



Astronaut Victor Glover – see page A-7



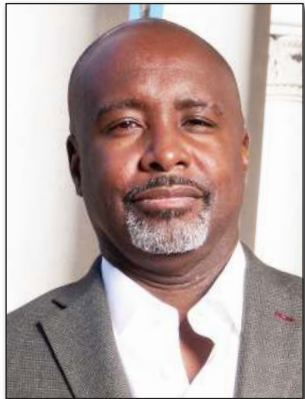
Bobby Brown— see page D-1

Vol. 93, No. 26 • \$1.00 +CA. Sales Tax

“For Over Ninety Years The Voice of Our Community Speaking for Itself”

THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2026

Black Leaders Join Forces to Bring Destination Crenshaw Toward the Finish Line



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Council President
Marqueece Harris-Dawson



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Mayor
Karen Bass



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Congresswoman
Sydney Kamlager-Dove



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Assemblymember
Isaac Bryan



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State Senator
Lola Smallwood-Cuevas



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Metro CEO
Stephanie Wiggins



Rendering of Destination Crenshaw's Sankofa Park

COURTESY PHOTO

SPECIAL TO THE SENTINEL

A coalition of Black elected officials is leading the way toward sustainable, long-term investment and a permanent Black cultural presence in the Crenshaw District through their continuing support of the Destination Crenshaw project.

Designed with community input and supported by a broad range of public and private donors, the project is currently making improvements to the storefronts of businesses along 1.3 miles of Crenshaw Boulevard. Coming in the next few weeks: renewed construc-

tion on Destination Crenshaw's biggest, most dramatic public gathering place, Sankofa Park.

Black-owned contractors are now being mobilized, and major new financial support has been secured, putting Destination Crenshaw on track for the historic makeover of South LA's great cultural boulevard. It is anticipated that construction activities will begin within the next weeks. The community can look forward to new permanent monuments created by Black artists rooted in the

{See DESTINATION CRENSHAW on A-10}

Dodgers, Sparks Donate to the Brotherhood Crusade



Sparks senior vice president of community relations and social impact Natalie White (left) presents Charisse Bremond-Weaver with a custom-made Sparks jersey

COURTESY PHOTO



Brotherhood Crusade president and CEO Charisse Bremond Weaver (left) receives check from Dodgers shortstop Mookie Betts' 5050 Foundation.

(COURTESY OF THE L.A. DODGERS)

By AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Editor

The Brotherhood Crusade was honored by two professional sports franchises last week. Before the Los

Angeles Dodgers vs Baltimore Orioles game on June-teenth, shortstop Mookie Betts' 5050 Foundation donated \$95,000 to the Brotherhood Crusade. The Los Angeles Sparks

also selected the Brotherhood Crusade for their 2026 Commissioner's Cup community organization. The Sparks raised \$13,000 based on their gameplay in the Cup.

For every Commissioner's Cup game win, the WNBA team donated \$3,000. For every loss, the team will donate \$1,000. The Sparks had a 3-4 record in the Cup.

“They highlighted our work, honored me on the court, presented me with a Sparks jersey with my name on it, which was so cool,” Brotherhood Crusade president and CEO

Charisse Bremond Weaver. “I was excited to be with Natalie White, who's the senior [vice president] and

{See DONATIONS TO THE BROTHERHOOD CRUSADE on A-10}

Eric Holoman and Terri Holoman Donation to Cedars-Sinai to Address Systemic Shortfalls in Healthcare Access



Terri and Eric Holoman

CEDARS-SINAI

By CAMILLE MEGGS
Contributing Writer

A transformative \$13 million donation from Eric Holoman and Terri Holoman will shape the future of health equity at Cedars-Sinai.

The Holoman gift establishes the Cedars-Sinai Holoman Health Equity Center and endows the Holoman Chair in Health Equity, to be held by Christina Harris, MD, vice president and chief health equity officer at Cedars-Sinai.

“We are grateful to Eric and Terri Holoman for their civic-minded vision to help balance the scales in health

equity reform,” said Arthur J. Ochoa, JD, senior vice president of Advancement and chief advancement officer at Cedars-Sinai. “This gift reflects deep alignment between the Holomans' values and Cedars-Sinai's.”

