuana tax they turn over to the state.

James Lathrop, who owns Seattle's first legal marijuana shop, Cannabis City, says through the end of 2014, his estimated federal tax liability was \$510,000, on top of the \$778,000 he owed the state on \$3.1 million in sales.

"I'm basically doing this for free," Lathrop says. "Nobody's gone out of business, but I'm not driving a new truck either."

It hasn't been much easier on the growers.

"Looking back now, it's amazing we could be so successful and unsuccessful at the same time," says Jeremy Moberg, a long-time black-market grower who went legal and now runs CannaSol Farms in north-central Washington. "We're the No. 9 grower in the state, and my bank account just seems to stagnate."

The new tax rate should help. The law makes clear that the 37 percent tax is the responsibility of the customer — not the retailer. That means stores won't have to claim that money as income on their federal filings.

ISN'T LEGAL WEED EXPENSIVE IN WASHINGTON?

With few growers harvesting by the time the first stores opened, the average price of a gram of legal marijuana spiked to nearly \$30 last summer — about three times the cost in medical marijuana shops. But prices have been dropping as more weed gets harvested. In fact, Washington has harvested 13.5 tons of marijuana flower intended to be sold as bud, but stores have only sold about 10 tons.

Some of the excess can be turned into marijuana extracts, such as oil, but the harvest has helped drive down the prices to an average of about \$11.50 per gram.

Nevertheless, Lathrop says that in addition to tourists eager to visit the city's historic first legal pot shop, his clientele primarily consists of customers in the 25-and-older range.

"It's a more of an adult demographic, but that's OK," he says. "They have

(Cont'd. On Page 2)

NEWS ANALYSIS

Election Of Black Leader Helps Redeem Episcopal Church

By George E. Curry
NNPA Editor-in-Chief

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — The recent election of Bishop Michael Curry as the 27th presiding bishop of The Episcopal Church — the first African American to hold the denomination's highest office — to succeed the church's first female presiding bishop is expected to help atone for the church's failure to take a more active role opposing slavery and Jim Crow laws.

Curry, bishop of the North Carolina Diocese since 2000, was easily elected presiding bishop of the 2.5 million congregation on June 27 at St. Mark's Cathedral in Salt Lake City, capturing 121 of 174 votes in a four-person race. Prior to moving to North Carolina, Curry served 12 years as rector of St. James Church in Baltimore.

Recalling the election of Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori nine years ago as the church's first female presiding bishop, Curry said: "It was an experience of the Holy Spirit, for real ... And today I had that same feeling. And I think that's a sign of our church growing more deeply in the spirit of God and the movement of God's spirit in our world."

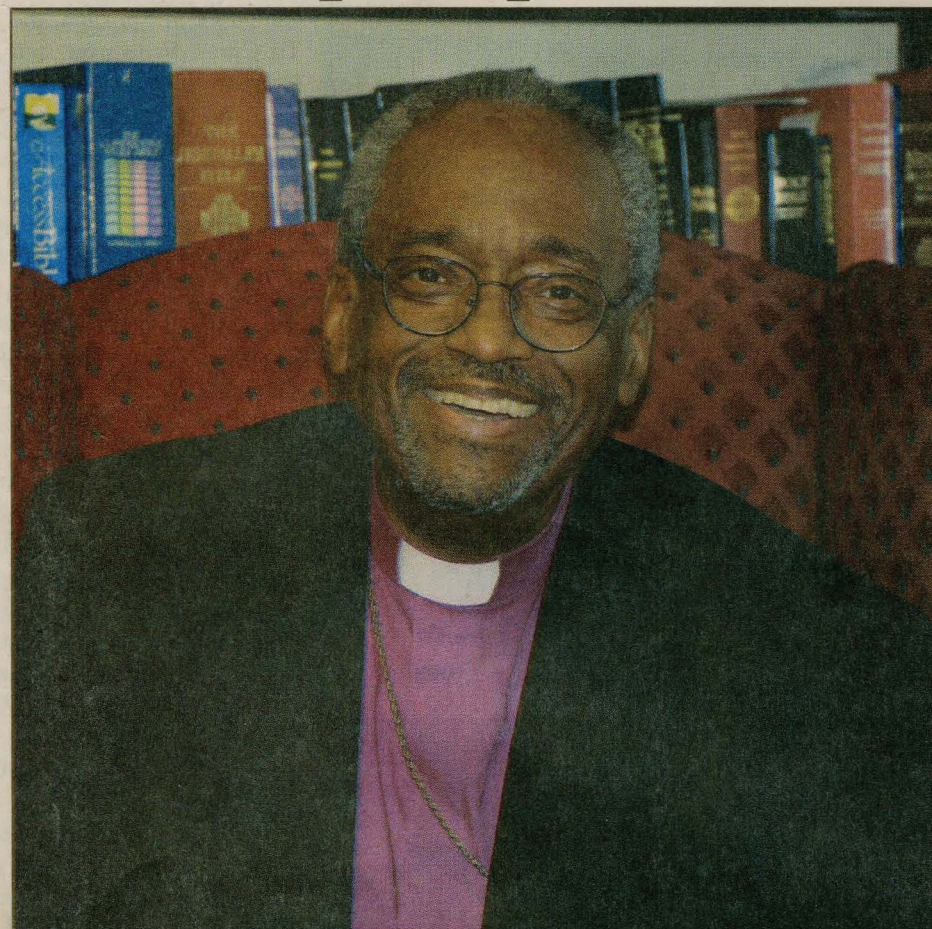
He explained, "... My election is a reflection of that same thing. That's exciting. That's a combination of God and us working together and that is a church willing to grow and being all that God dreams for it to be."

With roots in the Church of England, the U.S. Episcopal Church is a branch of the 80 million-member Anglican Communion. Like many denominations, the church is facing declining membership, down 18 percent over the past decade.

"In this day and this time, the church can no longer wait for the congregation to come to it," he said. "The church must go where the congregation is and share the gospel."

In sharing the gospel, the church continues trying to shed part of its past.

According to a report by the Episcopalian Anti-Racism Commission, published in March, "Even though the southern dioceses seceded from The Episcopal Church during the Civil War, the northern dioceses did not acknowledge any formal separation, nor did they confront the so-called 'conflict of conscience' that



Bishop Michael Curry is first Black to lead The Episcopal Church. Photo by Episcopal News Service.

led to the erection of The Episcopal Church in the Confederate States.

"North and South reunited in a gentleman's agreement not to address the racial issues that had split other denominations. While black parishes in the northern dioceses thrived on internal resources, despite what one observer called 'the arrogance of white liberals,' Southern patrimony, made it virtually impossible for Episcopalians...to recognize those formerly in bondage, indeed those who they had previously owned, as equal citizens under the law."

In the mid-60s, the church made a special effort to diversify its leadership.

"Executive Council membership was expanded to include four minority representatives, two of which were to be nominated by the Union of Black Clergy and Laity (UBCL)," the report stated. "The Church's ability to see racism in its own behavior and institutional practices could only have occurred because governance changes ensured the presence of new diverse voices. Nonetheless, change in the programmatic management at the Church's headquarters was slow to recognize institutional racism."

The report recalled, "The Church first took action on addressing institutional racism in the 1980s. A 1982 Church-wide Conference on Racism drew delegates from 50 dioceses including bishops and deputies to push for

change in the councils of the Church through training and education programs. In response General Convention for the first time requested every diocese and congregation to establish committees on racism. (1982-A062). Convention also endorsed Council's 1981 Affirmative Action policy (1982-A152). In 1986 Presiding Bishop Browning stated to Executive Council that, 'no greater challenge faces the Church than that of racism,' and committed the Episcopal Church to set an example of an organization confronting institutional racism."

Since then, the church has conducted anti-racism training, racism audits and undertaken other action to make the church more diverse.

