

-The Mid-South Tribune - Entertainment-

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Holidays, Music, Joy, and just Plain Livin’

Nostalgia times: This collection makes the perfect gift for the ultimate Gunsmoke fan

Gunsmoke: An American Institution by Ben Costello, with a foreword by Jim Byrnes and an introduction by Jon Voight, is the ultimate tribute to the legendary Western series that captivated audiences for over two decades. Published by Book Street Press, this 672-page masterpiece is the definitive guide for fans of television’s most iconic Western.

A Western Classic Like No Other
Starting on September 10, 1955, Gunsmoke aired for over 600 episodes across 20 years, becoming a cornerstone of American television. Each week, Marshal Matt Dillon, Miss Kitty, Festus, and Doc Adams faced new challenges in Dodge City, Kansas, showcasing timeless tales of justice and perseverance. In a country still emerging from World War II, Gunsmoke brought hope, resilience, and determination into American homes. Costello’s book is more than just a history; it’s a heartfelt celebration. It includes behind-the-scenes insights, rare photographs, and stories that capture the enduring legacy of the series.

A Personal Tribute to Ben Costello
Publisher Linda F. Radke shares a deeply personal memory of her late friend and collaborator, Ben Costello:

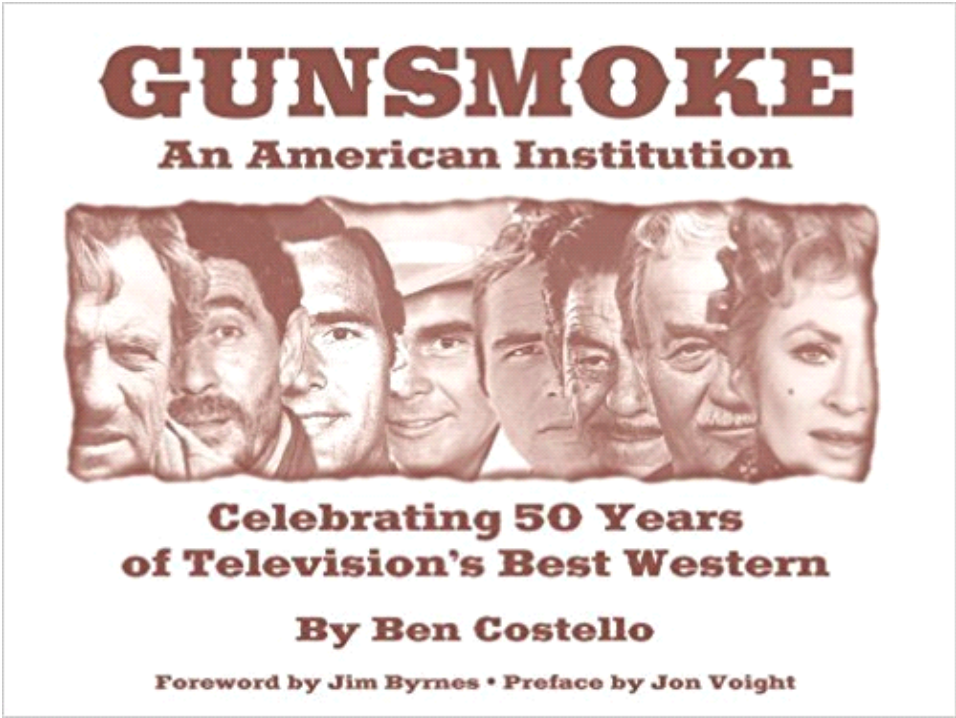
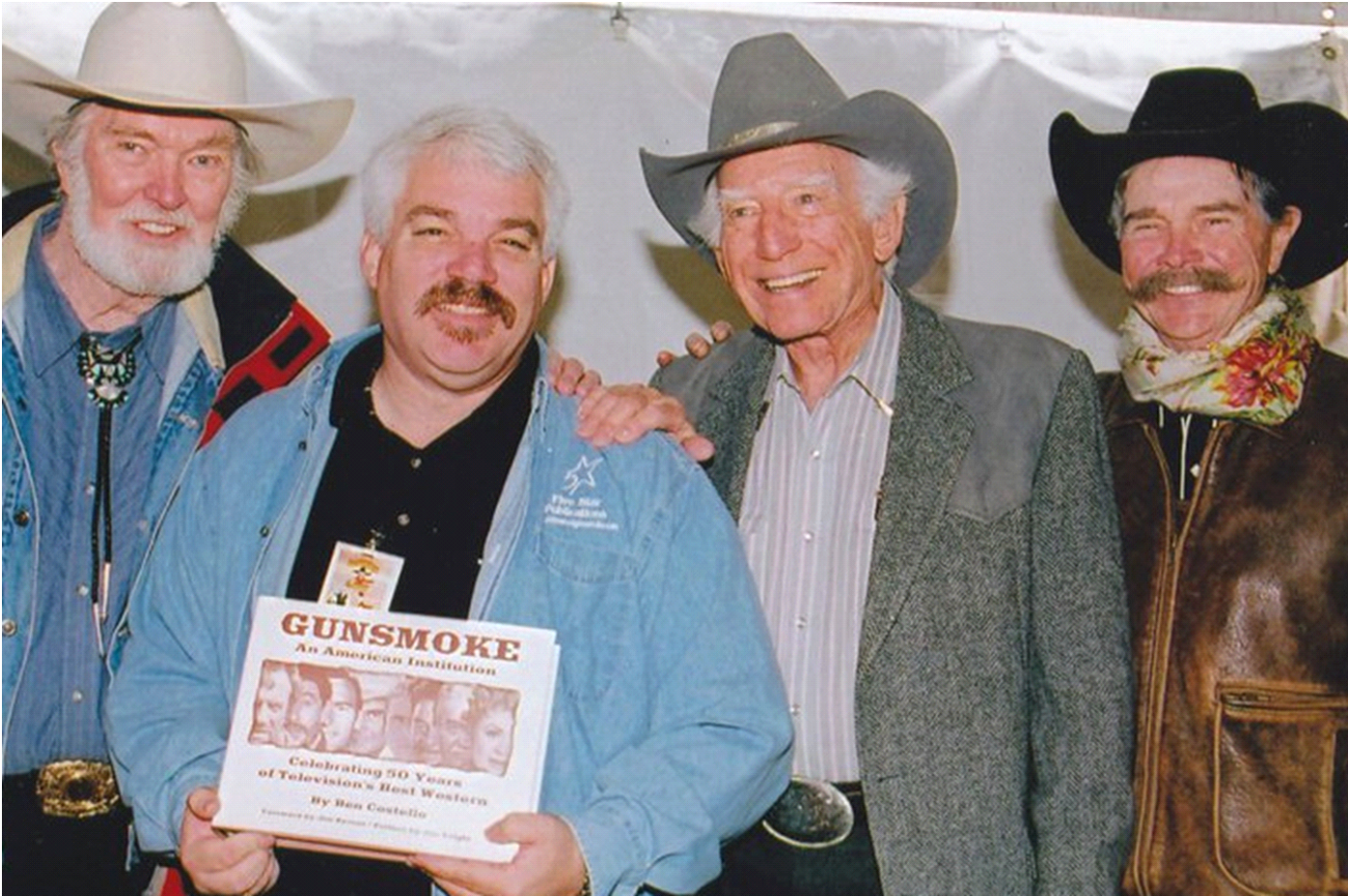
“I miss Ben beyond words. I imagine he’s at the Long Branch Saloon right now, sharing a drink and some laughs with Marshal Matt Dillon’s James Arness, Miss Kitty’s Amanda Blake, and all the other cherished Gunsmoke actors who are no longer with us. The stories they must be telling!”

Costello wasn’t just an author; he was a passionate storyteller and a devoted fan of Gunsmoke. His love for the series shines through on every page of this book.

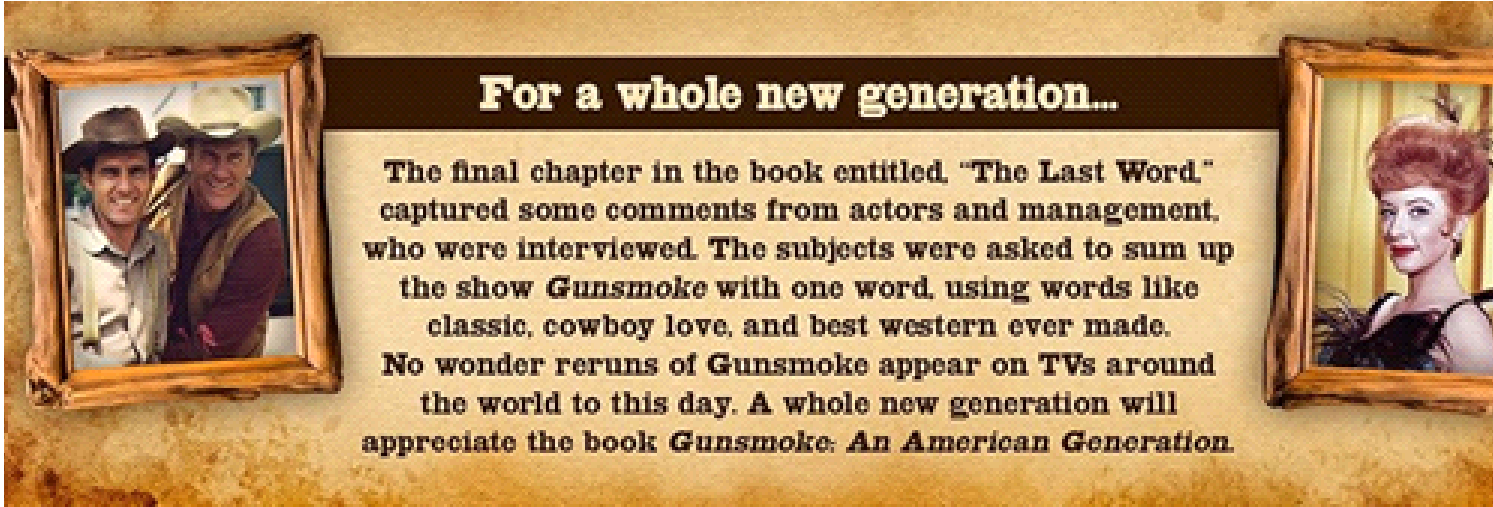
Praise for Gunsmoke: An American Institution
Deb from Topeka Talks calls it, “The ultimate, be-all, end-all, definitive work on this television classic.”

C. Courtney Joyner of Wild Westerns Magazine says, “Noth-

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U.S. Postal Service announces 2025 stamps to honor Betty White and Allen Toussaint with‘Forever’ Stamps

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service announced many of the stamps it will release in 2025.

“This early glimpse into our 2025 stamp program demon-

“This early glimpse into our 2025 stamp program demonstrates our commitment to providing a diverse range of subjects and designs for both philatelists and stamp enthusiasts,” said Lisa Bobb-Semple, Stamp Services director for USPS...”

strates our commitment to providing a diverse range of subjects and designs for both philatelists and stamp enthusiasts,” said Lisa Bobb-Semple, Stamp Services director for USPS. “This year, we are continuing several of our popular



series and commemorative anniversaries, while introducing some exciting new stamps. Additionally, several of our mail-use stamps, which are printed based on demand, will be updated this year. Stay tuned for more announcements in the coming months.”



This is a partial list, with additional stamps to be announced in the coming weeks and months. These designs are preliminary and may change.

Lunar New Year: Year of the Snake
This is the sixth stamp in the current Lunar New Year series,

where each entry features a mask, calling to mind the decorated masks used in the dragon or lion dances often performed during Lunar New Year parades. For Year of the Snake, designer Camille Chew constructed a three-dimensional snake mask out of hand-printed paper, then cut, scored and folded it into shape. After the front was embellished with acrylic paint and additional paper elements, the back was covered with a layer of papier-mâché. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp from a photograph of the mask by Sally Andersen-Bruce.

1794 Compass Rose (Global)

Useful for mailing a 1-ounce letter to any country in which First-Class Mail International service is available, this stamp carries with it a bit of history.

The colorful compass rose was drawn in a school geography notebook by Lucia Wadsworth, the aunt of poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, when she was 10 years old. Greg Breeding, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp.

Love (2025)

This new Love stamp celebrates the universal experience of love with a work by artist Keith Haring (1958–1990). With a deceptively simple and now-iconic style, Haring’s work is instantly recognizable. This stamp features Haring’s 1985 Untitled drawing. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, believes that this drawing makes for an ideal new stamp in this popular series. “The non-specificity of the figures allows a variety of people to see themselves in this stamp,” Alcalá says.

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For the Record

Sen. Blackburn makes October Country Music Month

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.) delivered remarks on the Senate floor ahead of the Senate’s passage of her resolution with Senator Tim Kaine (D-Va.) to designate the month of October as “National Country Music Month.”

This resolution honors the contributions of country music to the story and history of the U.S. and encourages the American people to observe “National Country Music Month” with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

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REMARKS AS PREPARED

Next Month [October], Country Music Association Will Add John Anderson, James Burton, and Toby Keith to Country Music Hall of Fame

“Each year since 1961, the Country Music Association has inducted the legendary performers, songwriters, and artists of this uniquely American musical tradition into the Country Music Hall of Fame.

In many ways, this distinction is the highest honor in country music—with names like Hank Williams, Chet Atkins, Dolly Parton, and Elvis Presley among its roll of honor.

Next month, three new names will join this legendary group during the Hall of Fame Medallion Ceremony: John Anderson—a force for traditionalism in country music who achieved twenty Top Ten country singles across a five-decade-long career. James Burton—who is considered one of the greatest guitarists in all of music, performing and recording with the likes of Elvis, Merle Haggard, John Denver, and Emmylou Harris. And the late Toby Keith—an exceptional storyteller who brought joy to millions around the world through his music, especially to our men and women in uniform.”

Country Music Reminds Every American of the Importance of

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Watch for The Mid-South Tribune’s 30th Annual Black History Month Special Edition in February 2025

Watch for Other special editions of DeepThink and FYH = For Your Health



HONOR THY MUSIC®

John Anderson, James Burton and Toby Keith inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame during star-studded Medallion Ceremony

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Oct. 21, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- Revered vocalist John Anderson, influential guitarist James Burton and iconic country hitmaker Toby Keith were inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame on Sunday, Oct. 20. The three honorees became the 153rd, 154th, and 155th members of the Hall of Fame during the annual Medallion Ceremony, held at the Country Music Hall of Fame® and Museum's CMA Theater. The event was held on October 20.

From the podium at the invitation-only event, museum CEO Kyle Young told the audience how those three musicians "took very different paths" to country music's highest honor. Each of them, however, emerged from working class backgrounds and discovered their gift early in life. "Music was their calling," Young said. "And a life of exceptional creativity was their destiny, because each had an unyielding drive to succeed—and talent that was undeniable."