Health equity has been a bedrock of Cedars-Sinai's mission to offer hope and healing to all, regardless of factors including, but not limited to, race, religion, sexual orientation and socioeconomic status.

Yet, evolving challenges in healthcare access and delivery, in combination with long-standing systemic barriers, make this a pivotal time

that calls for re-evaluation and restructuring of processes and procedures, Harris said. Many people still face obstacles including coverage and affordability gaps that are inextricably tied to social determinants of health such as income, housing, transportation and education.

Harris said she will use her platform as the Holoman Chair in Health Equity to drive comprehensive programs and research.

“This endowed chair is, in many ways, a commitment to the profound legacy of the late Linda Burnes Bolton, DrPH, RN, FAAN,” Harris said. “She became

Cedars-Sinai's first chief health equity officer after launching the Office of Health Equity in 2019. I am honored to carry this mission forward, standing on the shoulders of her esteemed leadership.”

Cedars-Sinai hosted a dinner in honor of the Holomans at the Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills on May 27. Highly regarded nationally for their philanthropy, the Holoman family is a long-time supporter of Cedars-Sinai. Over the past decade, they have contributed to the

{See HOLOMAN DONATION TO CEDARS-SINAI on A-10}

Community Mourns Passing of Nathaniel John Hutton Jr.

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The family and friends of Nathaniel John Hutton Jr., affectionately known as Nat, recently announced his passing. A resident of Los Angeles, California, Nat departed this life on April 24, at the age of 85.

Born and raised in Topeka, Kansas, Nat was the son of Nathaniel Hutton Sr. and

Joe Willa Jones Hutton. He attended Lane Chapel CME Church and Monroe School, one of the segregated schools involved during the era of the landmark Brown v. Board of Education decision. Nat earned a Bachelor of Arts in Music from Washburn University, studied at Juilliard School, and later received an MBA from Stanford University.

Nat enjoyed a successful career with Security Pacific Bank, where he became Vice President for Southern California. Following his banking career, he dedicated himself to community service through organizations including LA Family Housing, Executive Service Corps, Los Angeles Free Clinic, ONEgeneration, Sunair Children's

Foundation, COPE Health Solutions Foundation, and on committees and commissions dealing with the homeless in our community. Most recently, Nat oversaw an intergenerational tutoring program through the local libraries pairing seniors with students to improve their grades.

According to his family, "Nat's kindness, generosity,

and commitment to helping others touched many lives and will be remembered by all who knew him."

He was preceded in death by his parents and sisters, Willa Mae Johnson, Betty Franklin, and Irintha Carol Smith.

Nat is survived by his sister, JoAnn Hutton, and a host of nieces, nephews, family members, and



COURTESY PHOTO
Nathaniel J. Hutton Jr.

friends.

A private memorial service will be held to celebrate Nat's life and legacy.

California Legislative Black Caucus Leads Capitol Juneteenth Celebration

BY BO TEFU AND ANTONIO RAY HARVEY
California Black Media

California Legislative Black Caucus Leads Capitol Juneteenth Celebration

To kick off the holiday weekend, the California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC) hosted its Juneteenth Freedom Day Celebration on June 17 on the West Steps of the State Capitol.



ANTONIO RAY HARVEY/CBM
R&B and neo-soul singer Goapele was the featured performer at the California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC) Juneteenth Freedom Day Celebration at the State Capitol on June 17, 2026.

Alongside other lawmakers in the Legislature, hundreds of people gathered for the free community event, which focused on reflection, community, and



ANTONIO RAY HARVEY/CBM
CLBC Concert at the Capitol June 17, 2026.



ANTONIO RAY HARVEY/CBM
Sen. Akilah Weber Pierson (D-San Diego), left, and Asm. Mia Bonta (D-Alameda) await their introduction during the California Legislative Black Caucus Juneteenth Celebration at the State Capitol on June 17, 2026.