Judging by his past, the new presiding bishop is likely to accelerate those efforts.

Curry earned a reputation of taking the gospel beyond the church walls and participating in the Moral Monday crusades to challenge North Carolina lawmakers on such issues as voting rights and income inequality.

The leader of the Moral Monday Movement in North Carolina, NAACP President Rev. William J. Barber, II, said in a statement: "We humbly add our congratulations to our prophetic friend, the new Presiding Bishop of nearly 2 million Episcopalians across America. His landslide election by the predominantly white

Episcopalian church is particularly striking in the wake of the assassinations of nine African Methodist Episcopalians in Charleston less than two weeks before."

The new leader was highly praised by convention delegates interviewed by the Episcopal News Service.

Tennessee resident Michael Moore said, "I'm a cradle Episcopalian, fourth generation Episcopalian, and I think he will do a lot to bring people back together again. Through him we can send a message to the world and to my daughter, who's become cynical about the church. He can bring us all together, not just Black people who've left, but he can also give White people hope... There's so much divide in the world, we need someone like him to bring us together."

Rev. Stephanie Spellers, chaplain to the House of Bishops, said, "I can't stop crying. This is not even about Michael Curry. ... This is a victory for Jesus. ... I could just feel the Spirit just pouring out, and it's not going to be ever the same again."

Jane Cosby, an Executive Council member from Philadelphia, said: "... The fact that he got it on the first ballot and the fact that I've lived long enough to see a Black president of the United States and now a Black presiding bishop in The Episcopal Church, I've got nothing else to wish for. If I die to tonight it will be OK."

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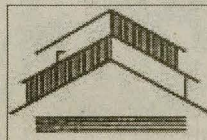
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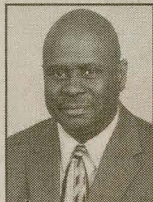


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County Council Honors WSU's Elson Floyd

Earlier this week, the King County Council recognized the late Washington State University President Elson Floyd. This recognition, honoring Floyd and his legacy, was presented to Washington State University Regent Ron Sims and WSU Vice President for Government Relations, Colleen Kerr.

President Floyd was highly sought after for leadership positions at higher education institutions around the nation prior to becoming president at Washington State University, which he considered to be "the best job in the country."

His vision to expand WSU's presence throughout the entire state and to increase higher education opportunities to students from various backgrounds became a reality when campuses in Spokane, the Tri Cities, Vancouver, and Everett were established.

N.C. NAACP Will Seek To Get Voter Restrictions Lifted

By Freddie Allen
Senior Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA) – In less than a week, a voting rights trial is expected to begin that will challenge North Carolina's restrictive voting law. Whatever the verdict, experts expect to ruling to have a ripple effect in states that have passed similar laws in the wake of a recent Supreme Court decision that weakened the Voting Rights Act.

Shortly after the Supreme Court invalidated Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act in the *Shelby v. Holder* decision two years ago, a number of states rushed to pass voting laws that civil rights groups say discriminate against people of color and poor people.

In its decision, the Supreme Court voted to annihilate the Voting Rights Act that required jurisdictions with a demonstrated history of racial discrimination to pre-clear any election law change with the U.S. Attorney General or a district federal judge in Washington, D.C.

Rev. William Barber II, the head of the North Carolina branch of the NAACP and co-founder of the Moral Mondays Movement, said that the deliberate, race-based voter suppression law passed by the North Carolina state legislature and signed by North Carolina's Gov. Pat McCrory is a sin.

"[House Bill 589] violates our deepest constitutional values and our deepest moral and religious values, which demand equal protection

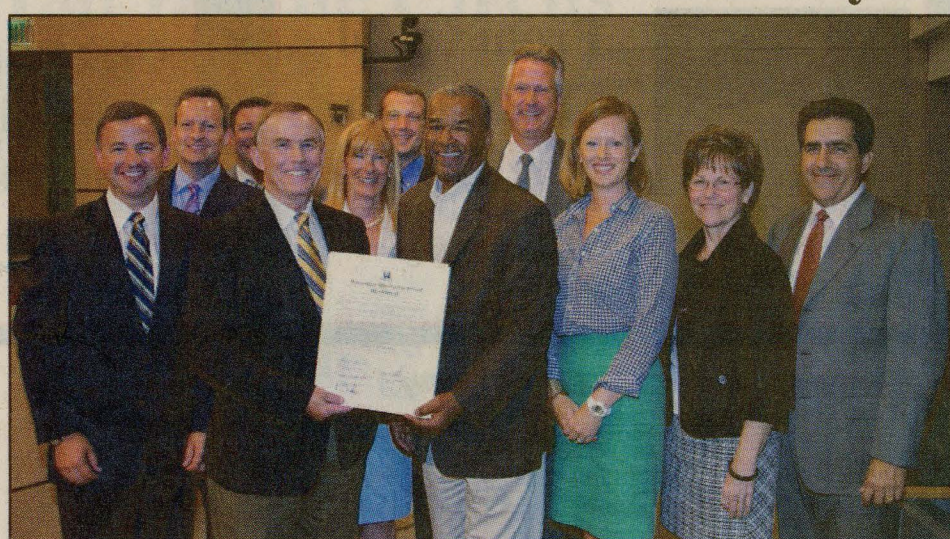
Marijuana

Continued From Front Page

jobs and they can afford to buy the product."

WHAT'S NEXT?

Rick Garza, director of Washington's Liquor Control Board — soon to be renamed the Liquor and Cannabis Board — says he's most proud of



King County Councilmembers present WSU representatives with a recognition honoring WSU President Elson Floyd. Pictured (L-R): (Back Row) King County Councilmembers Rod Dembowski, Dave Upthegrove, Reagan Dunn, Jane Hague, Joe McDermott, and Larry Phillips. (Front Row) Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer, WSU Regent Ron Sims; WSU Vice President of Government Relations, Colleen Kerr; Councilmember Kathy Lambert, and Washington State Lobbyist, Rob Makin.

"President Floyd was a man for all seasons, and an advocate for all sections of our state," said Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer. "He was a true visionary—and his vision was for the entire state."

Floyd's legacy will not

under the law and the establishment of justice," said Barber.

The Advancement Project, a multi-racial civil rights group, called H.B. 589 a "monster" bill that shortens the early voting period by a full week, eliminates same-day registration, requires strict forms of voter ID, resources that disproportionately affect minority and low-income voters.

The bill also blocks out out-of-precinct voting and expands the ability to challenge voters at the polls, and ends a pre-registration program for 16- and 17-year olds, according to the advocacy group

"The number of voters silenced because of the new law likely exceeds 30,000 and could reach 50,000 or more," according to analysis by Democracy North Carolina, a watchdog group that monitors elections.

The report said that the repeal of same-day registration, out-of-precinct voting, and straight party voting "which created backlogs inside the voting enclosure and longer lines outside as voters took longer to mark each contest on their ballot," created the most problems for voters during the 2014 general election in North Carolina.

As the nation mourns the mass murder of the nine members of Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston S.C., Barber said that Americans are in "the middle of a serious season about race" and that it's not just about symbols like the Confederate flag it's also about the substance of

only impact Washington State University, but also the entire state of Washington through his belief in the importance of education and developing new doctors.

"Elson Floyd's death was a great loss to our state"

public policy and the racially disparate impact of that the public policy.

"The fact that the extreme agenda around voter suppression has been so racialized and framed by the suppressors as somehow saving the country and saving the democracy is the reason that, not only must flags come down, but the opposition to voting rights and these suppressive laws must come down," said Barber. "Racialized rhetoric and policy rooted in untruth creates a climate in which we can say, 'the perpetrator of race-based terror has been arrested, but the killer, racism and race-driven policies and rhetoric, is still at large.'"