John Anderson

In the case of Anderson—the night's first honoree—that drive took the "Swingin'" singer from his hometown of Apopka, Florida to Music City when he was just seventeen. After five years of club gigs and odd jobs—including doing construction on the roof of the Grand Ole Opry House—Anderson signed a recording contract and began a steady ascent to stardom. He appeared to hit his peak with a string of chart-toppers in the early 1980s: "Wild and Blue," "Swingin'" and "Black Sheep." But lightning struck again a decade later, when Anderson's 1992 album *Seminole Wind* kicked off a new wave of chart successes, including its acclaimed title track as well as "Straight Tequila Night" and "Money in the Bank," each buoyed by his unmistakable voice.

"Folks say that John Anderson sounds like Lefty Frizzell," Young said. "Or Haggard, or Jones. But they're wrong. He took on elements of his idols, but he sounds like John Anderson. A singular vocal stylist."

The fact that three distinct vocalists could pay tribute to Anderson on Sunday underscored the strength and versatility of his songs. Friend and fellow traditional country stalwart Shawn Camp delivered an assured take on Anderson's ballad "I Just Came Home to Count the Memories," while eighty-five-year-old bluegrass great Del McCoury effortlessly reached the highest notes of "Would You Catch a Falling Star" as the Del McCoury Band performed, with Deanie Richardson on fiddle.

"Wild and Blue" (1982) wasn't just Anderson's first #1 hit—it has been a longtime favorite of acclaimed Americana singer-songwriter Lucinda Williams, who first covered it in concert in the 1980s. She delivered another gorgeous rendition on Sunday.

After being inducted by Hall of Fame member, "Falling Star" songwriter and fellow Florida native Bobby Braddock—who called Anderson "my country hero"—Anderson arrived at the podium, and reflected on his journey while acknowledging the many friends, family members, even personal physicians, in the audience before him.

"[There were] a lot of hills and valleys, many twists and turns, and dead stops," Anderson said. "But I must say, behind all of that, there was a lot of adventure. And I got to choose my own way."

Retrospection: The Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum ‘Honor Thy Music’ historic event



Legendary Tanya Tucker performs at the Class of 2024 Medallion Ceremony at Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum on October 20, 2024 in Nashville, Tennessee. (Photo by Terry Wyatt/Getty Images for Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum)



The late Toby Keith's wife Tricia Covel attends the Class of 2024 Medallion Ceremony at Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum on October 20, 2024 in Nashville, Tennessee. (Photo by Jason Kempin/Getty Images for Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum)



Steve Jordan and James Burton attend the Class of 2024 Medallion Ceremony at Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum in Nashville, Tennessee. (Photo by Terry Wyatt/Getty Images for Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum)



(L-R) John Anderson and John Oates attend the Class of 2024 Medallion Ceremony at Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum on October 20, 2024 in Nashville, Tennessee. (Photo by Terry Wyatt/Getty Images for Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum)

Toby Keith

Toby Keith died in February at age sixty-two, after a battle with stomach cancer—just three days after voting concluded for the 2024 Hall of Fame inductees. "He didn't get the chance to hear the news that he had been inducted," said Keith's wife, **Tricia Covel**. "I have a feeling...he might have thought, 'I should have been.'"

The audience chuckled, recognizing the cocksure attitude that, in part, made Keith a larger-than-life star. But as Young outlined, it took a lot more than confidence to make Toby Keith. He began his adult life following his father into the oil fields of

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Oklahoma, but soon embraced his twin gifts for singing and songwriting. From his chart-topping first single, "Should've Been a Cowboy," many of Keith's songs were self-penned, and his career truly took flight as he gained creative control, leading to redefining hits such as "How Do You Like Me Now?!" and "I Wanna Talk About Me." Those songs also set the stage for Keith's future as a country music mogul, operating his own label, Show Dog.

But the September 11th attacks—which occurred months after the passing of his father, an army veteran—also shaped Keith's path. For the next eleven years, he traveled to perform for U.S. troops in Afghanistan and Iraq, and recorded several songs that recognized their sacrifice.

"For Toby, it was simple," Young said. "It was all about love of country and having the back of those who protect us."

The first performer to pay tribute to Keith on Sunday, Young noted, had once jammed with him on his tour bus in 2016, with members of the U.S. Navy's SEAL Team Six in attendance. It was crossover star Post Malone, who had just headlined Nashville's Nissan Stadium the night before.

"We love you, Toby," Malone said, before highlighting Keith's knack for a sweet melody and sharp hook on "I'm Just Talkin' About Tonight."

But Keith's songs could also pack powerful emotional heft—perhaps never more so than on "Don't Let the Old Man In," which he first wrote for a 2018 Clint Eastwood film before it became emblematic of his cancer battle.

"It was so representative of where he was in his life that it was striking," said **Eric Church**, who performed a solo acoustic rendition of the song. "And as a songwriter, it stopped me and stunned me."

Keith's friend and fellow Oklahoman **Blake Shelton** took the Toby Keith tribute segment out on a high note with a pitch-perfect medley of two of Keith's most lighthearted hits: "I Love This Bar" and "Red Solo Cup." He asked the room to sing along, but they'd made up their minds to do so from the very first line. Keith was inducted by Alabama frontman Randy Owen, who called his friend "a man that I dearly loved."

"He loved his country. He loved his family. He proved that, over and over again."

James Burton

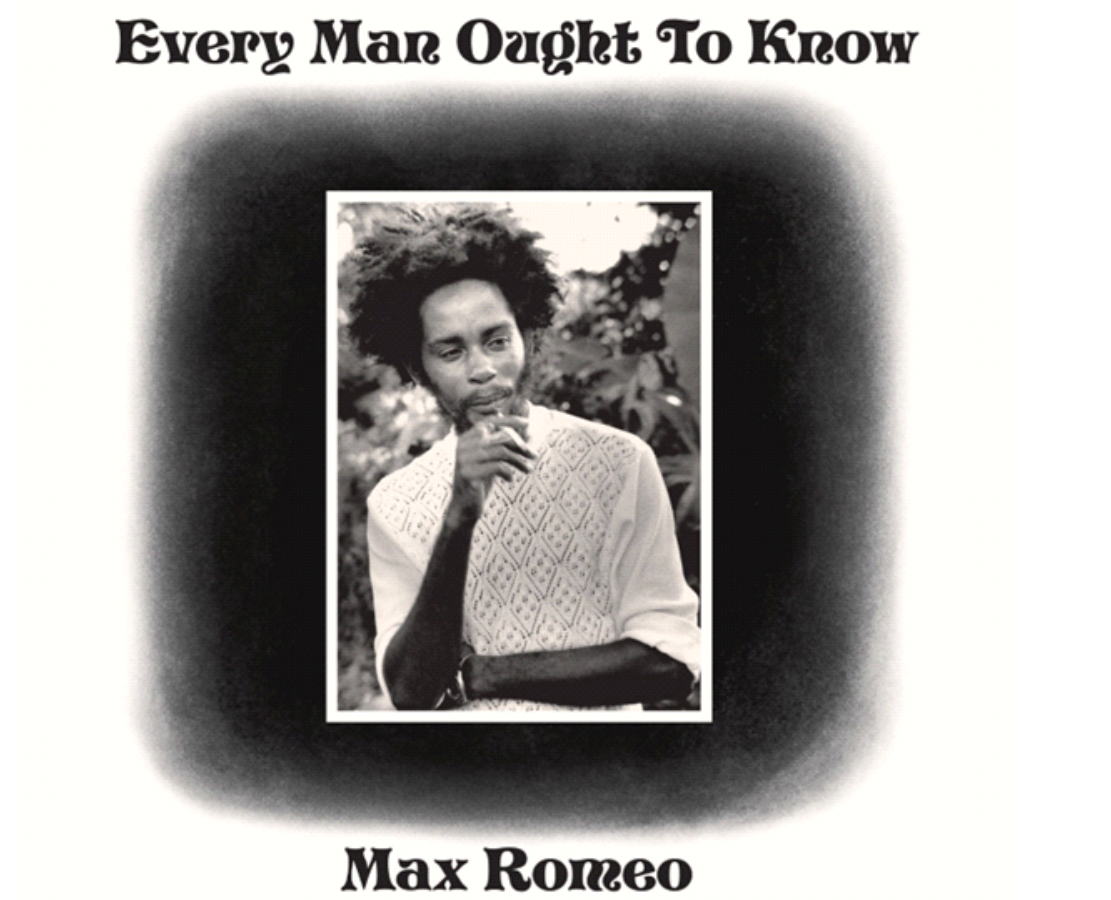
"James Burton didn't just play on records," Young said, introducing the night's final inductee. "He changed the very fabric of

80-year-old Max Romeo is celebrated with re-release of ‘Every Man Ought to Know’ in classic reggae genre

*A Greeting from
VP Records*

To celebrate Max Romeo’s 80th birthday this year on the 22nd of November we are re-releasing one of his early albums, Every Man Ought To Know, produced by **Bunny ‘Striker’ Lee** and mixed at King Tubby’s. This product is new to all digital / streaming platforms.

Max Romeo is perhaps best known for his work in the mid to late 70s with the innovative producer Lee ‘Scratch’ Perry, “War In A Babylon,” “One Step Forward” and The Prodigy sampling “Chase The Devil” among his most notable works. Yet, the music that preceded that fruitful era is equally as important to the development of the Reggae genre. His work with ‘The Gorgon’ aka Bunny ‘Striker’ Lee began with the controversial track “Wet Dream,” a track which had phenomenal success in the U.K. and became a top ten Pop chart hit. “Every Man Ought To Know” is the continuation of the working relationship between Romeo and Lee and includes a varied mix of songs, ‘slackness’ from “Pussy Watch



Man,” soulful covers, “Sometimes” (originally sung by Gene Thomas) and “Stick By Me” (by Shep & The Limelites - made famous by the late, great John Holt) plus early ‘message’ music promoting the teachings of the Rastafarian faith with the title track “Every Man Ought To Know.” This album is a super obscure

rarity that highlights a very interesting time in the evolution of Reggae music, now remastered and reissued on all digital platforms for the first time.



Reggae pioneer Max Romeo
(Photo Credit: Peter Simon)

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Retrospection: Historic Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum ‘Honor Thy Music’... from ent. page 2

our music." The guitarist's seventy-year career began when he was fourteen, playing on the Louisiana Hayride in his hometown of Shreveport. Within three years, he'd begun to develop an inimitable picking style, which he flashed on Dale Hawkins's influential blues-rock single "**Susie Q**." Burton's chops soon caught the attention of teen idol Ricky Nelson, who recruited him to be his sideman on stage, screen, and in the studio. After moving to Los Angeles, Burton became an in-demand session musician, contributing licks to Merle Haggard's "Mama Tried" and Glen Campbell's "Gentle on My Mind." When Elvis Presley returned to the concert stage in 1969, he called on Burton to be his bandleader, a position that would last until Presley's death in 1977. At the same time, he worked with cosmic country trailblazer Gram Parsons, which led to a long partnership with Emmylou Harris. Burton also collaborated with John Denver, Rosanne Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Barbara Mandrell—all on his way to de-

fining "the guitar sound of modern country music," in Young's words. Seventy years after Burton first started backing big-name singers, some of those same artists showed up on Sunday to offer up their talents for his sake. The first to pay tribute was Rock & Roll Hall of Fame member **Elvis Costello**—for whom Burton leapt up from his seat in the front row to shake hands. "We're just about to put out an album that we had hidden in a cupboard for forty years of James playing with me at the Royal Albert Hall in London," Costello said. "And I've got to tell you: that's the most off-the-hook guitar playing I've ever heard in my life—until what we're about to do right now." Costello wasn't tooting his own horn, but singing the praises of guitar great John Jorgenson, who joined him to tear through the Ricky Nelson rocker "Believe What You Say," which Burton stamped with signature licks in 1958. Though countless country guitarists express admiration for Burton, the night's next tribute performer, **Brad Paisley**, had a

singular form of praise. He thanked Burton for his signature pink paisley telecaster, which, he joked, stopped him from changing his name to "Brad Plaid." But the real compliment came through his dizzying and dexterous performance of Haggard's "Workin' Man Blues," which Burton played on in 1969. Rodney Crowell and Emmylou Harris once shared the stage with Burton at Dodger Stadium—where Burton won over a sea of fans by playing a guitar solo behind his back, Crowell recalled on stage Sunday. For his induction, they were joined by Vince Gill to perform "Till I Gain Control Again," a Crowell-penned song that Harris recorded in 1975. "Typically, we would wrap up our tribute performances at this point in the ceremony," Young said upon returning to the stage. "But when a dear friend of James Burton says he really wants to join in the festivities, and show appreciation for all he learned from James, who are we to say no?" Enter one of the Medallion Ceremony's most stunning surprises in recent memory: Keith Rich-

ards. "I made it, James" the Rolling Stones guitarist said with a grin after spotting his hero in the front row, adding, "I don't think I'd be here without him." With the Stones' new drummer Steve Jordan sitting in with the band, Richards revved into Gram Parsons's "I Can't Dance" with Gill and Harris by his side. With a groove so irresistible, Richards started impromptu reprise after the house band had wrapped the song up. As Young said in introducing Richard as the fourth tribute performer for Burton, who are they to say no? After being inducted by Gill, Burton's remarks, like his playing, were precise and economical. "All these guys I work with, they're all my heroes. . . . I love them all, and I thank God for making all this happen." The evening closed, per tradition, with a singalong of the Carter Family's "Will the Circle Be Unbroken." This year, Country Music Hall of Fame member Tanya Tucker led the chorus, joined on stage by her show-stealing bulldog, Stella Quaid. The Medallion All-Star Band in-

cluded Jen Gunderman (keyboards), Tania Hancheroff (vocals), Mike Johnson (steel guitar), Rachel Loy (bass), Jeff King (electric guitar), Jerry Pentecost (drums), Deanie Richardson (fiddle and mandolin), Mica Roberts (vocals), Biff Watson (bandleader and acoustic guitar) and Charlie Worsham (rhythm guitar, banjo and vocals). Produced by the staff of the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, the annual Medallion Ceremony celebrates the unique talents, personalities and backgrounds of each Hall of Fame inductee, as well as the important turning points and the breakthrough artistic achievements that defined their careers. The ceremony includes speeches, live musical tributes and original video biographies, created by the museum staff using recorded performances, past televised interviews and historic photos culled from materials in the museum's Frist Library and Archive. The ceremony is made possible in part by underwriting from the Country Music Association and other contributors.

Fame and Museum: The Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum collects, preserves and interprets country music and its history for the education and entertainment of diverse audiences. In exhibitions, publications, digital media and educational programs, the museum explores the cultural importance and enduring beauty of the art form. The museum is operated by the Country Music Foundation, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) educational organization chartered by the state of Tennessee in 1964. The museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, and is among the most-visited history museums in the U.S. The Country Music Foundation operates Historic RCA Studio B®, Hatch Show Print® poster shop, CMF Records, the Frist Library and Archive and CMF Press. Museum programs are supported in part by Metropolitan Nashville Arts Commission and Tennessee Arts Commission. More information about the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum is available at www.countrymusichalloffame.org or by calling (615) 416-2001.