African American heritage. "Juneteenth is more than just a commemoration of the past," said CLBC chairperson Sen. Akilah Weber Pierson (D-San Diego). "It's a celebration of Black excellence, Black

joy, and the ongoing pursuit of equality and opportunity for future generations."

The Juneteenth event featured live music from Oakland-born, Neo-Soul singer Goapele, Sacramento music producer and



ANTONIO RAY HARVEY/CBM
California Legislative Black Caucus members Asm. Isaac Bryan (D-Los Angeles), left, and Asm. Sade Elhawary (D-Los Angeles) discuss ACR 214, a legislative measure recognizing and celebrating Juneteenth in California, during a Juneteenth event at the State Capitol.



ANTONIO RAY HARVEY/CBM
The California Legislative Black Caucus hosted a free public Juneteenth celebration on the West Steps of the State Capitol on June 17, 2026. Shown from left are Asm. Corey Jackson (D-Moreno Valley), Asm. Mike Gipson (D-Carson), and California Secretary of State Shirley Weber.

"NPR Tiny Desk" winner Grant Union High School The Philharmonik, and the Drumline.

Smallwood-Cuevas Joins Padilla to Convene Juneteenth Voting Rights Roundtable to Defend Democracy and Protect Ballot Access

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

In recognition of Juneteenth and its enduring significance in the struggle for freedom, civil rights and democratic participation, State Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas (D-Los Angeles) joined U.S. Senator Alex Padilla (D-California) and Assemblymember Sade Elhawary (D-Los Angeles) at the California African American Museum on Juneteenth to host a Voting Rights Roundtable with South LA community leaders to discuss ongoing efforts to protect the right to vote and defend democracy.

The roundtable underscored a shared commitment to protecting democratic participation and advancing policies that ensure all eligible voters can safely and confidently cast their ballots. Senator Smallwood-Cuevas called on South Los Angeles voting rights advocates to band together to protect voting rights and expand voter participation, particularly in vulnerable communities of color that have historically faced barriers to the ballot box.

"We're living in a moment when the voting rights that our elders marched for, bled for, and died for are being challenged in real time," said Senator Smallwood-Cuevas. "As attacks on voting access continue across this country, we must remain vigilant in defending one of our most fundamental freedoms."

During the convening, Senator Padilla announced the State and Local Election Security Act of 2026, legislation to provide up to \$10 billion for state and local election administra-



COURTESY PHOTO
Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas, U.S. Senator Alex Padilla, and Asm. Sade Elhawary listen to community advocates during their Juneteenth Voting Rights Roundtable.

tions to support election security and improve efficiency. In the wake of the Trump Administration's dismantling of many federal election security activities and the disinformation attacks on California's vote-counting process in the recent primary election, this funding would help states and localities to invest in additional and upgraded voting equipment, physical and cybersecurity, storage space, staff, and other needs to improve election administration.

Senator Smallwood-Cuevas shared what the State Legislature is doing to protect voting rights in California, including their fight against an opponent's measure headed for the November ballot that would add photo ID and proof-of-citizenship requirements to the state constitution. If it passes, it would be difficult for lawmakers to change since it's a constitutional amendment. "That's why we have to act now. Our best defense to being silenced is to strengthen protections for all Californian voters," said Senator Smallwood-Cuevas. "Last month, the Senate passed the California Voting Rights Act of 2026 — Senate Bills 1164

and 1360 — the first major update to California's voting rights laws in more than two decades. These bills strengthen voter protections, address efforts to suppress the vote, and help ensure that every eligible voter can participate in our democracy."

Community leaders shared updates on initiatives to expand voter access, combat voter suppression, support election workers, and educate communities about their voting rights. The discussion also highlighted the importance of collaboration among government officials, advocacy organizations, and local stakeholders in strengthening public trust in elections.

Reflecting on the significance of the discussion taking place during Juneteenth, Senator Smallwood-Cuevas emphasized the connection between the ongoing fight for voting rights and the legacy of those who fought for freedom and equality before us.

"Juneteenth matters — it's more than a commemoration of freedom delayed. It's a reminder that our ancestors did not simply survive history — they changed it. Their courage and sacrifice paved the way for generations to come."

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