Donita Judge, a senior attorney for Advancement Project, said that group will also show that the North Carolina general assembly knew that the law would discriminate against African American voters, making it harder for them to participate in the electoral process, but passed it anyway.

Judge said that the lawyers representing the North Carolina branch of NAACP in the lawsuit against Gov. McCrory plan to use Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act that prohibits voting laws that result in the denial or abridgement of voting on the basis of race to challenge H.B. 589.

"The outcome of this trial will have national implications for voting rights," said Judge, adding that dozens of states have passed similar legislation after *Shelby v. Holder* decision. "The solvency of the Voting Rights Act to

said Councilmember Reagan Dunn of Maple Valley. "He was a true leader in every sense of the word and his legacy will live in the hearts and minds of all of us."

stop these discriminatory voting practices hangs in the balance and that battle will be waged in Winston-Salem starting July 13."

In June, less than a month before the trial, North Carolina legislators eased restrictions on the photo ID requirements in the state's contentious voting law. The changes, if approved by Gov. McCrory, would allow voters to sign an affidavit acknowledging hardships that they encountered in obtaining a photo ID. Voters could then present other forms of identification.

Barber noted that the last ditch effort by state lawmakers to soften the blow of the photo ID statute, only addressed one part of the 2013 law, leaving the cuts to early voting days, same day registration and pre-registration for some teenagers intact.

The same day that the trial is set to begin, the Moral Mondays movement will also host a march and rally for voting rights in Winston-Salem, N.C., Barber said, to show the world that North Carolina residents plan to fight for their right to vote.

"This is our Selma, and we implore all who care about voting rights to join us," said Barber. "Selma is not just something that happened 50 years ago. Selma is not just a movie that you can go see to be nostalgic about the fight that was. Our Selma is the fight that is. The fight against voter suppression right now, right here, today."

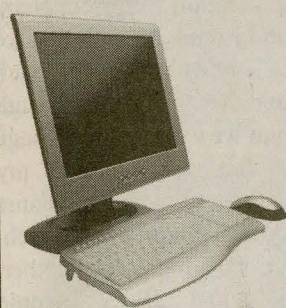
merging the recreational and medical markets, Garza says.

Less of a concern, he says, is competition from the next state to offer legal marijuana sales: neighboring Oregon. So far, the stores in Vancouver, just across the Columbia River from Portland, Oregon, have been some of the top-selling stores in the state. The flow of customers across the river will likely reverse as Oregon's medical marijuana stores are allowed to start selling for recreational use this fall.

"This isn't the first time people have gone to Oregon to buy something either because it's cheaper or because they don't apply sales tax," he said. "We saw it for liquor, we see it for tobacco."

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City Of Seattle Selects First Classrooms For Preschool Program

Seattle Mayor Ed Murray recently announced the providers and locations for the first classrooms of the new Seattle Preschool Program. Beginning in September, the program will serve about 230 students in neighborhoods across the city.

Four providers will offer full-day, high-quality preschool for three- and four-year-olds in 12 classrooms:

- Causey's Early Learning Center, with classrooms in the Central District and Beacon Hill.
- Community Day School Association in Beacon Hill, Rainier Valley, Delridge and Leschi.
- Sound Childcare Solutions with classrooms Downtown and in Mt. Baker.
- Creative Kids in Greenwood.

"Seattle is teaming with quality educators to provide these children with a great start to classroom learning," said Murray. "Quality early childhood education will have a lasting impact on these kids, leading to success in school and in life."

In one study of Chicago students, children who attended a quality preschool program were 29 percent more likely to graduate from high school than their peers who did not.

"We have a strong group of high-quality preschool providers," said Seattle City Council President Tim Burgess. "This is a great start. Full day, affordable, high-quality preschool will become a reality for hundreds of Seattle families this September, then thousands more in the



Seattle Mayor Ed Murray

coming years. This is an investment to make certain Seattle children have a fair and strong start. It will change lives."

All Seattle Preschool Program classrooms will be staffed by well-qualified teachers with access to continuing professional development. The student to teacher ratio will be no more than 10 to 1. All providers are licensed by the State of Washington and rated three or higher by the State's Early Achievers program.

According to Murray, sites were selected based the preschool's proximity to low-performing public schools, its track record serving diverse communities, and plans to actively engage families in their students' success.

Seattle Public Schools continues to experience an opportunity gap for lower-income kids and children of color. Nearly 90 percent of Caucasian 3rd graders are meeting math and reading standards in this city, compared to approximately half of African-American students. About one-quarter of African American and

Latino students do not graduate on time, compared to 8 percent of Caucasian students.

"Our kids come from all different environments, but they can all learn by doing, so we use a curriculum that engages both a child's mind and their hands," said Ruth Brown of Causey's Learning Center. "I strongly believe in professional development, and this program will encourage continued skill-building for our teachers. We are very excited to be in this first group of providers."

All Seattle Preschool Program classes will meet six hours a day throughout the 180-day academic year. All classrooms will use approved age-appropriate curriculum geared for hands-on learning.

Tuition is based on family income and is free for families earning up to 300 percent of the federal poverty rate, currently \$70,000 for a family of four. The highest-earning families will pay \$10,173 for the 180-day school year.

The average rate for unsubsidized center-based preschool programs in Seattle is \$1,228 per month.

In December, the Department of Education and Early Learning will accept applications from additional providers to join the program. For the 2016-2017 school year, an additional 25 classrooms will serve another 500 children. In its fourth year, the program will serve 2000 children across Seattle.

Last November, Seattle voters approved \$58 million over 4 years to launch the program.

New Spokane NAACP Head Wants To Repair Damage, Move Forward

SPOKANE (AP) - The new president of the Spokane NAACP says she wants to focus on repairing the damage from the recent Rachel Dolezal controversy.

Naima Quarles-Burnley last month replaced Dolezal, who resigned amid questions about her racial identity after her parents said she was a white woman

pretending to be black.

Quarles-Burnley tells The Spokesman-Review that the episode hurt the organization because people questioned the group's integrity. But the chapter's new leader says she's committed, to moving forward and showing that the actions of one don't reflect on all.

One of the first goals will be to fill positions within the chapter's executive committee. She also wants to work on raising awareness about HIV/AIDS in the African-American community and prepare for a regional NAACP conference this fall.

Updated throughout the week
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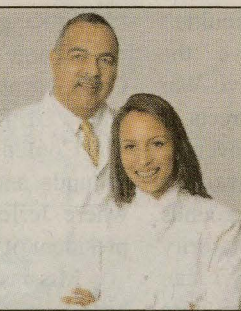
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Items and prices in this ad are available 7 a.m., Wednesday, July 8 thru Tuesday, July 14, 2015 (unless otherwise noted) Midnight at your local Safeway store only. No sales to dealers, restaurants or institutions. Sales in retail quantities only. Availability of items may vary by store. Quantities of some items may be limited and subject to availability. Sales of products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine or phenylpropanolamine limited by law. Not responsible for typographical or pictorial errors. We reserve the right to correct all printed errors. On Buy One, Get One Free ("BOGO") offers, customer must purchase the first item to receive the second item free. BOGO offers are not 1/2 price sales. If only a single item purchased, the regular price applies. Manufacturers' coupons may be used on purchased items only - not on free items. Limit one coupon per purchased item. Customer will be responsible for tax and/or bottle deposit on the purchased and free items. No liquor sales in excess of 52 gallons. No liquor sales for resale. Liquor sales at licensed Safeway stores only. © 2015 Safeway Inc. Online and in-store prices, discounts and offers may differ. 062415_SSEA_ROP_Med

EDITORIALS • COMMENTS • OPINIONS

President Obama Is On A Winning Streak



By Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.
NNPA Columnist

The presidency is a bit like a baseball season. Players go through streaks and slumps, good days and bad days. Teams rack up wins and losses. It is only over the course of the long season that champions emerge, their record of accomplishment finally coming clear.