About the Country Music Hall of

F.Y.H. = For Your Health

Renowned bariatric surgeon Dr. Now makes debut on Lifetime offering new lease on life for 10 morbidly obese individuals; Premieres January 6

LOS ANGELES, CA (December 10, 2024) – Kicking off 2025, renowned bariatric surgeon Dr. Now comes to Lifetime for the premiere of brand-new original docuseries The 6000 lb. Diaries with Dr. Now, following ten morbidly obese individuals, who have collectively reached a combined weight of 6,000 pounds, and are fighting to lose it and transform their lives.

Set at Dr. Now’s prominent medical facility in Houston, the 10-episode, two-hour long series, features first-hand diary footage from the people who have reached a lose-or-die point in their lives. The new series premieres Monday, January 6, at 9 PM ET/PT.

“Dr. Now has a proven ability to authentically engage with audiences by telling the extraordinary stories of his patients



Dr. Now sits in his medical facility in Houston, Texas. His series will feature patients who have reached a “lose-or-die point in their lives.” The 10-episode series debuts January 6, 2025 on Lifetime. (Photo/Courtesy: Lifetime)

fighting to change their lives,” said Elaine Frontain Bryant, EVP & Head of Programming A&E, Lifetime, and LMN. “We are delighted to welcome Dr. Now to Lifetime and know that our audience will connect with this inspiring series which reinforces our holistic commitment to first-rate unscripted programming.”

The 6000 lb Diaries with Dr. Now follows ten morbidly obese individuals as they fight for a chance to live the life they have always wanted, both for themselves and for their loved ones. Reaching a combined weight of more than 6,000 pounds, and at an extreme breaking point, these individuals are turning to weight loss authority Dr. Now, and his team of specialists, to get life-changing bariatric surgery and acquire the tools they need to deal with emotional eating. Through intimate diary cams and

confessionals, each episode highlights one person’s comprehensive experience as they share intimate inner thoughts, emotional and physical struggles, and their ultimate journey to take back their lives.

Dr. Younan Nowzaradan (“Dr. Now”) is a pioneer in advanced bariatric and vascular surgery. With over 40 years of experience, Dr. Now is regarded as one of the most experienced and knowledgeable weight loss physicians in the world bringing innovative solutions and surgical interventions to the field.

The 6000 lb. Diaries with Dr. Now is produced by Megalome-dia. Executive producers for Megalome-dia are Jonathan Nowzaradan and Paul Hogan. Elaine Frontain Bryant and Maittee Cueva serve as executive producers for Lifetime.

Lifetime continues ‘It’s a Wonderful Lifetime’ of original movies with ‘Carpenter Christmas Romance,’ and ‘Engaged by Christmas’

LOS ANGELES, CA – The holiday season is officially here as Lifetime announces original movies for the network’s annual It’s A Wonderful Lifetime movie slate. (All times in EST)

A Carpenter Christmas Romance
Starring **Sasha Pieterse** and **Mitchell Slaggett**

Written and Executive Produced by **Sarah Drew**
December 21st at 8pm
When novelist Andrea (Sasha Pieterse) hints her upcoming book may be taking a heartbreaking turn, her fans begin protesting, demanding their favorite character doesn’t get killed off. Needing a haven where she can finish her novel, Andrea flees to her family’s farmhouse in the town of Wildwood. Much to her surprise, she ends up running into her ex-crush, Seth (Mitchell Slaggett), an artisanal woodworker who’s helping rebuild the town after it was nearly destroyed by a fire. It doesn’t take long for sawdust and sparks of romance fill the air once the two team up and work together to reignite the town’s Christmas spirit. Is this romance just a holiday fling that ends when her trip is over? Or can the two build a love



“Engaged by Christmas” stars **Brittany Bristow** and **Marcus Rosner**. (Photo/Courtesy: Lifetime)

that is made to last?

A Carpenter Christmas Romance is produced by Autumn Federici and Jake Helgren for The Ninth House in association with Apex Content Ventures. Sarah Drew executive produces along with Eric Levin, Allie Dvorin, John Turner for Apex Content Ventures. Helgren also directs from a script by written by Sarah Drew

Engaged by Christmas
Starring **Brittany Bristow** and **Marcus Rosner**
December 22nd at 8pm

When Zoe (Brittany Bristow) writes to advice columnist “Dear Adora” to help save her relationship before the holidays, she puts the advice into practice, and it’s disastrous - her boyfriend breaks up with her! When she tracks down Dear Adora to confront

her, she discovers it’s actually a man named Adam (Marcus Rosner). Zoe vows to keep Adam’s identity a secret if he helps her to repair her life via a series of Christmas themed events publicized by his column. When the interest in their activities gains huge traction, will they also find love?

Engaged by Christmas is produced by Northern Gateway

Films in association with Reel One Entertainment. Tom Berry, Sebastian Battro, and Imogen Cooper serve as executive producers. Dylan Pearce directs from a script by Emily Duncan and Olivia Hannah.

ABOUT LIFETIME
Celebrating 40 years of entertaining audiences, Lifetime is a premier entertainment destination for women dedicated to offering the highest quality original programming spanning award-winning movies, high-quality limited series and breakout non-fiction series and documentaries. Lifetime has an impressive legacy in public affairs, bringing attention to social issues that women care about with initiatives such as the long-running Stop Breast Cancer for Life, Stop Violence Against Women, and Broader Focus, a major global initiative dedicated to supporting and hiring female directors, writers and producers, including women of color, to make its content. Lifetime Television®, LMN®, Lifetime Real Women® and Lifetime Digital™ are part of Lifetime Entertainment Services, LLC, a subsidiary of A+E Networks. A+E Networks is a joint venture of the Disney-ABC Television Group and Hearst Corporation.

Sen. Blackburn makes October Country Music Month
from Front Ent. page

Faith, Family, Freedom, Hope, Opportunity, and Patriotism
“While each artist has their own distinct sound and style, they share a music tradition that reminds every American of the things that truly matter: faith, family, freedom, hope, opportunity, and patriotism.”
To honor this incredible genre, I come to the floor today to call

“While each artist has their own distinct sound and style, they share a music tradition that reminds every American of the things that truly matter: faith, family, freedom, hope, opportunity, and patriotism.”

for a unanimous consent vote for my resolution that would designate October 2024 as ‘National Country Music Month.’”

Blackburn Honors Grand Ole Opry as “Home of American Music”
“There’s a reason the Grand Ole Opry, the most famous stage in country music, is known as the ‘home of American music.’
Now is the perfect time for Congress to honor the contributions of country music—and its legendary performers and artists—to the story and history of the United States.”

New Christian ‘edutainment’ video series aims to engage teens and reinforce biblical worldview and family values

The Science Dilemma’s First Series Clarifies the Origin of Life

TAMPA, Fla. – The Science Dilemma, a biblically-based and scientifically-informed educational entertainment video series for teens, today released its first series, The Science Dilemma: The Origin of Life.

Burdened by the number of students who abandon their faith after leaving the home, Allan C. Pereira and Jeffrey Singer created The Science Dilemma to provide

parents, leaders and educators with an engaging and entertaining tool built to hold the attention of the younger generation and fill them with truths to strengthen their faith foundation. The first series, The Origin of Life, is now available for purchase on the-science-dilemma.com and to stream on the RightNow Media subscription service.

“When kids understand, they believe,” said Pereira. “Generations Z and Alpha are growing up in a new cultural climate

which impacts a variety of their characteristics, including their learning styles and their beliefs. The Science Dilemma was uniquely designed for these generations without compromising truth.”

The Science Dilemma’s short, YouTube-style videos feature man-on-the-street interviews and discussions with world-renowned scientists. Created to capture and hold the attention of teens, the series’ combination of biblical truth and proven scientific

research makes The Science Dilemma a trusted educational source for parents, educators and leaders.

The Origin of Life includes four episodes that explore the scientific and biblical basis behind scientific theories from the Big Bang Theory to Creation. Accompanying resources, including a workbook and leader guide, allow viewers to dive deeper into the content and provide an opportunity for The Science Dilemma to be used as a

curriculum in a classroom or homeschool setting or as a study for student church groups.

“We wanted to create a resource that is not only engaging for students, but is also a program parents, pastors and educators can be confident in showing to teens and distributing as a tool,” said Pereira. “The content is easily adaptable into a variety of settings and our comprehensive resources make the information accessible to anyone.”

For more information about The Science Dilemma, visit the-science-dilemma.com.

Founded by Allan C. Pereira and Jeffrey Singer, The Science Dilemma is a groundbreaking video series tackling tough issues and teaching a biblical worldview in a cutting-edge, engaging and entertaining style to equip younger generations to defend their faith.

The series is specifically designed for ages 12-18 years old.

Nostalgia times: This collection makes the perfect gift for the ultimate Gunsmoke fan... from Front ent. page

ing published before has ever come close to Ben Costello’s amazing accomplishment.”

Fans agree, with one review stating, “This book offers more insight into the history of the TV show than anything I have read before. A great buy for any Gunsmoke fan!”

A Holiday Must-Have

Whether you’re shopping for a

longtime fan or introducing someone to the magic of Gunsmoke, this book is the perfect gift. With its detailed exploration of the show’s history, its beloved characters, and the cultural impact of the series, Gunsmoke: An American Institution is a keepsake for every Western enthusiast.

About Book Street Press and Story Monsters LLC
With a legacy of publishing im-

pactful and meaningful works, Book Street Press, a division of Story Monsters LLC, continues to honor stories that shape and inspire

About the Author Ben Costello (1961-2021)

Ben Costello was a self-confessed film and television buff. Starting at the age of five, he appeared on stage in a variety of dramatic and comedic roles. He

also enjoyed writing and directing. Along with fellow comedian John Babrowski, Costello played in casinos and clubs from New York City to Las Vegas, frequently portraying characters similar to Abbott and Costello (no, Ben Costello and Bud Costello were not related). Costello and Babrowski performed the classic "Who's on First?" routine at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, to kick off the 2000 World Series. They

were the first to do so since Abbott and Costello performed the skit there 44 years earlier. Costello wrote, produced, and costarred in The Whitley & Costello Show in 1979. In 1987, he took the classic Laurel and Hardy movie Way Out West and adapted it for the stage, with the blessings of Lucille Hardy Price, widow of comedian Oliver Hardy. In 1988, his play titled “Company B” debuted. The show, a slapstick musical tribute

to World War II, was so popular that it spawned five stage sequels. For his work on this production, Costello won Best Actor, Writer, Director, and Production awards from the Southern California Theatre Leagues. Costello taught seminars on Hollywood Comedy and Comedians and was an authority on television and motion picture Westerns. A father of one, Costello resided in the desert community of Joshua Tree, California .

‘Chet Baker Re:imagined’ highlight international artists lineup to mark 70 years since release of seminal jazz album

Chet Baker Re:imagined
International artists lineup to mark 70 years since the release of seminal jazz album Chet Baker Sings with genre-spanning re-workings of the trumpeter and singer’s classic repertoire

FEATURING:
dodie • Matt Maltese • Hohnen Ford • mxmtoon • Matilda Mann • grentperez • Ife Ogunjobi • Benny Sings • Stacey Ryan • Delaney Bailey • Puma Blue • Sarah Kang • Joel Culpepper • Eloise • Poppy Daniels

Lead single - dodie’s “Old Devil Moon” – is out now
ALBUM RELEASE DATE: April 11, 2025

DECEMBER 2, 2024 - Decca Records has announced Chet Baker Re:Imagined, a collection



Dodie is one of those featured in ‘Chet Baker Re:imagined.’ (Photo/Courtesy: Decca Records)

of songs recorded by a varied selection of international talent to celebrate the legacy of one of the most unique, charismatic and influential figures in the history of jazz. Released to mark the 70th anniversary of seminal album Chet Baker Sings, the 15-track compilation presents modern re-workings of the trumpeter and singer’s repertoire and underscores the enduring influence of one of 20th century music’s most creative artists.

The album’s lead single - dodie’s “Old Devil Moon” – is out now and available Chet Baker Re:imagined will be released via Decca Records (UK)/Blue Note Records (US) on April 11, 2025 and is available for pre-order

Chet Baker Re:Imagined features an array of international artists spanning R&B, pop, soul and jazz. British artists dodie, Matt

Maltese, Matilda Mann, Joel Culpepper, Ife Ogunjobi, Hohnen Ford, Eloise, Poppy Daniels and Puma Blue line up alongside Benny Sings from the Netherlands, Canada’s Stacey Ryan, American artists Delaney Bailey and Mxmtoon, South Korean Sara Kang and Australian-Filipino grentperez. These musicians, singers, songwriters and beat-makers all sit within a fast-emerging scene and together they cast Baker’s sublime melodies against a contemporary sound canvas marked by a spectrum of acoustic and electronic colours, artful, impassioned improvisation and richly layered production.

Baker, one of the icons of the ‘cool jazz’ movement of the 1950s, stood out for the lustrous finesse of his horn playing and his distinctively soft, delicate

voice, which was a revelation on Chet Baker Sings. The ballad “My Funny Valentine” was one of Baker’s signature songs and the British singer-songwriter Matt Maltese’s interpretation captures its quiet, intense resonance against a backdrop of shimmering guitar and hazy keyboards. The deep sensitivity of Baker’s music is a thread running through Re:Imagined and is exemplified by dodie’s interpretation of “Old Devil Moon” which showcases the gilded understatement of her voice against a sharp, crisp Latin rhythm that is effectively complemented by a willowy clarinet break. mxmtoon’s “I Fall In Love Too Easily” is an unabashedly romantic confession in which the singer’s heartfelt delivery is well served by languorous guitar, tingling piano and potent trumpet.

Please see ent. page 5

Mfume, Cardin, and Van Hollen Bill to rename post office in honor of Elijah Cummings passed by the U.S. House of Representatives

WASHINGTON, D.C., December 4, 2024– The United States of Representatives passed legislation (H.R. 9544) introduced by Congressman Kweisi Mfume (D-MD-07) in the U.S. House of Representatives to designate a Baltimore United States Post Office (USPS) as the “United States Representative Elijah E. Cummings Post Office Building.” The bill to rename the post office at 340 South Loudon Avenue in Baltimore, Maryland, in honor of Congressman Cummings now heads to the United States Senate for consideration. Companion legislation has been introduced in the U.S. Senate by Senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen (both D-MD).