As President Obama’s eight years heads into its final stretch, his accomplishments are becoming clear, rising above the daily skirmishes, wins and losses. As the first African American president, Obama was always going to be an historic figure. But increasingly, it is becoming clear that he will be remembered as a significant president not simply for winning office, but

for what he accomplished while holding it. The first inklings of the results are reflected in recent polls showing that 50 percent of Americans now think the Obama presidency has been a success – an impressive number given the bitter partisan divides of our politics.

Economically, the president inherited an economy that was in free fall, losing hundreds of thousands of jobs a month. Now he presides over an economy that has created 12 million jobs, witnessed the fastest economic growth in a decade, and sets a record each month for the longest consecutive months of jobs growth. And the U.S. recovery has far outstripped that of Europe. And this was accomplished despite the unrelenting obstruction of the Republican opposition that committed itself from day one to opposing everything Obama attempted.

Health care reform – with the Affordable Care Act reaffirmed once more in the Supreme Court – has provided a big step forward. Some 15 million Americans have gained insurance, even as health care costs have risen at the lowest levels this century. And that despite the fact that partisan opposition led about half of the states to oppose expansion of Medicaid, denying millions from protection.

On the environment, the president is the most important leader since...well, since Nixon. His stimulus plan provided a

major boost to renewable energy. He used regulation and executive order – particularly the gas mileage standards and the soon to come carbon emission standards – to boost energy conservation and limit carbon emissions. He will carry a strong hand into the round of climate negotiations in Paris.

On immigration, the Congress has stymied comprehensive reform. But by executive order, the president has provided some hope for the millions left in the margins.

On social issues, the president has been more observer than actor. Yet on his watch, the Supreme Court has ratified gay marriage. After the publicity about police shootings garnered attention, a bipartisan turn against mass incarceration has gained momentum with the Justice Department weighing in.

On economic inequality, President Obama used his bully pulpit to put the issue in the front of the American people. In the budgetary wars, he has succeeded in raising taxes on the rich. He sought, with little success, to increase investment in the most vulnerable. Inequality has grown more extreme on his watch, but any hopes of redressing it were blocked by Republican opposition to any and all efforts to take on the rigged rules that feed the inequality.

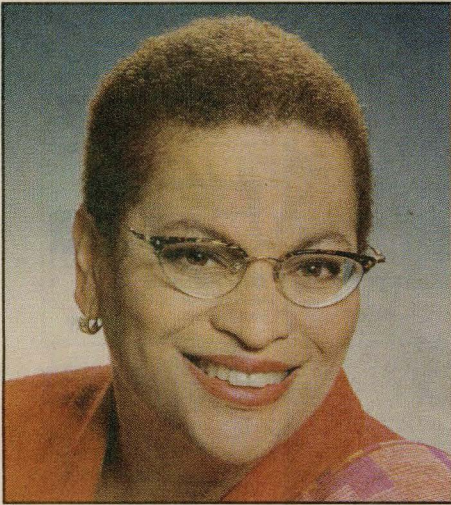
On foreign policy, the president’s effort to extricate us from the sectarian wars

in the Persian Gulf have been largely frustrated. Troops are going back into Iraq, now to take on the threat posed by ISIS. He has emerged as a defender of presidential prerogatives in national security. His administration has continued to police the world, while deploying drones across the Middle East. By opening relations with Cuba, the president has created the basis for a new start with our neighbors in this hemisphere.

Much, of course, remains to be done. The president remains wedded to the failed trade policies of the past decades. There has been no clear policy for urban development or for targeting the most vulnerable communities. Government has grown more corrupted, not less. Big money dominates our politics more than ever before. The president’s education policy with its emphasis on high stakes testing has been a disappointment.

But this president has faced unprecedented obstruction, insult and venomous hatreds. He has more than survived; he has a record of accomplishment to be proud of. And has forged a potential majority political coalition that could insure – if its members show up at the voting booth – that reform accelerates rather than retreats.

Church Burnings Should Ignite More Protests



By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

It’s possible that lightening may have caused one of the fires. Another may be the result of faulty electricity. Still, in the past couple of weeks, there were fires at churches in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Ohio and Tennessee. At least two have been ruled arson by local fire departments. Several are still being investigated. Is it a coincidence that churches are burning in the days since the massacre at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, S.C.?

President Obama spoke to the historical importance of Black churches when he eulogized Rev. Clementa

Pinkney. The church, he said, “is and always has been the center of African American life.” He went on to describe Black churches as “hush harbors” for enslaved people, “praise houses where their free descendants could gather and shout hallelujah, rest stops for the weary along the Underground Railroad, bunkers for the foot soldiers of the Civil Rights Movement.”

To set fire to a Black church, to kill people in a Black church, to bomb a church strikes at the very heart of our community. These acts of terrorism are meant to intimidate, to send a message. That these recent fires have happened in the wake of protests against the vile Confederate flag suggests that these fires may be pushback from the protests, a continuation of work of the man who murdered nine people in Emanuel AME Church. Whoever is burning churches, though, forgets that it is not 1815, but 2015. The intimidation tactics that worked during slavery won’t work now.

These church burnings fire me up. They ought to fire us all up. The burnings ought to spark a resistance to racism unlike any we have seen in the past. These church fires ought to infuse us with the passion of Bree Newsome, the African American woman who climbed up a pole and snatched the Confederate flag from a pole outside the South Carolina statehouse. She

didn’t wait for Gov. Nikki Haley to take the Confederate flag down; she was too fired up to wait. After all, Haley’s post-massacre announcement that the flag should not fly on statehouse grounds is symbolic until the South Carolina legislature votes to take the flag down. Meanwhile, Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley, not needing legislative approval, ordered four Confederate flags to be taken down from the capitol grounds that served as the first headquarters of the Confederacy.

A South Carolina woman, Edith S. Childs, came up with a slogan when candidate Obama visited Greenwood (population about 23,000) for an event that drew a scant 20 people. To energize the small crowd, Childs walked through the crowd attempting to fire them up. The call and response phrase, “fired up, ready to go” not only galvanized the small gathering, but became a central chant of Obama’s 2008 campaign. Used everywhere from civil rights gatherings to country clubs, “fired up” captured the energy of the first Obama campaign. Indeed, organizations used the “fired up” slogan to get people out to vote, to work on issues other than the Obama campaign, to symbolize the energy needed for change.

In the wake of these church burnings, the righteous need to be fired up and ready to go in dismantling the racism that has plagued our nation since its founding. We

need to collectively debunk the myth that the Confederate flag is about history and heritage – it is simply about White supremacy. We need to go to school boards, especially in the South, to demand curriculum revisions when young people are force-fed inaccurate history about the Civil War. We need to put those employers “on blast” when they can’t “find” any African Americans to hire. We ought to encourage the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) to ensure that those who get federal contracts comply with the law— that those who get federal contracts do affirmative action hiring.

The Mother Emanuel massacre demonstrates that racism is alive and well in these United States. We experience it everywhere we turn, from our national statues (fewer than 10 Black women are commemorated in public statues) to persistent housing segregation. Too many of us have accepted this racism, or feel powerless to fight it. Thus, it persists.

It was gratifying to see the multiracial crowds that mobilized in solidarity with the Mother Emanuel Nine. It would be interesting to see how many of those mobilized are willing to be involved in anti-racist work. All of us need to be “fired up, ready to go” to persistently and consistently dismantle the racism that is woven into the very fabric of our national consciousness. President Obama, are you in?

Confederate Traitors Don’t Deserve To Be Honored



By George E. Curry
NNPA Columnist

Can you image waving a flag that honors Benedict Arnold, a name synonymous with treason?