Cong. Kweisi Mfume presents bill to name a Baltimore post office in honor of the late Cong. Elijah Cummings. Mfume is shown here with a photo of Cummings in the background. (Photo/Courtesy: Cong. Mfume office)

"Congressman Elijah Cummings was a person of deep intellect, unlimited compassion, and a champion for working people everywhere. This House and our nation still feel his loss, which makes the renaming of this post office in his honor a fitting tribute to our dear friend," said Congressman Mfume. "I am elated that this legislation has prevailed out of the U.S. House of Representatives. It is a small but important gesture to say thank you to Congressman Elijah Cummings for the work he did, for so many years, for the people of Baltimore and the state of Maryland. Elijah was a trailblazer, consensus builder, peacemaker, and friend. His name and his image will now be a part of this

building for all to see," he concluded. "I am proud to have introduced this bill in the Senate and am glad to see it has passed the House. I look forward to this important bill passing the Senate so that we can honor the life and work of Elijah Cummings. His life of public service is an example for us all," said Senator Cardin. "Congressman Elijah Cummings was a man of principle. A man of incredible dignity. And a man with a purpose. Nowhere did he work harder to achieve the mission of equal justice and equal opportunity for all than in his beloved Baltimore community. With the House's passage of our

legislation today, we're one step closer in recognizing all that Elijah did for his city, his state, and his country," said Senator Van Hollen. "On behalf of the Cummings family, we thank Congressman Mfume and Senators Cardin and Van Hollen for keeping alive the legacy of my father, their friend, Congressman Elijah E. Cummings. We are deeply grateful for all of their work to rename a district post office in recognition of his commitment to public service, including his work on postal issues that came before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee," said Jennifer Cummings, the late Congressman's eldest daughter

upon the legislation's introduction. The introduction of this legislation was an effort in partnership with the Cummings family, who wrote to Congressman Mfume in August 2024. Their letter expressed the Cummings family's support to honor Congressman Cummings with the renaming of a post office after their father. On November 20, 2024, this bill was passed unanimously by the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Accountability and sent to the floor for consideration by the entire U.S. House.

The Life of Congressman Elijah E. Cummings
Congressman Cummings was

born in Baltimore on January 18, 1951. His father worked at a chemical factory and his mother worked at a pickle factory and later as a maid while raising seven children. Both parents came from Southern sharecropping families. Elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 1982, Mr. Cummings became the youngest Chair of the Legislative Black Caucus and the first African American elected speaker pro tem by the body, a permanent role in the Maryland House. He served in that chamber for 14 years, during which he worked tirelessly to advance the rights and opportunities of Maryland residents.

tions of Baltimoreans would not face the same obstacles he did. Congressman Cummings became Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus in 2002, where he pushed to increase funding for public education and the Head Start program.

After the tragic death of Freddie Gray, Congressman Cummings went to the streets to ask the citizens of Baltimore to come together and find a peaceful path forward. Then, true to form, he launched into action, pushing hard for policies and programs to help the city recover.

As Ranking Member and then Chairman of the House Oversight and Reform Committee, Mr. Cummings spearheaded much of the impeachment inquiry of former President Trump, and led probes relating to Trump's family members serving in the White House. In this role, Congressman Cummings also had jurisdiction over postal issues and led the charge to pass the Postal Service Reform Act to ensure the financial solvency of the U.S. Postal Service until his passing in 2019. A version of the legislation ultimately became law in 2022.

He was passionate about rooting out corruption, protecting our democracy, and achieving equality and freedom for all. He fought for what was right, simply because it was right.

U.S. Postal Service announces 2025 stamps to honor Betty White and Allen Toussaint with‘Forever’ Stamps ... from Front ent. page

"Partners getting married, celebrating an anniversary, siblings sending each other a heartfelt greeting, or even party planners setting a positive tone for their event."

Black Heritage: Allen Toussaint

In recent years, the Black Heritage series has celebrated a man

one year and a woman the next. Next year, the 48th stamp in the series will honor Allen Toussaint (1938–2015), the virtuoso pianist, singer, songwriter, composer, arranger and producer responsible for scores of hits across multiple genres.

Designed by Ethel Kessler, an art director for USPS, the stamp features a photograph taken by Bill

Tompkins in New York City in 2007.

American Vistas (Presorted Standard)

These two stamps depicting stylized, minimalist scenes of mountains and a beach are for use on business mail. The stamps feature screen prints by DKNG Studios made from vector illustrations, and were designed

by Greg Breeding, an art director for USPS.

The Appalachian Trail

Covering almost 2,200 miles of footpath along one of Earth's most ancient mountain ranges, the century-old Appalachian National Scenic Trail is within easy reach of large metropolitan areas of the East Coast.

The Appalachian Trail is main-

tained by a network of volunteer clubs, led by the nonprofit Appalachian Trail Conservancy. This pane of 15 stamps includes a photographic view from each of the 14 states along the Maine-to-Georgia trail with an additional stamp showing stretches of trail through dense forest.

Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed the stamps

with images from various photographers.

Vibrant Leaves (Postcard Rate)

Evoking the colorful sights of a seasonal walk in the woods, the photographs on five new postcard stamps depict leaves on trees found in the United States. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed the stamps.

‘Chet Baker Re:imagined’ highlight international artists to mark 70 years since release of seminal jazz album ... from ent. page 4

dodie:

"How lucky am I to get to live in the world of Chet's soft playful croons for this gorgeous collection? So fun to marry our styles and lean into a jazzier side. Chet Baker was my number one artist in 2023 (apparently a top 5% fan) so I was just thrilled to be asked to pick a favourite - (although that part was difficult) and spend time with his gorgeous version of 'Old Devil Moon' and dream up how we could team up."

Chet Baker Re:imagined follows the international success of the Blue Note Re:Imagined

series which saw groundbreaking tracks from the visionary label given the sound of the twenty first century by the coterie of musicians who emerged from the vibrant London jazz scene. One of the leading acts of that scene - Mercury Music Prize winners Ezra Collective - appeared on Blue Note Re:imagined and are once again represented here in the form of the group's trumpeter Ife Ogunjobi whose version of "Speak Low," a song first recorded in 1953 by Baker, is infused with percussive Afrobeat rhythms and ethereal keyboard arrangements. A piece with an altogether more grandiose setting is the lushly orchestral "There

"Speak Low," a song first recorded in 1953 by Baker, is infused with percussive Afrobeat rhythms and ethereal keyboard arrangements.

Will Never Be Another You" by Matilda Mann. Her angelic voice floats amid a swish sea of violins, violas and cellos that evokes Baker's classic album With Strings. If that piece presents a well-woven musical fabric then other artists strip things down to performances that leave the voice daringly exposed. Puma Blue's haunting "It's Always You" places his husky tone against a brooding, spiky electric guitar. Delaney Bailey's delicately folkish "While My Lady

Sleeps" is nothing more than lyrics, acoustic guitar and bird-song. "But Not For me" by grentperez is a bossa with a blissful backbeat. Poppy Daniels performs "I've Never Been In Love Before," originally written by Frank Loesser for the 1950s musical Guys and Dolls. Sara Kang brings her personal blend of jazz, pop and R&B to a gospel-tinged take of "Old Fashioned" that highlights the understated beauty of her voice while Hohnen Ford channels Baker with a softly spun, almost under-the-breath delivery on "I Get Along Without You Very Well." Joel Culpepper goes in the other direction with "Silver Lining," a sweetly soulful track that showcases his full throttle delivery. The songs on **Chet Baker**

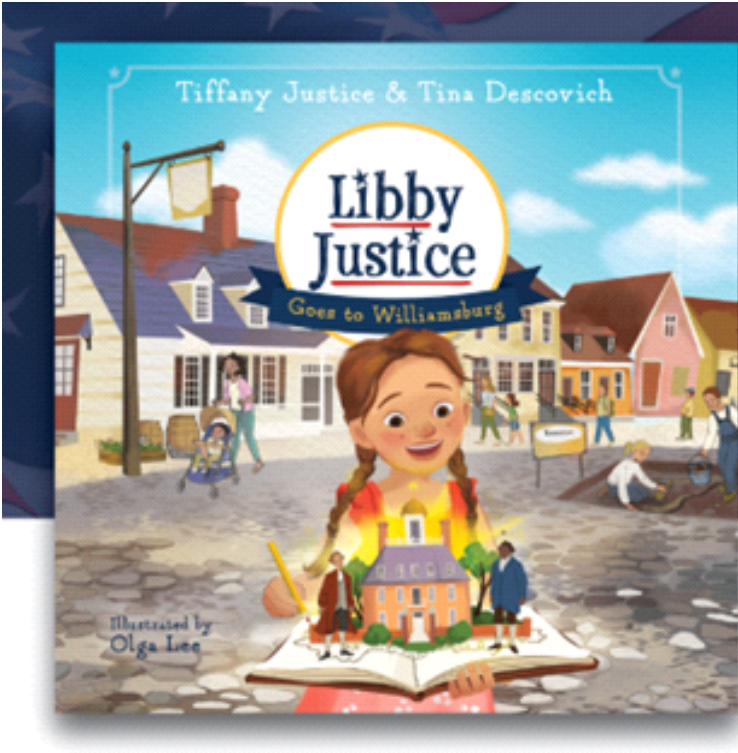
Re:imagined are steeped in the jazz star's spirit but also manage to take his legacy to new places, maintaining its reverence while exploring new creative possibilities.

The trumpeter-singer became a musical icon because he stamped his personality on the era in which he lived, and the modern-day homages of the artists here are testament to the ongoing relevance of the man who immortalized the words 'you make me smile with my heart.' **Chet Baker Re:Imagined** unveils a host of artists who do just that in their own special way.

Chet Baker Re:imagined Tracklisting:

- Silver Lining – Joel Culpepper

2. That Old Feeling - Eloise
3. I'm Old Fashioned - Sarah Kang
4. I Get Along Without You - Hohnen Ford
5. There Will Never Be Another You - Matilda Mann
6. Old Devil Moon - dodie
7. It's Always You - Puma Blue
8. Speak Low - Ife Ogunjobi
9. I've Never Been In Love – Poppy Daniels
10. Time After Time - Benny Sings
11. Like Someone In Love - Stacy Ryan
12. My Funny Valentine - Matt Maltese
13. I Fall In Love Too Easily - mxmtoon
14. But Not For Me - grentperez
15. While My Lady Sleeps - Delaney Bailey



Profile: Brei Carter and her sultry rendition of ‘For the Good Times’ — look for more from Brei in 2025

The Monroe, Louisiana native emerges as crossover country and southern pop star and admirer of Charley Pride, Loretta Lynn, and Aretha Franklin

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Brei Carter puts a slightly sultry, yet sophisticated southern touch on a Kris Kristofferson classic tune, “For The Good Times,” which is available for those who want to go back for some **Brei Carter** classics. Cutting the song (in 2023) with established Nashville producer and composer Curt Ryle (Taylor Swift, Pam Tillis, Brooks & Dunn) from his private studio. Carter was also working on a music video which was first released by Bill Nash in 1968. However, it was Ray Price who first turned it into a #1 country hit in 1970 with subsequent popularized recordings from Al Green and Wayne Newton. “For The Good Times” now at [ord.co/forthegoodtimesbrei-carter](https://www.ord.co/forthegoodtimesbrei-carter).

“I wanted to record the song because of the message I think it represents, and that’s not taking anyone or anything for granted,” said Carter. “Love can be here today and gone tomorrow, and sometimes people just grow apart. It says that no matter what, life goes on so we should make the most of every moment. That’s a reminder that I think about in everything that I do.”

“I wanted to make sure that there was no doubt that this girl is country through and through,” Carter said. “Country roots, it’s in my blood. Now, as an adult, I still can’t get enough of it! Straight up country crazy is what I like to call it!”

Carter released her first full length album independently in 2022, the critically acclaimed Brand New Country, an eclectic mix of songs which explores Carter’s various country, soul and R&B musical roots, and recorded with a variety of prominent musical producers including Curt Ryle, Jason Wyatt, William Washington WLPWR,



Bridgetown, and others.

About Brei Carter:
Emerging crossover country and southern pop recording artist Brei Carter is proof that sometimes faith, patience and time pays off.

Growing up in Monroe, Louisiana with a solid, southern upbringing, Brei’s family raised her on several authentic southern staples: the Bible, Lone Star Missionary Baptist Church’s choir, Charley Pride, Loretta Lynn, Aretha Franklin, and no shortage

of familial love and devotion. However, before she became the dynamic and vivacious country singer she is today, Brei was busy earning a Bachelors in Business from University of Louisiana in Monroe, a Masters in Inter-

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national Relations from Webster University, and a Doctorate in Theology from New Foundation Theological Seminary. She is also a proud Veteran of the U.S. Army, where she served as an enlisted soldier and as an officer. Having moved to Nashville soon thereafter, Brei has quickly established herself in the songwriters community as a smooth and sometimes edgy songstress who melds country, soul and southern pop into one fused style. Her first single at country radio “Gave Him A Girl” was immediately recognized as “cute and catchy” by country music journalist and historian Robert K. Oermann in his weekly DISclaimer review column for Music Row Magazine.

Brei made her CMA Fest debut in 2022, along with a performance on WoodSongs Old Time Radio Hour. Her growing catalog of new music includes her debut album Brand New Country, released in Fall 2022. Carter is quickly proving herself to be a welcomed addition to the emerging new styles of country music in today’s diverse musical landscape.

Showboats announce free parking promotion for holiday bargain

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (December 10, 2024) - The Memphis Showboats are giving their fans a gift this holiday season. With every season ticket purchased prior to the end of 2024, Showboats fans will receive one complimentary parking pass (per account) for all 2025 Memphis Showboats home games at Simmons Bank Liberty Stadium.

This special free parking gift from the Showboats will be available to all new purchasers as well as current season ticket holders who renew prior on or before Dec. 31, 2024. In addition, those who have already purchased their season tickets for the 2025 UFL season will receive this benefit as well.

To be eligible, a season ticket member account must be paid in

2025 UFL season set to kick off weekend of March 28

full before the end of the 2024 calendar year, and each account will be allocated one free season parking pass in the Gold Lot. Game day parking is \$20 per vehicle, so season ticket members save \$100 in parking fees by purchasing their tickets before the end of 2024.

“Our season ticket members bring passion and energy to each game and they deserve the very best value we can offer,” said Steve Macy, Vice President of Team Business and Event Operations. “This free parking offer is another way of saying thank you to our most valued fans.”

Season tickets begin at just \$100 and can be purchased at theUFL.com/tickets. Fans can also reach a ticket specialist by calling 901-341-7008 or sending an email to tickets@uflshowboats.com.

Super Bowl LIX Opening Night Fueled by Gatorade at Caesars Superdome celebrates week-long festivities in New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS — The National Football League and Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation announced the extensive roster of official events and activations for Super Bowl LIX, including fan experiences, community-driven initiatives and more. The announcement was made on October 15, 2024.

“We couldn’t be more excited to return to the heart of New Orleans with Super Bowl LIX,” said Peter O’Reilly, NFL executive vice president, club business, major events, and international. “Hosting the Super Bowl for the 11th time, this city’s vibrant culture and deep-rooted connection to football make it the perfect global stage for our biggest event of the year, and we’re thrilled to work with all of our local partners to bring an unmatched experience to fans both here and around the world.”

“New Orleans is known for its rich history, legendary culture and iconic venues. The Host Committee and the city are proud to put our most symbolic and well-known landmarks on display for the hundreds of thousands of traveling fans and members of the media ahead of Super Bowl LIX,” said Jay Cicero, President and CEO for the Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation and Super Bowl LIX Host Committee. “We’ve been working closely with our partners at these venues to create a unique experience for all fans, visitors, and locals.”

Some of the Super Bowl LIX events and venues include:

Super Bowl Opening Night Fueled by Gatorade at Caesars Superdome
Monday, Feb. 3, 2025
Fans are invited to the Caesars Superdome ahead of Super Bowl

LIX for an exciting evening celebrating the AFC and NFC champions as they arrive in New Orleans. The event will give fans a sneak peek of the iconic Super Bowl imagery at Caesars Superdome prior to gameday and offer an exciting opportunity to hear directly from Super Bowl players and coaches during their only public appearance before the big game. Super Bowl Opening Night promises a thrilling experience with family-friendly activities, including photo opportunities, exclusive NFL Shop merchandise, and more.

Tickets for Super Bowl Opening Night are \$20 and will be available in December.

Fans can download the NFL OnePass app for the most up-to-date information and register their interest in purchasing event tickets once on-sale by visiting NFL.com/SuperBowlLocal.

Super Bowl Experience at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center
Wednesday, Feb. 5 – Saturday, Feb. 8, 2025
Super Bowl Experience – the NFL’s immersive football festival – is a family-friendly event held annually during Super Bowl Week. This event will offer fans the chance to meet current NFL players and Legends for autographs, shop for exclusive gear at the NFL Shop presented by Visa, and enjoy interactive games and NFL FLAG clinics. Throughout the Super Bowl Ex-

“We couldn’t be more excited to return to the heart of New Orleans with Super Bowl LIX,” said Peter O’Reilly, NFL executive vice president, club business, major events, and international. “Hosting the Super Bowl for the 11th time, this city’s vibrant culture and deep-rooted connection to football make it the perfect global stage for our biggest event of the year, and we’re thrilled to work with all of our local partners to bring an unmatched experience to fans both here and around the world.”

perience, fans can take memorable photos with the Vince Lombardi Trophy, race in a 40-yard dash against virtual NFL players on LED screens and explore a display featuring all 58 Super Bowl rings.

Adult prices starting at \$20 inclusive of all venue and ticket fees; Kids 12 & under free daily. Tickets will be available in December.

Fans can download the NFL OnePass app for the most up-to-date information and register their interest in purchasing event tickets once on-sale by visiting NFL.com/SuperBowlLocal.

Super Bowl Soulful Celebration at The Mahalia Jackson Theater
Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2025
The annual "Super Bowl Soulful Celebration" is the NFL's only sanctioned inspirational concert, uniting cultures through the power of music, faith, and football. Celebrating 26 years during Super Bowl LIX, this year's event is themed "Keep Going" and will

take place on Feb. 5, 2025, at New Orleans' historic Mahalia Jackson Theater of Performing Arts. Featuring performances from diverse genres such as R&B, Gospel and Country, past artists include Kirk Franklin, Patti LaBelle, Earth, Wind & Fire, Yolanda Adams, T-Pain, Mary Mary, Snoop Dogg, Mickey Guyton, and more. Super Bowl Soulful Celebration also honors NFL players both on and off the gridiron, spotlighting their contributions to making the world a better place. The broadcast will premiere on Feb. 8, 2025, at 8 p.m. ET on FOX. For more information, visit superbowlsoulful.com or follow @superbowlsoulful.

Louisiana Culture Festival at the French Market
Friday, Feb. 7 – Saturday, Feb. 8, 2025
The French Market, in partnership with the Host Committee, Lieutenant Governor Nungesser, Louisiana Office of Tourism, and the National Park Service, will host the Louisiana Culture Festival from Friday, Feb. 7 – Saturday, Feb. 8, 2025. The festival will highlight the many cultures of Louisiana with unique booths and activations featuring local Native American tribes and a cultural corner with basket weaving, storytelling, and cooking and dance demonstrations. Jazz and Zydeco bands will also contribute to the programming with live performances during the festival.

Super Bowl Breakfast at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center
Saturday, February 8, 2025
The NFL-sanctioned Super Bowl Breakfast will take place on Saturday, February 8, 2025, at the

Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. Since 1988, Athletes in Action has hosted this unique event for business executives to use the platform of sport to spread a message of hope during these challenging times.

The program features the presentation of the Bart Starr Award to a current NFL player for outstanding character, integrity and leadership on and off the field. Past winners include Kirk Cousins, Drew Brees, Eli Manning, Benjamin Watson, Peyton Manning, Demario Davis and others. The 2024 winner of the Bart Starr Award was Minkah Fitzpatrick, Jr. of the Pittsburgh Steelers. This year’s program will feature Tony Dungy, who will present the 2025 Bart Starr Award, Benjamin Watson, former NFL player and past Bart Starr Award winner and our emcee, CBS Sportscaster, James Brown. They will be joined by other NFL athletes and coaches. Exciting NFL Films highlights, humor, personal stories, and a faith-based message are the highlights of the morning.

For more information, visit www.superbowlbreakfast.com.

Taste of the NFL at the National World War II Museum
Saturday, Feb. 8, 2025
Taste of the NFL is a culinary and gridiron extravaganza – it’s the NFL’s largest philanthropic culinary event held during Super Bowl weekend, featuring top chefs, NFL greats, captivating entertainment, and the shared mission of tackling food insecurity among children in Louisiana and nationwide. All net proceeds will benefit national nonprofit GENYOuth’s commitment to End Student Hunger to help increase equitable access to and

participation in school meals among at-risk children in New Orleans and throughout the U.S. Scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 8, 2025, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. CT at the National World War II Museum, the event is hosted by five nationally acclaimed celebrity chefs who are committed to ending student hunger – Andrew Zimmern, Carla Hall, Tim Love, Lasheeda Perry, and Mark Bucher – and they will be joined by over 25 culinary masters, including New Orleans culinary superstars, all of whom will prepare their own Taste of the NFL signature dishes. The chefs will be accompanied by an all-star lineup of NFL Legends and players along with surprise and delight moments – New Orleans style. For more information and tickets, please visit Taste-oftheNFL.com.

Fans can register their interest in purchasing event tickets once on-sale by visiting NFL.com/SuperBowlLocal.

About the New Orleans Super Bowl LIX Host Committee

The New Orleans Super Bowl LIX Host Committee, led by the New Orleans Saints and the Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation, is responsible for planning, executing, and hosting the City’s record-tying 11th NFL Championship game on February 9, 2025. The Host Committee works in partnership with the National Football League to deliver a successful Super Bowl LIX while driving lasting social and economic impact in the Greater New Orleans area. Learn more about the New Orleans Super LIX Host Committee at nolasuperbowl.com.

GRAMMY-Nominated classical-meets-hip-hop duo Black Violin releases new single and video “Drama” for ‘drama’

DECEMBER 5, 2024: GRAMMY-nominated classical-meets-hip-hop duo **Black Violin** released their new single and video “Drama.” Produced by Phil Beaudreau (Dr. Dre, Justin Bieber, The Game, Lalah Hathaway), the song is the first taste of new music from their upcoming album Full Circle, set for release in March 2025. “‘Drama’ is a powerful modern classical-hip-hop fusion, blending rich strings with hard-hitting beats,” says Black Violin’s Kev Marcus. “This track pushes boundaries and defies genres. It’s a bold

“‘Drama’ is a powerful modern classical-hip-hop fusion, blending rich strings with hard-hitting beats,” says Black Violin’s Kev Marcus. “This track pushes boundaries and defies genres. It’s a bold statement, reflecting our journey of creativity and mastery, where we swim in our own blue ocean, untouched by competition. ‘Drama’ challenges listeners to step out of their comfort zones and inspires them to break through limits, redefining what’s possible in music and life.”

statement, reflecting our journey of creativity and mastery, where we swim in our own blue ocean, untouched by competition. ‘Drama’ challenges listeners to step out of their comfort zones and inspires them to break through limits, redefining what’s possible in music and life.”

Black Violin members **Wil Baptiste** and **Kev Marcus** met on the first day of orchestra class in 1996 at Dillard High School of the Performing Arts in Fort Lauderdale. (Baptiste originally wanted to play saxophone in the band, but the orchestra teacher got him assigned to his class after winning a golf bet with the band instructor.) Classically trained by

day, they faithfully put on their headphones and listened to the hottest rap records each night. They went to different colleges—Marcus attended Florida International University and Baptiste went to Florida State—but then reconvened, moved into an apartment together, and started trying to produce other musicians.

They developed an act covering hip-hop songs on their violins, which became popular in local clubs. Two years after sending in a tape to Showtime at the Apollo, they were invited to appear on the show—which they won, and kept winning. They were approached by the manager of Alicia Keys, who asked them to perform with the singer at the Billboard Awards. Other offers followed—they toured with Mike Shinoda of Linkin Park, opened for the Wu-Tang Clan, and worked with the likes of Alessia Cara, 2 Chainz, and Lil Wayne. All the while, Black Violin continued touring non-stop (playing as many as 200 shows a year) and released two independent, self-financed albums before putting out the acclaimed Stereotypes in 2016, followed by 2019’s Take the Stairs, which was nominated for Best Contemporary Instrumental Album at the 2020 GRAMMYS.

Black Violin has always been about taking things further, exceeding expectations, challenging conventions. The duo has steadily built a devoted following and a diverse touring base—culminating in such triumphs as two sold-out shows at the Kennedy Center with the National Symphony Orchestra commemorating the 50th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s death, and appearances on the Today Show, CBS Mornings, and PBS Newshour—while occupying a musical lane that’s entirely its own.

Black Violin’s work extends far beyond the stage, reaching deep into communities nationwide



The versatile hip-hop duo Black Violin released their new single and video “Drama” before venturing on to their “Black Violin—Full Circle Tour 2025” beginning in Nashville on February 26. (Photo/Courtesy Rachel Bennett)



with numerous free performances for students and hands-on engagement with youth symphonies and community centers. Through collaborations with local and national education programs such as Turnaround Arts, Baptiste and Marcus connect

with more than 100,000 students throughout the year, including low-income and Title 1 schools, and adopted Bethune Elementary, in Florida’s Broward County (near where they grew up) to initiate an ongoing mentorship program. In 2019, the duo

launched the Black Violin Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to empowering youth by working with them in their communities to provide access to quality music programs that encourage creativity and innovation.

Black Violin - Full Circle Tour - 2025

02.26: Nashville, TN - Ryman Auditorium

02.28: Knoxville, TN - Bijou Theatre
03.01: Newberry, SC - Newberry Opera House
03.02: Atlanta, GA - Atlanta Symphony Hall (Two Shows)
03.29: Salina, KS - The Stiefel Theatre
03.30: Des Moines, IA - Hoyt Sherman Place
04.01: Memphis, TN - Orpheum Theatre
04.02: St. Louis, MO - The Sheldon
04.04: Davenport, IA - Capitol Theatre
04.05: Menomonie, WI - Mabel Tainter Theater
04.08: Morristown, NJ - Mayo Performing Arts Center
04.09: Collingswood, NJ - Scottish Rite Auditorium
04.10: Tarrytown, NY - Tarrytown Music Hall
04.11: Washington DC - Warner Theatre
04.12: New London, CT - Garde Arts Center
04.13: Lexington, MA - Cary Hall
04.25: Madison, WI - Overture Center
04.26: Carmel, IN - The Palladium
04.27: Glen Elyn, IL - McAninch Arts Center
04.30: East Lansing, MI - Wharton Center
05.01: Lexington, KY - Lexington Opera House
05.02: Paducah, KY - The Carson Center
05.03: Fort Smith, AR - Temple-Live Fort Smith
05.04: Dallas, TX - Majestic Theatre
05.06: Lawrence, KS - Lied Center of Kansas
05.08: Toledo, OH - Valentine Theatre
05.09: Bay Harbor, MI - Bay Harbor Arts Center
05.10: Flint, MI - Capitol Theatre

Feeling the holiday pressure? Shaping Freedom’s AI Prompts can help to navigate the stress so you can have a calmer time

SAN DIEGO, CA – November 26, 2024 – This holiday season, Shaping Freedom is transforming how we cope with stress by combining personal wellness with the power of AI. Under the leadership of founder Lisane Basquiat, Prompted delivers 10 curated AI prompts designed to help individuals stay grounded and navigate holiday stress. The series will roll out twice weekly from November 26 through December 23, 2024, across Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, and TikTok.

The holiday season, often romanticized as a time of joy, is a major source of stress and anxiety. According to the American Heart Association, 63% of Americans find the holidays more

The holiday season, often romanticized as a time of joy, is a major source of stress and anxiety. According to the American Heart Association, 63% of Americans find the holidays more stressful than tax season, and nearly 60 million people nationwide are dealing with mental health challenges—a number that continues to rise.

stressful than tax season, and nearly 60 million people nationwide are dealing with mental health challenges—a number that continues to rise.

At the same time, artificial intelligence has entered the cultural mainstream, with 55% of Americans now using generative AI tools like ChatGPT, Claude, and Gemini. ChatGPT alone became the fastest-growing application in history, reaching 100 million users within two months—out-



Lisane Basquiat, Shaping Freedom founder and CEO, shows you how to stay clam during hectic holidays and at other times in your life. (Photo Credit: Stefanie Blue)

pace both Instagram and Facebook.

Shaping Freedom’s Prompted series taps into AI’s growing popularity to address holiday stress head-on. These simple yet impactful prompts offer practical solutions to common seasonal challenges, such as managing family dynamics, reducing stress triggers, and bridging divides with loved ones.

By copying and pasting the prompts into platforms like ChatGPT, Claude, or Gemini, users can receive instant, personalized insights tailored to their needs. Regular users of ChatGPT can personalize their recommendations by adding “Based on what you know about me” before any of the prompts provided.

This customizes the responses based on the conversations and interactions users have had with the platform to date. While not considered medical advice, the prompts offer practical insights that can help alleviate the various forms of stress so many of us experience during the holiday season.

“Our goal is to provide accessible, immediate support during a time that can be particularly challenging,” said Lisane Basquiat, a recognized leader in personal development and founder of Shaping Freedom. “By leveraging AI, we’re offering practical tools to help individuals maintain emotional balance, navigate tricky family dynamics, and reclaim a sense of joy during the

holidays.”

This initiative dovetails with Shaping Freedom’s broader mission, reflected in the upcoming 2025 Shape Your Foundation series. This multi-format program includes immersive workshops, courses, and a private community designed to foster personal growth and emotional resilience year-round.

To access the Prompted content series, follow Shaping Freedom on Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, and TikTok at @ShapingFreedom. Register at ShapingFreedom.com for early access savings on the 2025 Shape Your Foundation series.

About Shaping Freedom
Founded by Lisane Basquiat, Shaping Freedom is dedicated to



Shown above is an example of the AI prompts from Shaping Freedom’s Prompted series.

empowering individuals through personal development and mental health support. Lisane, who has been featured in The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Rolling Stone, The Today Show, and NPR, among others, is a transformative leader in personal growth and empowerment. As co-curator of the acclaimed art exhibition Jean-Michel Basquiat: King Pleasure©, she blends her corporate expertise, artistic heritage, and passion for well-being to help individuals reclaim their lives and embrace meaningful change.