How about traveling to work and back on Aldrich Ames Boulevard, a tribute to the CIA mole who secretly worked for the Russians?

Should we erect a statute of Robert Hanssen, the FBI computer and wiretapping expert who spent most of his career spying for the Soviet Union and Russia, in the hallway of the Capitol in Washington, D.C.?

Do you favor naming public schools attended mostly by Jews after Fritz Kuhn to honor the German who lived in the U.S. and was in charge of the famous U.S. Nazi group, the German-American Bund?

If you are repulsed by the thought of honoring those traitors, you should be

equally indignant at the thought of erecting statues and naming streets and schools after Confederate traitors.

Make no mistake about it: Those who declared war on the Union were traitors, defined as “a person who is not loyal to his or her own country, friends, etc.”

Eleven Southern states broke from the Union for the same reason.

Writing in his book, *The Creation of Confederate Nationalism: Ideology and identity in the Civil War South*, Drew Gilpin Faust observed, “leaders of the secession movement across the South cited slavery as the most compelling reason for southern independence.”

Alexander Stephens, in what became known as the Cornerstone Speech, said on March 21, 1861 in Savannah, Ga., “The new constitution has put at rest, forever, all the agitating questions relating to our peculiar institution – African slavery as it exists amongst us – the proper status of the negro in our form of civilization. This was the immediate cause of the late rupture and present revolution.”

He explained, “[The Confederate] “its corner-stone rests upon the great truth, that the negro is not equal to the white man; that slavery – subordination to the superior race – is his natural and normal condition. This, our new government, is the first, in the history of the world, based upon this great physical, philosophical, and moral truth.”

Theses historical facts notwithstanding

ing, a majority of Americans – 57 percent – view the Confederate flag as a symbol of Southern pride rather than racism, according to a recent CNN poll.

It gets more interesting when the numbers are broken down by race. Of Whites polled, only 25 percent view the Confederate flag as a symbol of racism. However, 72 percent of Blacks associate the flag with racism.

It is time to bring down the Confederate flag of hate, but we shouldn’t stop there. We should remove the monuments and tributes to the Civil War traitors from public buildings and streets. If Robert J. Bentley, the Republican governor of Alabama, can voluntarily remove four Confederate flags from the Capitol grounds in Montgomery and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) can recommend that a statue of Kentucky-born Jefferson Davis be removed from the state Capitol, it is time to remove the tributes to Confederate leaders from the U.S. Capitol.

Visitors to the Capitol are greeted by towering statues of 11 former Confederate leaders, including Confederate President Jefferson Davis, Vice President Alexander H. Stephens and Gen. Robert E. Lee.

Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.), a civil rights icon, said it’s time for the statues to be removed.

He told the Associated Press, “Young children, school children, walk by these statues, and those of us who serve in the

Congress, we have to get our own house in order ... We have to have a cleansing in this place.”

There is still cleansing to be done at the state level.

Despite the removal the Confederate flags from the Capitol grounds in Alabama, for example, the state annually celebrates Confederate Memorial Day, Jefferson Davis’ birthday, and honors Robert E. Lee on the same day it observes Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday.

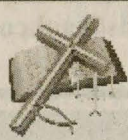
A large statue of Jefferson Davis on the Capitol grounds overlooks Dexter Avenue, where Dr. King pastored his first church. The Confederate Monument is still on the grounds and a star still marks the spot where Jefferson Davis took the oath as president of the Confederate states.

Mississippi also combines the birthdays of Dr. King and Robert E. Lee, observes Confederate Memorial Day on the last Monday of April and combines national observance of Memorial Day with Jefferson Davis’ birthday as a state holiday.

In addition to Alabama and Mississippi, Confederate Memorial Day is also observed as a state holiday in Texas, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

Let the cleansing begin. Like Maj. General William T. Sherman, let’s march though Dixie and the rest of the nation until we rid the United States of tributes to traitors.

The Seattle Medium’s Rhythm & News Hour
With Chris B. Bennett
Fridays: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. • Re-broadcast Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
on 1420 KRIZ, 1560 KZIZ, 1620 KYIZ, online at ztwins.com and on the tune-in radio app on your smartphone.



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Web: www.famessettile.org

FAME Calendar: https://www.facebook.com/pages/First...Seattle



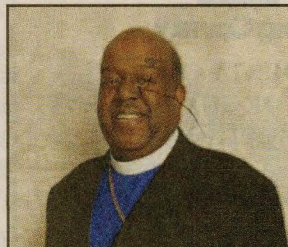
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"Stepping Into a New Season of Possibilities"

Washington Northwest Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Inaugural Holy Convocation Convenes July 12-18, 2015

The Right Reverend, Bishop James E. Hicks and Jurisdictional Supervisor Jean McGraw would like to cordially invite the community to attend the Holy Convocation.

We are looking forward to a mighty move of the Holy Spirit as we assemble together this week. We are praying that God will pour out His blessings upon all those that attend. Come looking for a blessing!

The Holy Convocation will begin Sunday, July 12 and end Saturday July 18. All services Sunday through Friday morning will be held at Unity COGIC - 8302, Renton Ave. South, Seattle, Wednesday through Friday, 10AM - 12PM day service will be held - free lunch will



Reverend, Bishop
James E. Hicks

be provided afterward. Friday evening and Saturday service will be held at Renton Technical College, 3000 Fourth Street, Renton.

HOLY CONVOCATION HIGHLIGHTS:

Sunday - 5PM | Pre-Musical @ Unity COGIC

Monday - 7PM | A Night Honoring Veterans. All Veterans in the Community are invited to attend and



Jurisdictional Supervisor
Jean McGraw

will be honored. @ Unity COGIC

Wednesday - 7PM | Special Guest Speaker - Bishop Drew Sheard, husband of Karen Clark-Sheard of the renowned

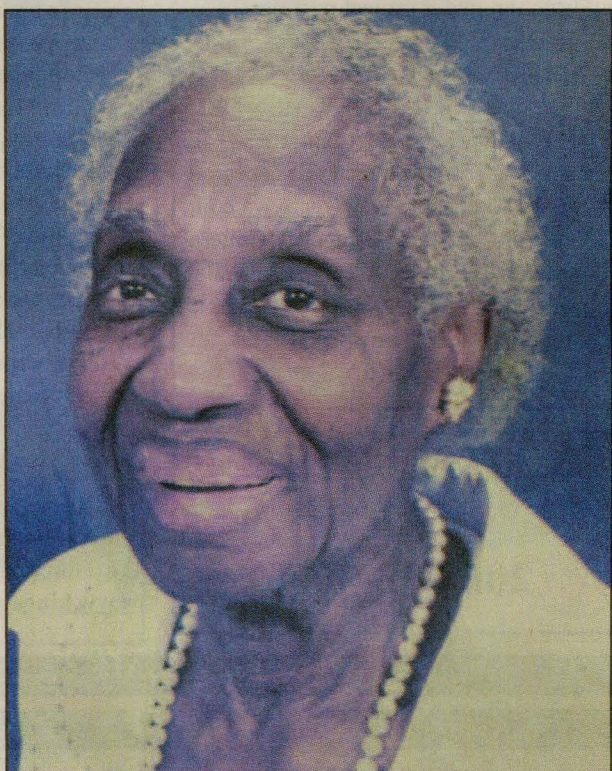
"Clark Sisters". @ Unity COGIC

Friday - 10AM | Women's Day @ Unity COGIC
7PM | Women's Day Evening Service @ Renton Technical College

Saturday - 11AM | Official Closeout Service, Bishop James E. Hicks delivering sermon at Renton Technical College

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Felecia - 206-723-1590.

In Loving Memory Of Dorothy Sims



Another beautiful soul has transitioned home. Born January 14, 1929 in Quitman, Georgia to James & Bertha Braswell, Dorothy Sims transitioned to her heavenly home peacefully on June 30, 2015 at 1pm in Seattle, Washington. Dorothy was the last of the Braswell siblings from Valdosta, Georgia.