Connect with Shaping Freedom
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/shapingfreedom/>
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@sha>

pingfreedom
T i k T o k : <https://www.tiktok.com/@shapingfreedom>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/shapingfreedom>
Website: <https://shapingfreedom.com/>

Watch for
The Mid-South
Tribune’s 30th
Annual Black
History Month
Special Edition
coming in
February 2025!

Merry Christmas and Happy 2025!

ICON Entertainment & Hospitality announces New Year’s Eve specials and events across Nashville, the Music City!

Reservations Open
December 17

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (December 12, 2024) – Icon Entertainment & Hospitality is excited to announce this year’s New Years Eve festivities at House of Cards, Johnny Cash’s Bar & BBQ, Nudie’s Honky Tonk, Schulman’s Neighborhood Bar, Sinatra Bar & Lounge and Skull’s Rainbow Room! Ring in 2025 with Icon Entertainment & Hospitality’s unforgettable celebrations across Nashville for one night only! This New Year’s Eve, celebrate with an evening filled with festive drink specials, specialty food items, and live music that will have you dancing all night long. Whether you’re toasting with champagne, enjoying a signature cocktail, or savoring specialty dining, there’s something for everyone to enjoy.

Each venue will offer a unique celebration experience, so gather your friends and make reservations early to ensure you don’t miss out on the ultimate New Year’s Eve bash! Nudie’s Honky Tonk and Johnny Cash’s Bar and BBQ will be open with no cover charge.

House of Cards: Delicious New Year’s Eve specials to ring in the new year! Indulge this holiday with a 3 lb. New Year’s Lobster served with drawn butter and lemon wedges. Toast to 2025



with drink specials like the New Beginnings made with crème de cassis and sparkling wine or the Resolution Solution crafted with St. Germain, gin, lemon juice, simple syrup and topped with champagne. A DJ will be spinning hits on the patio from 10:00pm-1:00am. Guests will also enjoy a complimentary mid-night toast to ring in the New Year! These specials are available December 31st only and are offered in addition to the regular menu. Reservations open two weeks in advance so be sure to mark your calendars! More info at hocrnashville.com/newyear-seve.

Johnny Cash's Bar & BBQ:

Johnny Cash's Bar & BBQ will be open with NO COVER

CHARGE this New Year’s Eve. Indulge in festive food specials like the zesty shrimp ceviche and a crispy, golden blooming onion served with bang bang sauce for a spicy, tangy kick. Raise your glass with celebratory cocktails, the Ball Drop and Raspberry Belini, perfect for toasting to 2025.

These specials are available on December 31 only and are in addition to the regular menu. More info at cashbarandbbq.com.

Nudie’s Honky Tonk: Ring in the New Year at Nudie's Honky Tonk on Broadway - with NO COVER CHARGE! Dance the night away with live music, epic vibes and drink specials that’ll keep the party going until the ball drops. Whether you're toasting with a signature cocktail like the

Sparkling Diamond or When the Ball Drops or celebrating with a bucket of your favorite brews, there’s no better place to welcome 2025! These specials are available on December 31 only and are in addition to the regular menu! More info at nudie-shonkytonk.com.

Sinatra Bar & Lounge: Ring in the New Year with iconic music, delicious cocktails and culinary excellence surrounded by original Sinatra memorabilia, art and more. Don't miss a special New Year's Eve cocktail, the Golden Moment, crafted with Empress Gin, elderflower, lemon, simple syrup and finished with gold glitter, this is the perfect libation to toast to new beginnings! This special is available December 31 only and is offered in addition to the regular menu. Reservations open two weeks in advance and will go quickly, so be sure to mark your calendars. More info at sinatranashville.com/newyear-seve.

Schulman’s Neighborhood Bar: Enjoy a night of good vibes, good food and a complimentary champagne toast at mid-night to welcome 2025 in style. Don’t miss the decadent fried cheesecake special—the perfect way to end the year on a sweet note. No cover, no formalities, just a good ole’ time at your favorite neighborhood bar! Specials are available December 31 only and are in addition to the regular menu. More info at schulmansbar.com.

Skull’s Rainbow Room: Ring in 2025 with a bang for Skull’s Roaring 20’s themed New Year’s Eve celebration! Guests can expect specials including a beautiful 38 oz. Tomahawk steak accompanied by lobster tail, Abigail sauce and choice of side. Add on the decadent Confetti Cheesecake for an extra sweet treat! Raise a glass with drink specials, It’s Show Time, made with vodka, all spice and clove syrup, lemon and cava or try the Gentleman’s Resolution crafted with Rye whiskey, espresso liqueur, vermouth, and maple spice syrup. These New Year’s Eve specials are available December 31 only and are offered in addition to the regular menu. Don’t miss a special sparkling NYE burlesque performance starting at 11:00 pm. The line starts at 9:00 pm with a \$25 charge at the door. (Please note, Skulls does not take reservations for burlesque shows; it is standing room only!) Reservations for dinner only will open two weeks in advance and will go quickly so be sure to mark your calendars! More info at skullsrainbowroom.com/newyearseve2024.

About Icon Entertainment & Hospitality

Founded by celebrated entrepreneur and real estate investor Bill Miller, Icon Entertainment & Hospitality is a real estate development and hospitality company that owns and operates some of the most popular establishments in Nashville – including the Johnny Cash Museum, Sinatra Bar & Lounge, Patsy Cline Museum, Nudie’s Honky Tonk, House of Cards, Johnny Cash’s Bar & BBQ and Skull’s Rainbow Room – as well as the Southern Turf Lofts and Music City Threads merchandise line.

Icon’s newest ventures include the Southern Turf Club and East Nashville neighborhood bar Schulman’s - as well as a special pop-up, Tanya Tucker’s Tequila Cantina on Broadway. Since opening the Johnny Cash Museum in 2013 – the first component of a presence in downtown Nashville that is now comprised of more than 100,000 square feet of commercial real estate – Icon has welcomed millions of patrons from around the world to its dining and entertainment establishments. USA Today, Forbes, Time, Rolling Stone, Condé Nast Traveler, National Geographic, Southern Living, Marie Claire, AAA, and TripAdvisor are just a few of the outlets and organizations that have honored and awarded Icon’s establishments with distinction, solidifying their status as “must-visit” Music City attractions and dining experiences.

The Country Cruising Cruise sails October 27 with star power of Clay Walker, Trace Adkins, LOCASH, Allie Colleen + more



NASHVILLE, Tenn. (December 6, 2024) - The Country Cruising Cruise, sailing October 27 - November 1, 2025, has added platinum-selling 90s hitmaker **Clay Walker** to its all-star lineup of great country music. Launching from Fort Lauderdale, the ports of call will be Key West and Nassau, Bahamas. The music festival at sea will include performances by Walker, multi-platinum, Country icon **Trace Adkins** along with chart-topping duo **LOCASH**, **William Michael Morgan**, **Canaan Smith**, **Jerrod Niemann**, **Craig Campbell**, **Maggie Baugh**, **Allie Colleen** and more. To book cabins, visit countrycruising.com.

Make A Living.” “She Won’t Be Lonely Long.” “Fall” and many more. He has been at the forefront of the rebirth of ‘90s Country, recently debuting at Red Rocks Amphitheatre in Colorado, selling out shows across the country. Walker has over 1 billion streams and continues releasing impactful music, most recently the Toby Keith-penned “I Know She Hung The Moon” which can be streamed here: ffm.to/shehungthemoon

With rates starting at \$1,199, the cruise will feature special ways for fans to interact with the artists onboard, including line dancing, poker tournaments, karaoke, whiskey tastings, acoustic sessions, late night jams and even a special Halloween party!

Country Cruising has long been one of the premier parties at sea for country music fans – having featured artists like Kelsea Ballerini, Chris Young, Wynonna, Montgomery Gentry, Lonestar, Diamond Rio and many more.

About Clay Walker

Clay Walker stands as a towering figure in country music, his illustrious career marked by multi-PLATINUM sales, 11 chart-topping hits and 40 singles on the charts. His songs, including classics like "If I Could Make A Living" and "She Won't Be Lonely Long," resonate deeply, etching his name into the fabric of the genre. In 1996, Walker faced a new battle with Multiple Sclerosis (MS), but rather than

yielding to its challenges, he emerged as a fierce advocate and fundraiser, establishing the Clay Walker Foundation to support those affected by the disease. Each year, the Clay Walker Charity Classic at Pebble Beach shines a light on his tireless efforts, raising awareness and funds for MS research. His latest album, Texas To Tennessee, produced by industry heavyweights Michael Knox and Jaron Boyer, soared to No. 1 on the iTunes Country Album charts. Drawing inspiration from legends like George Jones, James Taylor and Bob Seger, Walker's music transcends generations, earning him a well-deserved place among country music royalty. A member of the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame, Walker continues to captivate audiences nationwide, gracing stages from coast to coast with his electrifying performances, showcasing his unwavering passion for music and advocacy. He plans to release new music throughout 2024. For more information and to stay up-

The music festival at sea will include performances by Walker, multi-platinum, Country icon Trace Adkins along with chart-topping duo LOCASH, William Michael Morgan, Canaan Smith, Jerrod Niemann, Craig Campbell, Maggie Baugh, Allie Colleen and more. To book cabins, visit countrycruising.com.

to-date, visit ClayWalker.com.

About Flying Dutchmen Travel

At Flying Dutchmen Travel (FDT), we specialize in crafting unforgettable travel experiences designed around you. With over 50 years of experience, we've helped more than 80,000 travelers create memories that last a lifetime. Whether you dream of a music-themed cruise, a family getaway, or an adventurous river cruise, we ensure that every journey is perfectly tailored to your

desires. Since our founding in 1974, we've become known for our personalized service and commitment to excellence. In 2010, we broke new ground by booking our first music charter with Royal Caribbean Cruise Line (RCL). This move transformed the industry and helped us become RCL's number-one charter client in just ten years. Our cruises have featured artists like Blake Shelton, Melissa Etheridge, Kenny Loggins, and Dave Koz, allowing travelers to connect with their favorite performers on the open sea. As the only woman-owned agency in the music charter space, we bring a fresh perspective to every planned trip. With a deep understanding of global travel, we're here to meet your personal and group travel needs—whether you're looking for adventure, relaxation, or a unique event experience. To explore FDT's new offerings or to start planning your next adventure, visit flyingdutchmentravel.com.

Stay safe during the holidays! Drink Responsibly!

When Christmas brings you the best and worst then delivers you the bonus of the Great Recession, can you keep your family together?

“Forgiving Christmas”

By Arelya J. Mitchell and Performed by Janine Santana on Audible

Also, available in print at Amazon.com

Forgiving Christmas

A contemporary novel

By Arelya J. Mitchell

Performed by Janine Santana

‘Our Secret Society’ by Tanisha C. Ford wins Hooks National Book Award from UofM’s Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (Thursday, Dec. 12, 2024) —The Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change at the University of Memphis selected “Our Secret Society: Mollie Moon and the Glamour, Money and Power Behind the Civil Rights Movement” by historian Tanisha C. Ford as the 2023 Hooks National Book Award winner. The award will be presented to Ford when she visits the UofM in the spring.

The award is presented to a non-fiction book published in the calendar year that best furthers understanding of the American civil rights movement and its legacy. Ford’s book traces the life of Mollie Moon—who established the first National Urban League Guild in New York City in 1942—and her fundraising efforts for activists throughout the Civil Rights Movement.

“While her work began abroad making friendships with Harlem Renaissance authors like Langston Hughes and Dorothy West in the 1930s, her time in New York found Mollie at the center of social and political life, one that involved multiple Black political and civic organizations,” said Terrence Tucker, chair and professor in the University of Memphis Department of English and chair of the Hooks National Book Award committee. “Yet it was the interracial Beaux Arts Ball that, perhaps, brought Moon the most attention.”

According to Tucker, while the



Author and history professor Tanisha C. Ford’s work brings a detailed portrait of historical figure Mollie Moon whose life Ford traces in the realms of civil rights activism. (Photo/Courtesy: University of Memphis Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change)

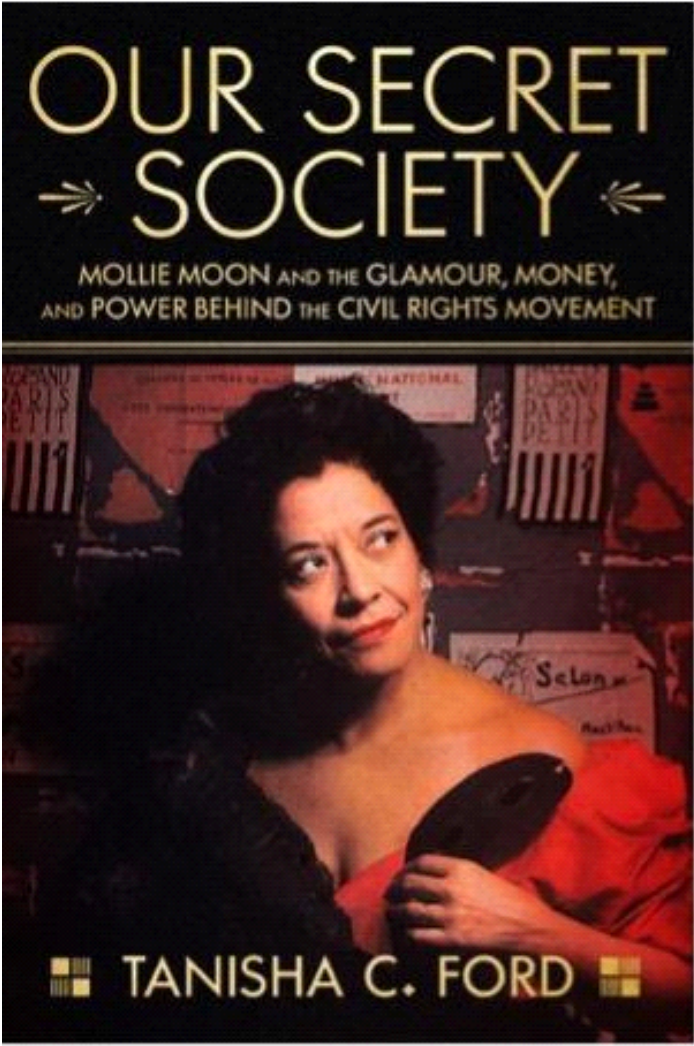
glamour of the Beaux Arts Ball rivaled today’s star-studded Met Gala, its inclusiveness of working-class African Americans, in addition to rich whites and middle-class Blacks, attempted to transcend the divisions that would later threaten to splinter the movement in the late 1960s.

Published by Amistad/Harper Collins, “Our Secret Society” was also named the winner of the 2024 NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work Biography/Autobiography. Finalists

for the Hooks National Book Award were chosen from 49 books that were nominated for the 2023 award.