Public viewing will be on this Thursday, July 9, 2015 at Evergreen Washelli, 11111 Aurora Ave N., Seattle, WA from 5 - 8pm.

Homegoing celebration will be this Friday, July 10, 2015 at Southside Church of Christ, 12200 59th Ave. S., Seattle, WA at 11am, with an open viewing beginning at 10am.

Dorothy Sims was full of personality, wisdom, loyalty and fun. She celebrated and devoted her life to her children, family, church, and friends. Dorothy loved the Lord with all her heart and was very grateful for all her many blessings; she was a true worshiper and a faithful servant. She retired from Providence Hospital where she was honored, very well respected and liked by all. Mother Dorothy Sims became the "self appointed" pastor of Trinity Faith Temple where her beloved eldest son was the pastor. In her latter years when she could no longer attend church, she still continued her praise, saying, "Hallelujah, Thank you Lord, Have your way Lord, Help me Jesus, Help us Lord, Yes Lord" or she'd challenge you to a praise by saying... God is GOOD!? (And you'd respond) ...All the TIME! (and she'd end it with...) Well, Alright then! Amen!

She was preceded by her beloved "Johnny" and children; Venus Sims Jr., Katie Sims, MaryAnn Sims, and Nathaniel Sims. She leaves to cherish her beautiful loving memories, Bishop Alfred (Linda) Roberson, Rickie (Ruth) Roberson, Donald (Fredia) Roberson, Ronald Roberson, Vernon Sims, Larry Sims, Cathie (Larry) Wilmore all of Seattle, Washington, Alice McGlothlin and Gwen Echols of Fresno, California and Peggy Sims of Federal Way, Washington. She also leaves her beloved Aunt Ida Graham, Seattle, Washington, and Aunt Gladys Goss, Valdosta, Georgia, God son, Victor Patterson, a host of beautiful grandchildren, great grandchildren, great great grandchildren, god children, nieces, nephews and many friends.

Dorothy Sims, you have fought a good fight and have now finished your course.

Rest in peace faithful servant, until we meet again.

In honor of Dorothy Sims, we are requesting all to wear something yellow, gray or silver.

Highlight your church and church events here..

Call
(206) 323-3070
for details

True Vine Of Holiness Missionary Baptist Church

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Seattle, WA 98178

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First Lady Carole Willis

Sunday School.....9:30 am

Worship Services.....11:00 am

Please visit our website at

www.truevinechurchonfire.com

206-860-0836

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Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Baptist Church

4519 NE 10th Street, Renton, Washington 98059
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 2145, Renton, Washington 98056
Phone: 425-255-1446 • www.MLKbaptist.com

Service Times

Sunday

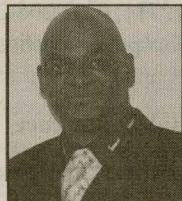
Early Morning Service - 8:00 AM

Sunday School 9:15

Morning Service - 11:00 AM

Madison Park Church of Christ

1115 19th Avenue Seattle, WA 98122
(206) 324-6775 - Office (206) 324-1077 - Fax
www.madisonparkchurchofchrist.org



Thomas R. Martin Jr.,
Minister

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30AM

Morning Worship 10:30AM

Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 PM

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(206) 725-4271 **(206) 723-7879** **Attorney Phillip Aaron**

Rose Of Sharon Pentecostal Church



ORDER OF SERVICE

Church School...9:30am

Worship Hour...11:15am

Sunday Evening...7:00pm

Wednesday Evangelistic

Service.....7:00 pm

Prayer Saturday at Noon

Office: (206) 722-4920

Foyer: (206) 722-9972

4103 Rainier Avenue South
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www.gnbchurch.com

Sunday Services:
Sunday School - 9:45 AM
Worship Service - 11:00 AM

Wednesdays:
Voices of GNB rehearsal - 6:00 PM

PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays:
Midday study - 11:00 AM
Evening study - 7:00 PM
Youth Bible study - 7:00 PM



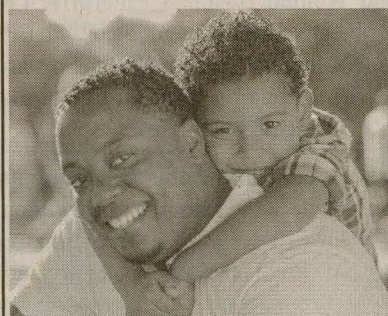
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Owner: Low Income Housing Institute

BID DEADLINE:

Friday, July 10, 10:00 AM

WALSH CONSTRUCTION CO./WA

315 Fifth Ave. S., Suite 600

Seattle, WA 98104

(206) 547-4008

WMBE / SECTION 3: WCC actively encourages participation of Women and Minority Business Enterprises (WMBEs) and Section 3 Residents on this project. WMBE and Section 3 subcontractors are strongly encouraged to submit bids.

PREVAILING WAGES: All subcontractors must comply with Washington State Residential Prevailing Wage requirements – see specific information under project posting.

LOCATION

OF CONTRACT DOCUMENTS -

Current plans, specifications, bid packages and bid forms can be accessed: Builders Exchange at www.bxwa.com. (Click on: Posted Projects, General Contractor - Project Areas, WA, Walsh Construction Co. Seattle, Select Projects. Username: walsh Password: safety). CCO1 WALSHCC990D1

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EMPLOYMENT



King County

KING COUNTY COUNCIL DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Annual Salary:

\$104,697-\$140,806 DOQ

Closes: July 20, 2015 @ 4:30 p.m.

The Metropolitan King County Council is seeking a **visionary leader** who will direct and accomplish the Council and County's political and legislative objectives at the state and federal level. This is an **exciting opportunity** to join the King County Council and play a role in providing quality regional services to county residents and foster an effective partnership with the state and federal governments.

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HOW TO APPLY:

To apply you must go to www.kingcounty.gov/jobs

LEGAL

KING COUNTY INVITATION TO BID

Project: East Base Operating & Maintenance Roof Replacement, C00984C15

Sealed Bid Time/Date: 1:30 p.m., July 23, 2015

Location Due: King County Procurement & Contract Services Section, Contracts Counter, 3rd Floor, 401 Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104

Engineer's Estimate Range: \$2,200,000 - \$2,500,000

Scope of Work: Replace 61,500 square foot built-up system with a hot-mopped, modified built-up roof system with reflective gravel surfacing, and additional insulation. Work site: Metro Transit East Base 1975 124th Avenue Northeast, Bellevue, WA.

Contact Information: Tina Davis, 206-263-2939, TTY Relay: 711, Fax: 206-296-7675, or tina.davis@kingcounty.gov. A bidder may be asked to put a question in writing. No verbal answers by any County personnel or its agents and consultants will be binding on the County.

MANDATORY Pre-Bid / Site Tour: July 15, 2015, 12:00 p.m. and July 16, 2015, 1:00 p.m. Metro Transit East Base 1975 124th Avenue Northeast, Bellevue, WA. Meet in the Vehicle Maintenance Classroom (second floor of the East Base Building). Park in the East Base employee and visitor parking lot on 124th Avenue NE just south of the bus entrance lanes into the base (see attached Map). Contractors are strongly urged to bring their mechanical subcontractors with them. A site tour will be conducted immediately following the conference. High visibility safety vest is required for the site tour (safety boots are optional). **FAILURE TO ATTEND ONE OF THE MANDATORY MEETINGS AND SITE TOUR WILL RESULT IN A NON-RESPONSIVE BID DETERMINATION.** A sign in sheet will provide evidence of attendance. It is your responsibility to ensure your sign in and out.

Subcontracting Opportunities: Roofing and Waterproofing; Sheet Metal Fabrication; and HVAC Maintenance.

Apprenticeship Requirements: 15% minimum Apprentice Utilization Requirement.

SCS Utilization Requirements. 8% minimum requirement for King County Certified Small Contractors and Suppliers (SCS).

Bid Bond: Not less than five percent (5%) of the Total Bid Price.

Bid Documents Electronic copies of the plans, specifications, reference documents, and any addenda for this solicitation are available on the King County Procurement website shown below. Printed documents may also be ordered by contacting United Reprographics at 206-382-1177. Copies of documents are not available for purchase from King County, but are available for review 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. M thru F. at the Contracts Counter: Chinook Bldg, 3rd Floor, 401 Fifth Avenue Seattle, WA 98104.

To receive email notifications of addenda or other important information concerning this solicitation, you must register to be a planholder under the "Solicitations" tab at the following internet link:

Website: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/procurement/solicitations>

This information is available in alternate formats for individuals with disabilities upon advance request by calling 206-263-9400, TTY Relay: 711.

Notes: Bids received after Sealed Bid Time will not be considered. Bidders accept all risks of late delivery, regardless of fault. King County is not responsible for any costs incurred in response to this Invitation to Bid.

LEGAL

RFP

KING COUNTY REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS ADVERTISEMENT

King County is requesting Proposals from qualified firms interested in providing engineering and related services for the Terminal 115/West Michigan Combined Sewer Overflow Control Project.

The Request for Proposals, all addenda and current document holder's list are available at <http://www.kingcounty.gov/procurement>. The County will not mail, ship or fax RFPs and addenda.

Interested firms must register with the County at time of download and ensure that a valid contact email address is given. Notification of addenda will be sent to the registered email address. Failure to register will result in the Proposer not being notified of any addenda, which may result in rejection of the proposal.

The estimated price of Phase I of this contract is \$600,000. The total estimated price of all remaining phases is \$2.9 Million. The period of performance for Phase I is estimated to be six (6) months. The period of performance of all remaining phases is estimated to be three (3) years and seven (7) months.

Contract Title: Engineering Services for the Terminal 115/West Michigan Combined Sewer Overflow Control Project

Number: E00355E15

Proposals due: July 30, 2015

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Pre-proposal Meeting: July 8, 2015

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: King Street Center, 8th Floor Conference Center; 201 S, Jackson St., Seattle, WA.

SUMMARY OF WORK: This work is anticipated to be funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through the Washington State Department of Ecology Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, and applicable federal requirements apply. Work scope is for engineering and related services for the predesign, final design, and engineering services during construction for the T115/West Michigan Combined Sewer Overflow Control using Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) to control combined sewer overflows.

SUBCONSULTANT OPPORTUNITIES: Provided for informational purposes only, following are subconsulting opportunities that may be available on this Contract: horticultural services; professional land surveying; geotechnical engineering; scheduling; estimating; and public involvement/community relations.

MBE/WBE PARTICIPATION: This project is anticipated to be funded in part by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the State of Washington Department of Ecology Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund (SRF) program. In accordance with EPA's policy on the utilization of socially and economically disadvantaged individuals and disadvantaged business enterprises in procurement, where subconsulting opportunities are available the Contractor shall make good faith efforts to ensure to the fullest extent possible that it subcontracts with Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women Business Enterprise (WBE) firms. The applicable MBE/WBE fair share objectives/goals negotiated with EPA by the State of Washington Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises are **10% MBE** and **4% WBE**. Both MBE and WBE firms must be certified by the State of Washington Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises.

QUESTIONS: Questions concerning this solicitation should be directed to **Ruth Williamson, Contract Specialist** via email at ruth.williamson@kingcounty.gov or via telephone at **206-263-9333**, TTY Relay: 711. The Proposer may be requested to submit the question in writing. No verbal answers by County personnel will be binding on the County.

This information is available in alternate formats for individuals with disabilities upon advance request by calling 206-263-9400, TTY Relay: 711.

KING COUNTY INVITATION TO BID

Project: KCIA Fencing, Chainlink & Gate Installation 2015-2016 [Work Order Contract], C00970C15

Sealed Bid Time/Date: 1:30pm, July 21, 2015

Location Due: King County Procurement & Contract Services Section, Contracts Counter, 3rd Floor, 401 Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104

Engineer's Estimate: NTE \$350,000.00

Scope of Work: The Work under this Contract will be issued through Work Orders by the Airport and may consist of installing fences, chain link, and gates, including all ancillary work. Work shall include labor, materials, and equipment for fence installation as approved by the Project Representative.

The work performed under this Contract shall not exceed \$350,000.00 and the initial Contract Time shall not exceed 365 calendar days from the date of Contract execution by the County. The County does not guarantee any minimum amount of work or that the dollar amount of the Work Orders issued will total \$350,000.00 during the duration of this Contract. At the County's sole discretion, this Contract may be extended for one additional year or until the Not to Exceed Contract Price is reached, whichever occurs first. In no event shall the Contract Time be greater than two years from the date of Contract execution by the County.

Contact Information: Kelly McKeever, Contract Specialist, 206-263-9389, TTY Relay: 711, Fax: 206-296-7675, or kelly.mckeever@kingcounty.gov. A bidder may be asked to put a question in writing. No verbal answers by any County personnel or its agents and consultants will be binding on the County.

Pre-Bid Conference: None

Apprenticeship Requirements: N/A

SCS Utilization Requirements: N/A

Bid Bond: Not less than five percent (5%) of the Total Bid Price.

Bid Documents Electronic copies of the plans, specifications, reference documents, and any addenda for this solicitation are available on the King County Procurement website shown below. Printed documents may also be ordered by contacting United Reprographics at 206-382-1177. Copies of documents are not available for purchase from King County, but are available for review 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. M thru F. at the Contracts Counter: Chinook Bldg, 3rd Floor, 401 Fifth Avenue Seattle, WA 98104.

To receive email notifications of addenda or other important information concerning this solicitation, you must register to be a planholder under the "Solicitations" tab at the following internet link:

Website: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/procurement/solicitations>

This information is available in alternate formats for individuals with disabilities upon advance request by calling 206-263-9400, TTY Relay: 711.

Notes: Bids received after Sealed Bid Time will not be considered. Bidders accept all risks of late delivery, regardless of fault. King County is not responsible for any costs incurred in response to this Invitation to Bid.

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Sealed bids will be received by the King County Procurement Services Section, 3rd Floor, 401 Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104, until 2:00 PM of bid opening date for the following listed bids.

To download a document, go to our web page at: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/pr> ocurement. King County encourages minority business enterprise participation. King County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its

programs, services, and employment opportunities for persons with disabilities.

1058-15-VLN
OPENS: 07/28/2015
2015 Parks Forestry Service

1168-15-PAP
OPENS: 07/28/2015
Headset Equipment and Services

Pre-proposal Conference: A conference to discuss questions related to this RFP will be held, July 15, 2015 at 11:00 a.m., King County Chinook Building, 401 Fifth Avenue, 3rd Floor - Room 310, Seattle, WA, 98104. Dial-in number is 206-263-8114, Conference ID 659238.

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON
FOR KING COUNTY

Estate Of Verdel Tunson, Deceased
No. 154036090
Probate Notice To Creditors (RCW 11.40.030)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

The above Court has appointed me as Personal Representative of Decedent's estate. Any person having a claim against the Decedent must present the claim: (a) Before the time when the claim would be barred by any applicable statute of limitations, and (b) In the manner provided in RCW 11.40.070: (i) By filing the original of the claim with the foregoing Court, and (ii) By serving on or mailing to me at the address below a copy of the claim. The claim must be presented by the later of: (a) Thirty (30) days after I served or mailed this Notice as provided in RCW 11.40.020(1)(c), or (b) Four (4) months after the date of first publication of this Notice. If the claim is not presented within this time period, the claim will be forever barred except as provided in RCW 11.40.051 nad 11.40.060. This bar is effective for claims against both the Decedent's probate and non-probate assets.