In addition to “Our Secret Society” other finalists included:

- “Food Power Politics: The Food Story of the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement” by Bobby J. Smith II (University of North Carolina Press)
- “King: A Life” by Jonathan Eig (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)
- “Multiracial Promise: Harold



Washington’s Chicago and the Democratic Struggle in Reagan’s America” by Gordon K. Mantler (University of North Carolina Press)

•“You Have to be Prepared to Die Before You Can Begin to Live: Ten Weeks in Birmingham that Changed America” by Paul Kix (Celadon Books)

In addition to Tucker, four others

are on the selection committee:

- Beverly Cross - Lillian and Morrie Moss Chair of Excellence in Urban Education, UofM
- Aram Goudsouzian - Bizot Family Professor of History, UofM
- Shatavia Wynn, assistant professor of Religious studies and Africana studies, Rhodes College
- Ladrica Menson-Furr - assis-

Historian and cultural critic Ford brings Mollie into focus as never before, charting her rise from Jim Crow Mississippi to doyenne of Manhattan and Harlem, where she became one of the most influential philanthropists of her time — a woman feared, resented, yet widely respected. Ford chronicles Mollie’s larger-than-life antics through exhaustive research, never-before-revealed letters and dozens of interviews.

tant dean UofM College of Arts & Sciences, associate professor of English, UofM

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An engrossing social history, “Our Secret Society” brilliantly illuminates a little known yet highly significant aspect of the Civil Rights Movement that has been long overlooked — the powerhouse fundraising effort that supported the movement — the luncheons, galas, cabarets and traveling exhibitions attended by middle-class and working-class Black families, the Negro press and titans of industry, including Winthrop Rockefeller.

“Like many women whose roles in the Civil Rights Movement were ignored or marginalized, Moon’s role has been rarely explored,” Tucker said. “Ford’s book recovers Moon as a central figure throughout the 20th century while expanding notions of what organizing and supporting the fight for racial justice could be.”

About Tanisha C. Ford
Tanisha C. Ford is a writer, researcher and cultural critic working at the intersection of politics and culture. She has forged an international reputation for her groundbreaking research on the history of Black style/fashion and social movements. Ford was honored as one of The Root’s 100 Most Influential African Americans. She is currently a professor of history at The Graduate Center, CUNY, where she teaches courses on African American and African diaspora history, biography and memoir, and the geopolitics of fashion. Ford lives in Harlem.

About the Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change
The Benjamin L. Hooks Institute implements its mission of teaching, studying and promoting civil rights and social change through research, education and direct intervention programs. Institute programs include community outreach; funding faculty research initiatives on community issues; implementing community service projects; hosting conferences, symposiums, and lectures; and promoting local and national scholarship on civil and human rights. The Hooks Institute is an interdisciplinary center at the University of Memphis. Contributed revenue for the Hooks Institute, including funding from individuals, corporations, and foundations, is administered through the University of Memphis Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization.

Watch for
The Mid-South Tribune’s
30th Annual Black History
Month Special Edition
in February 2025

PROMOTIONAL
SCHEDULE

NOV. 4

BLUE OUT / TOY DRIVE

NOV. 15

MILITARY APPRECIATION

DEC. 4

90'S NIGHT

DEC. 8

901 GAME

DEC. 21

HOLIDAY GAME

DEC. 28

WHITE OUT

JAN. 5

JERSEY DAY

JAN. 11

KIDS DAY

JAN. 23

00'S NIGHT / STUDENT WELCOME BACK

JAN. 26

STRIPE OUT

FEB. 5

NEON NIGHT

FEB. 9

SUPERHERO DAY

FEB. 23

BLACK OUT

FEB. 26

6TH MANE GAME

MAR. 7

SENIOR NIGHT

ONE CITY

ONE TEAM

ONE GOAL

Make Knowledge a Holiday Gift!

National Coalition of Black Veteran Organizations salutes ‘Sisters in the Service of the Nation’ in honor of Black women who served in the U.S.A. Military

By Charles Blatcher III,
Chairman
National Coalition of Black
Veteran Organizations

On the behalf of the National Coalition of Black Veteran Organizations, we cannot over-stress thanking **Tyler Perry** for shining a spotlight on the important contribution of Black Women in American Military History. We compliment the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion Association for their years of advocacy which have contributed to the belated recognition.

Lieutenant Colonel Charity Adam Early is the female equivalent of the late Buffalo Soldier - Charles Young in Black American Military History. As the highest-ranking Black Women Officer in World War II, her service paved the way for Brigadier General Hazel Johnson to become the first Black Woman general...

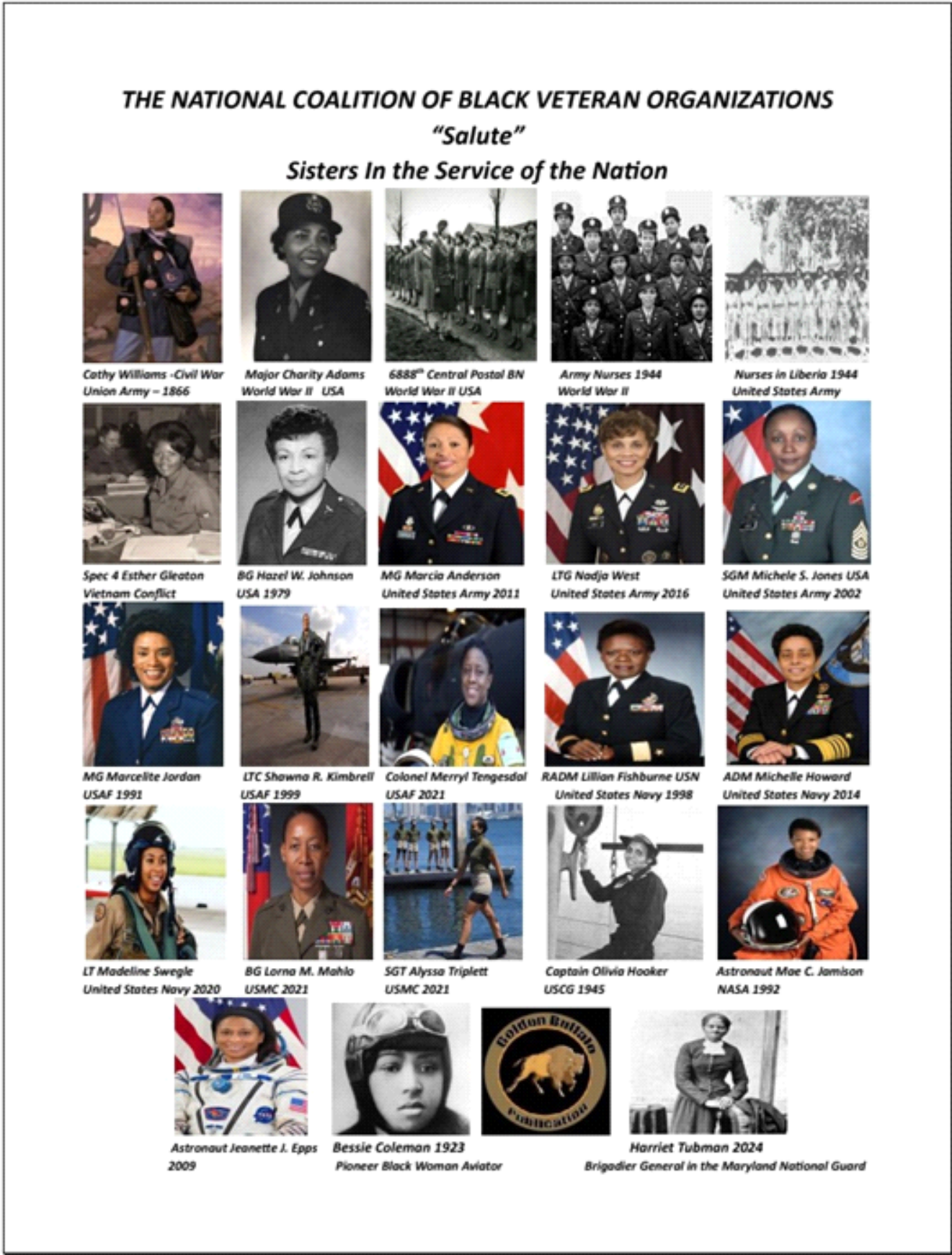
“Lieutenant Colonel Charity Adam Early is the female equivalent of the late Buffalo Soldier - Charles Young in Black American Military History. As the highest-ranking Black Women Officer in World War II, her service paved the way for Brigadier General Hazel Johnson to become the first Black Woman general...”

alent of the late Buffalo Soldier - Charles Young in Black American Military History. As the highest-ranking Black Woman Officer in World War II, her service paved the way for Brigadier General Hazel Johnson to become the first Black Women general in the United States Army and the other first that have followed.

We thank the Black Women who have served and are serving in today’s Armed Forces. We encourage the public to view the movie when it is released. We “Salute” the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion and Tyler Perry for bringing their story to the public.

Ready and forward!

For more information, contact Charles Blatcher III at cnmmmf@aol.com



Writer Julian
Borger
explores
survivors’
stories from
Holocaust thru
help of
newspaper
advertisements

From Julian Borger, esteemed Guardian World Affairs Editor and member of the Guardian team that won the 2014 Pulitzer Prize for public service journalism, comes a gripping new family memoir of grief, courage, and hope, I SEEK A KIND PERSON: My Father, Seven Children, and the Adverts that Helped Them Escape the Holocaust (Other Press Trade Paperback Original; NEW On Sale 4/15/25). This remarkable exploration of hereditary family trauma tells the hidden stories of children who escaped the Holocaust, building connections across generations and continents.

The book’s publication date is scheduled for April 15, 2025 to coincide closer to Holocaust Remembrance Day on April 24th. Borger will be on-tour in the US in late April to promote his work including an appearance at the Bronfman Center for Jewish Life at 92SY on Holocaust Remembrance Day on Thursday, April 24th.

In 1938, Jewish families are scrambling to flee Vienna. Desperate, they take out advertisements offering their children into the safe keeping of readers of a British newspaper, the Manchester Guardian. The right words in the right order could mean the difference between life and death.

83 years later, Guardian journalist Julian Borger comes across the ad that saved his father, Robert, from the Nazis. Robert had kept this a secret, like almost everything else about his traumatic Viennese childhood, until he took his own life. Drawn to the

Please see ent. page 11

‘The American Dream: An Immigrant's Story of America's First Black Tycoon’ scheduled for release in May of 2025

NEW YORK, Dec. 12, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- Hot on the heels of an election where immigration turned into a major issue, Filipino American author **Rene "Butch" Meily** comes out with a riveting tale of immigrat-

ing to the U.S. at age 23 and rising to the top of the corporate world. Meily become the public relations strategist for Reginald Lewis, America's first Black billion-dollar dealmaker.

Meily's American success story,

demonstrates that legal immigration has been a boon to the U.S. **From Manila to Wall Street: An Immigrant's Story of America's First Black Tycoon** (Heliotrope Books, May 2025), is an eye-opening business narra-

tive of American dealmaking at the end of the century when large corporations were gobbled up by outsiders with borrowed money and a wrenching love story where the protagonist does not get the girl in a time

FROM MANILA TO WALL STREET tells two stories: The first is about Reginald Lewis, a hard-charging Black businessman who bid a billion dollars in 1987 for Beatrice International, an American conglomerate with 64 food companies in 31 countries, won the auction despite the odds but died at the age of 50. FROM MANILA TO WALL STREET recounts Lewis'

Please see ent. page 11



African Burial Ground Memorial finalizes approval of Partnership Agreement with the U.S. National Park Service and the U.S. Department of the Interior

New York, NY – 12/9/2024 – The African Burial Ground Memorial Foundation (ABGMF) recently announced the official approval and finalization of its Philanthropic Partnership Agreement (PPA) with the National Park Service (NPS) and the Department of the Interior (DOI).

The partnership focuses on the preservation of the African Burial Ground National Monument story, with a commitment to supporting and promoting public awareness of the historical significance of the African Burial Ground in Lower Manhattan through grassroots-to-global educational projects and cultural events. The ABGMF and National Park Service collaboration also will serve to develop and implement programs honoring the legacy of those buried at the African Burial Ground.

This landmark agreement solidifies ABGMF’s role in furthering the mission and vision of the African Burial Ground National Monument, ensuring the preservation, education, and promotion of this significant historical site. The partnership focuses on the



preservation of the African Burial Ground National Monument story, with a commitment to supporting and promoting public awareness of the historical significance of the African Burial Ground in Lower Manhattan through grassroots-to-global educational projects and cultural events. The ABGMF and Na-

tional Park Service collaboration also will serve to develop and implement programs honoring the legacy of those buried at the African Burial Ground.

About the African Burial Ground Memorial Foundation
Founded in 2023, the African Burial Ground Memorial Foun-

dation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the history of the African Burial Ground National Monument. Through educational programs, cultural initiatives, and collaborative partnerships, ABGMF works to ensure the legacy of the African Burial Ground in Lower

Manhattan is remembered for generations to come. The founding members are Rodney Leon, President; Eddie Galadar, Secretary; Rob Fields, Treasurer; Dr. Carolyn Pautz and Edwain Faust. For more information, visit: www.abgmfoundation.org

Atlanta to host Super Bowl LXII

ATLANTA — Oct. 15, 2024 — The National Football League announced that Super Bowl LXII will be hosted in Atlanta in 2028, with the game played at Mercedes-Benz Stadium. The announcement was made at the NFL Fall League Meeting in Atlanta following a review of the proposal by the NFL’s Fan Engagement & Major Events Committee and a vote by full ownership. “Renowned for its hospitality and rich sports and entertainment culture, Atlanta is a world-class event destination and a natural fit for Super Bowl 62,” said NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell. “Arthur Blank has been a transformative figure in the Atlanta community, playing a crucial role in leading the bid to bring the Super Bowl back to the city. I have been fortunate to witness firsthand how Arthur continues to drive community engagement and economic development in the Atlanta community through his unwavering commitment to sports and philanthropy. We look forward to working with him, the Atlanta Falcons, Atlanta Sports Council and all of our partners on the ground to create an unforgettable experience for fans around the world in 2028.” Super Bowl LXII marks the fourth time Atlanta has hosted the Big Game and the second

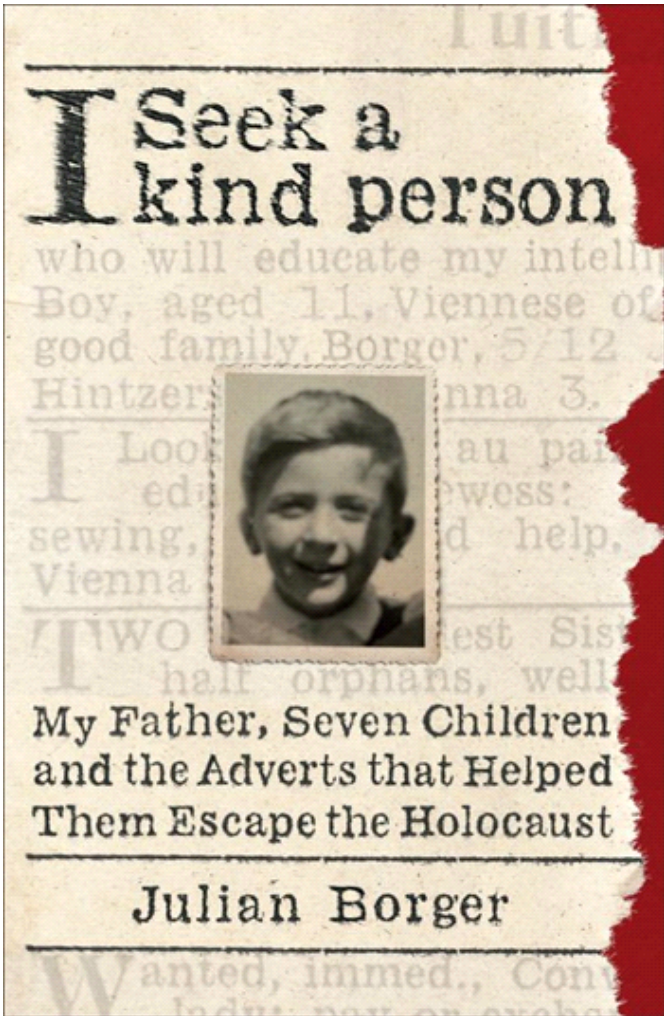
Please ent. page 12

Writer Julian Borger explores survivors’ stories from Holocaust thru help of newspaper advertisements... from ent. page 10

shadows of his family’s past and starting with nothing but a page of newspaper ads, Borger traces the remarkable stories of his father, the other advertised children, and their families, each thrown into the maelstrom of a world at war.