Date of First Publication of this Notice:
June 24, 2015

Address of Personal Representative:

Ashley Tunson
13981 Lemoli Ave. Hawthorne E, CA 90250

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
AND PROPOSALS
TRANSIT SURVEYS AND
COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS
INTERCITY TRANSIT
PROJECT 1509

Intercity Transit, the public transportation provider for Thurston County, is seeking proposals from qualified firms capable of providing survey, tabulation, analysis and report writing services for five distinct projects: (1) Customer Satisfaction Survey of Fixed Route Service, (2) Market Segmentation Study, (3) Dial-A-Lift (ADA paratransit) Customer Satisfaction Survey, (4) Vanpool Customer Satisfaction Survey, and (5) a federally funded Community Conversations Project that will utilize results from the Community Satisfaction and Market Segmentation Surveys. Intercity Transit intends to award by category.

Solicitation documents for this project are available online through Builder's Exchange of Washington, Inc. at . Proposers are encouraged to select "Register on this project" in order to receive automatic e-mail notification of any future addenda and to be placed on the plan holder's list. Please contact Builders Exchange of Washington at (425) 258-1303 should you require assistance.

Interested firms are encouraged to attend a pre-proposal conference to discuss the project scope and selection process. The conference is scheduled for July 14, 2015 at 9:00am. The meeting will begin in the Board Room of Intercity Transit Administrative Facility located at 526 Pattison St. SE, Olympia, WA 98501.

Qualifications and Proposals will be accepted by Intercity Transit until 3:00 pm on July 29, 2015.

Please contact LeAnna Sandy, Procurement Coordinator at (360) 705-5837 or with any questions regarding this Request for Proposals.

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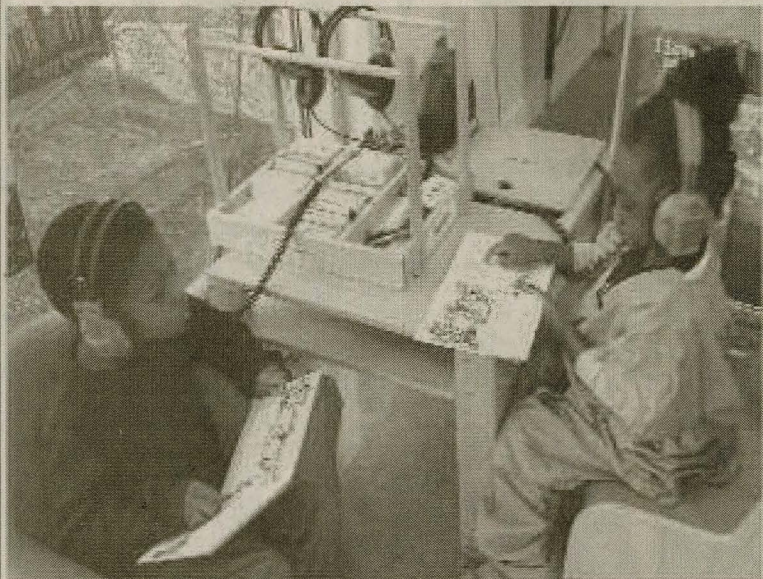
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From Child To Man In The Circus

By Kelly-Ann Brown
Special to the NNPA from
Howard University News
Service

WASHINGTON (NNPA) – Dressed sharply in a dazzling gold blazer and armed with a microphone and an infectious smile, Ringmaster Lucky Malatsi's job is to keep audiences of the UniverSoul Circus excited, engaged and enthusiastic between the numerous acts — and it is no small feat.

Malatsi is quick on his feet, incorporating humor, dancing and theatrics to keep the audiences recently at the National Harbor in southern Maryland entertained.

Though he makes it look effortless, Malatsi's

performance encompasses years of experience. He joined UniverSoul at only 11-years-old, an age when American children are still in elementary school.

But he didn't start there. Born in Johannesburg, South Africa, Malatsi began performing for audiences at age 4 as an accomplished performer and acrobat trained by his uncle.

At 6 years old, he traveled to Germany for the first time, performing in as an acrobat in festivals.

"For as long as I can remember it has always been my passion," Malatsi said. "It's always been second nature to me."

In 1999 he was recruited by UniverSoul Circus founder and CEO



Ringmaster Lucky Malatsi keeps audiences engaged.

Cedric Walker, and a year later he was performing in a duo

contortionist act. He has spent most of his young life growing up surrounded by circus performers from around the world.

He has been an acrobatic hip-hop dance, a gymnast and a trapeze artist. He said the true skill in mastering these talents requires more than physical conditioning.

"It's more so mental than physical," he said. "You can strengthen your

body, but if [I] wasn't strong mentally I wouldn't have been able to achieve any of those skills."

He said being ringmaster has been his most challenging job at the circus. Being able to read your audience and keep them on a constant rollercoaster of emotions is essential, he said.

Though he has been with UniverSoul for 14 years, and has witnessed ringmasters before him, Malatsi said his greatest piece of advice came from Walker.

"He told me if I could make 2000 people feel like I'm talking to each of them individually, then I can become one of the greats," Malatsi said.

This skill becomes even more useful when dealing with an unresponsive crowd, an experience to which Malatsi is no stranger. He said the best way to remedy the situation is to continue to have fun with them.

"They are the best type of crowd, because they make you work harder," he said. "Always keep your energy level up and never

let them see you sweat."

At one moment he is asking the audience to participate in the latest dance trend or "New School" versus "Old School" dance battle, and the next he will have children stand and recite a pledge to reinforce their greatness and the idea that their lives matter, and ode to the Black Lives Matter movement.

"We have to keep up with the present, especially with what's going on in the world," he said. "Every year we adapt no matter what's going on."

A husband and father, Malatsi hopes that his children follow in his footsteps. But whatever they do, he said, he will support them, just as his family supported his him.

And for young performers hoping to pursue a career in entertainment, Malatsi has some words of wisdom.

"Chase your dreams to the fullest, have patience but always have a backup plan," he said. "Never lose who you are regardless of how successful you become."

Ballerina Misty Copeland Heading To Broadway

By Mark Kennedy
AP Drama Writer

New York (AP) - Ballerina Misty Copeland, who just became the first African-American woman to be a principal dancer at American Ballet Theatre, has another breakthrough planned — a debut on Broadway.

Producers of the high-energy revival of "On the Town" said that Copeland will join the show from Aug. 25 to Sept. 6, playing Miss Turnstiles, a love interest for one of three

sailors enjoying a few hours of shore leave in 1940s New York.

"I don't know if I know what I'm in for. It's going to be a huge challenge for me. It's quite a departure from what I'm used to. But I love a challenge and I think it's going to help me grow as an artist," Copeland said.

The role requires both acting and singing, in addition to plenty of dancing, including a 15-minute ballet at the end.

"I can carry a tune. We'll see what happens," she said. "I'm excited. I'm a Virgo and we're a little bit anal and we're definitely hard workers, so I'm going to put my all into this."

Copeland saw the show a few months ago with her boyfriend, knowing the

offer of replacing Fairchild was on the table. "It's probably the best show I've ever seen, I think," she said. "I was just blown away."

Copeland has been named by Time magazine one of the most influential figures of 2015, and written both a children's book, "Firebird," and a best-selling memoir, "Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina." She was also featured in a popular online ad for Under Armour.

"Whether it's Broadway or ballet, that's always been my goal: to just bring more people into it," she said. "Because I think it's so special and I think the arts can do so much for a person, not just a child. It's completely changed and altered my life in so many amazing ways."

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