From a Viennese radio shop to the Shanghai ghetto, internment camps and family homes across Britain, the deep forests and concentration camps of Nazi Germany, smugglers saving Jewish lives in Holland, an improbable French Resistance cell, and a redemptive story of survival in New York, Borger unearths the astonishing journeys of the children at the hands of fate, their stories of trauma and the kindness of strangers.

Additional Praise for Julian Borger (The Butcher’s Trail): “[A] vivid, page-turning account...A well-organized, deeply researched work that ably digests the Balkan war, the criminals, the criminal court, and its leg-



acy.” —KIRKUS REVIEWS (starred review)

“In The Butcher’s Trail, the riveting and important history of the international manhunt for 161 Balkan war criminals... Julian Borger describes the moment investigators tracked down Radovan Karadzic, the leader of the early 1990s genocide against Bosnia’s Muslims... With atrocities committed daily in Syria and elsewhere around the world, and the U.N. and its allies grappling with which of their core values to adhere to against the asymmetric threat of transnational terrorism, the hope of future international justice for war crimes may seem distant. But it is not impossible that major powers may find international judicial tribunals are more an ally than an enemy in the fight against the threats that have developed in the post-Cold War period. If they do, Borger makes clear The Hague tribunal’s efforts to bring Karadzic and other war criminals to justice

will have set the high water mark against which future efforts at justice will be measured.” —TIME

“The genocidal crimes of the 1990s Balkan wars stunned the world, mass killings, concentration camps, systematic rape. Many, but by no means all of the perpetrators were the majority Serbs, starting with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic. The U.N. set up an international tribunal to investigate and indict some 161 people it found most responsible. The challenge was to actually apprehend them. How they did so is captured in a gripping new book by Julian Borger, longtime correspondent and editor at The Guardian newspaper, titled The Butcher’s Trail: How the Search for Balkan War Criminals Became the World’s Most Successful Manhunt... What’s really, truly groundbreaking about this book is what it took to apprehend them.” —PBS NEWSHOUR

“Gripping.” —THE INDEPENDENT

“Well researched...timely.” —WALL STREET JOURNAL

“What Julian Borger has achieved in this superb account of the tribunal’s manhunt is much more than a litany of these crimes. It is an elegantly written, powerfully convincing reckoning of how the world stumblingly faced up to a reality that should not have been: war crimes in modern Europe. He focuses on the manhunt as a single thread in the complex Balkan story, partly as a way to reveal how that region influences our wider world today, through rendition, jihad – and the delicate flower of international law... Borger is honest about the muddles and misunderstandings. He recounts America’s early muscle-bound efforts to go after targets... The early snatch operations – target cars being rammed from behind and pushed into pre-arranged ambush positions – provide great military theatre, but Borger shows how the greatest scalps for the tribunal were won through diplomatic finesse: the moderate leaders of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia were told that a pre-condition of those tiny new nations being welcomed as equals by the international community was the surrender of war crimes suspects.” —THE GUARDIAN (US)

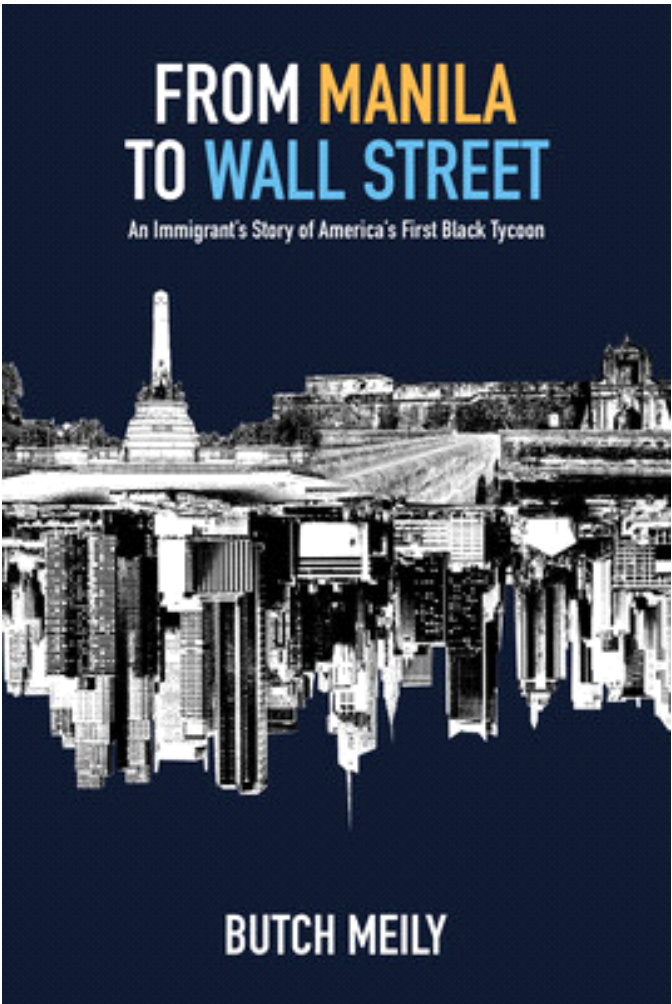
A Story of America's First Black Tycoon’ from ent. page 10

“From Manila to Wall Street” “ tells two stories: The first is about Reginald Lewis, a hard-charging Black businessman who bid a billion dollars in 1987 for Beatrice International, an American conglomerate with 64 food companies in 31 countries, won the auction despite the odds but died at the age of 50.

struggle to reach the top, only to see his attempt to become the first African American-controlled company listed on the New York Stock Exchange fail and his Hamptons mansion burn to the ground. The second story is that of a young Filipino immigrant at Lewis’ side. Meily reaches the top of corporate public relations in New York, making a million

dollars in one year, only to discover after his wife leaves him that power, glory and riches can bring loneliness and isolation. Meily began his relationship with Lewis as an employee and became his closest advisor and first-hand witness to the tormented, solitary man behind the image of a wildly successful takeover king.

Both outsiders were willing to pay any price to achieve the American Dream, only for Meily to discover in the end, that the true meaning of life lies in helping others. After his return to the Philippines, Meily finds himself leading a disaster foundation that battles super typhoons and war. "Butch's memoir promises to make its mark doing double-duty as a history of both a Black American and a Filipino-American who dared to dream the American dream," says Naomi Rosenblatt, Heliotrope Book's founder and publisher. "We feel privileged to be publishing it."



The Mid-South Tribune celebrates its 30th Annual Black History Month Special Edition in February 2025! Email your calendar and special events to:

MSTnews@prodigy.net or BlackInfoHwy@prodigy.net or MSTentertainment@prodigy.net

It’s about ‘Economics, Education, Entrepreneurship’—not DEI!

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Santa should recruit my wife to organize his Christmas

By Dr. James L. Snyder

Working in my office the other morning, I heard some rattling noises on the other side of the house. Being as busy as I was, I didn't take the time to find out what that noise was all about. When I'm working on a project, I like to stay on the project.

It was around lunchtime, and I was still hearing that noise. I decided to go into the kitchen and see what we were having for lunch, and as I did so, I noticed The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage was in the living room setting up our Christmas tree.

She does this every year and is very good at it. Each year, she gets a new Jingle Bell and puts it near the top of the tree.

If Santa Claus was real (and I do not believe what my parents said about him), he would immediately recruit her to organize his Christmas. She could make his job so much easier.

I'm sure Santa Claus would be very grateful for all the work she could do for him. Of course, he would have to listen to her and

I'm sure Santa Claus would be very grateful for all the work she could do for him. Of course, he would have to listen to her and do exactly what she says, or we would probably never see Santa Claus again.

do exactly what she says, or we would probably never see Santa Claus again.

I think he is so old that he would listen to her and do exactly what she says because he has done this work so long that he's just about worn out.

Sometimes, I think it would be really nice if there was a Santa Claus. Every year my parents would take me downtown where Santa Claus was, and I would sit on Santa's lap and tell him what I wanted for Christmas. I assured him I was a very good boy during the year.

The older I got the more suspicious I got of this man called

Santa Claus. If he was real, he sure wasn't real to me.

Every year, as far as I can remember, I sat on his lap and told him that I wanted a pony for Christmas and nothing more. He always went through his "ho ho ho" act and I believed he was going to do it for me.

I remember getting up on Christmas day and running into the living room, where my parents had their Christmas tree surrounded by all the Christmas gifts. I looked around the tree then I got up and went to the back porch, looked out, and shouted to my parents, "Where is he? I can't see him."

Of course, my parents would say, "What you're talking about," and I always responded by saying, "Santa Claus promised me that he was going to bring me a pony. Now, where is that pony?"

The older I got, the more sophisticated my parents' response to that question was. Usually, it was something like, "Santa might have run out of ponies this year,

so you'll have to wait until next year, and I'm sure he'll bring one next year."

Christmas went by, and another Christmas went by, and another Christmas went by, and there was no sign of any pony with my name on it.

My parents were rather disappointed when I discovered that they had been lying to me all these years and there was no such thing as a Santa Claus. Santa Claus was just a character somebody made up.

I remember the last time I sat on Santa Claus's lap, I was 12 years old. By the time the next Christmas came around, I had turned 13, and I was now a teenager. As a teenager, I knew everything, and nobody could talk to me about anything.

I remember the conversation I had with my parents. I explained to them that there is no such thing as a Santa Claus, and then I asked them why they had lied

to me all those years.

"I'm sorry, son," my mother said. "Everyone was saying that, so we joined the crowd. We just wanted you to have a wonderful Christmas."

So Santa Claus is not a real person. If he were, why do I have to spend so much money on Christmas presents?

I was thinking about this as I was eating lunch. There, the Christmas tree was in the process of being put together for Christmas. One of the routines at Christmas time was to buy a brand-new jingle Bell, usually at her favorite thrift store. As I was looking at the Christmas tree, I noticed there was a space near the top of the tree, but no jingle bell.

I looked at my wife and said, "My Dear, where is the new jingle Bell and why is there a big space on top of the Christmas tree?"

"I guess you never pay attention

to what's going on around here, do you?" Then she laughed a good, merry laugh. "I cannot put the new jingle Bell on until the night before Christmas. That has been our tradition for many years, in case you haven't noticed. That space near the top of the tree is where the new jingle Bell goes this year."

I sure do love it when a plan comes together, even if it's not my plan.

A verse of scripture came to mind, 2 Thessalonians 2:15, "Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle."

Traditions are important, especially those grounded on the Word of God.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail james-snyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamessnyderministries.com

Old Crow Medicine Show celebrates 25th Anniversary with NPR Tiny Desk Concert then begins 2025 Tour

First-Ever Vinyl Release of Their Debut Album O.C.M.S. Remastered by David Rawlings now available

2x GRAMMY-Winning Band Announces 2025 Tour

December 4, 2024 – During the week of December 4, two-time GRAMMY-winning band Old Crow Medicine Show celebrate the grand finale of their 25th anniversary festivities with their NPR Tiny Desk Concert debut and the first-ever vinyl release of their debut album O.C.M.S. this Friday via Acony Records. For their first appearance at NPR's Tiny Desk, the band kicked off their set with a raucous performance of their recently certified 3x Platinum hit "Wagon Wheel," followed by "O Cumberland River" from their 2014 GRAMMY-winning Remedy, and "Wolfman of the Ozarks" and "One Drop" from their GRAMMY-nominated 2024 album Jubilee.

Old Crow Medicine Show also announced their 2025 Circle The Wagons Tour, which kicks off on March 13 in Evansville, IN, and will make stops across the midwest and from Florida up the east coast. Last month, the band announced support for their annual New Year's Eve shows at Nashville's Ryman Auditorium, with The Kentucky Headhunters and Steve Poltz performing on December 30 and Maggie Rose and Big Richard on December 31. Find a full list of tour dates below, or visit their website.

Celebrating 20 years of their acclaimed self-titled debut album, O.C.M.S. has been remastered from the original analog tapes by its original producer David Rawlings and will be available for the first time on audiophile quality vinyl through his label Acony Records. Featuring some of the band's most enduring



Old Crow Medicine Show Grammy Award-winning band members: L-R: Ketch Secor, Cory Younts, Dante’ Pope, Mike Harris, PJ George, and Morgan Jahning. (Photo Credit: Chris Wood)

songs including "Wagon Wheel," O.C.M.S. is presented in a deluxe gatefold package releasing this Friday, December 6. A pre-order offer with a limited edition commemorative anniversary poster and "Wagon Wheel" merch discount is available now. Over the last month, the band has released remastered music videos for the O.C.M.S. classics "Wagon Wheel" and "Tell It To Me."

"It's hard to believe that more than two decades have passed since David Rawlings invited the Wild Bunch from Old Crow Medicine Show to enter two historic recording studios to start work on what would become our breakthrough album, O.C.M.S.," says frontman Ketch Secor. "This album introduced our band and our rollicking punk-rock string

band style to the world. All these years later, we're so proud to be sharing this music as it was originally intended, with the care and fidelity that only David Rawlings could muster."

"The sessions for O.C.M.S. were an electrifying tour through the heart of American music," Rawlings adds. "Newly composed masterpieces sat comfortably alongside classics, all performed by a truly perfect five piece band with a line-up that was in equal parts ragtag and virtuosic. The doubters at the time who thought the music was too raw and unvarnished are long gone, and they have been replaced by a legion of musicians who testify that this record changed their lives and shaped their art. Revisiting these storm-tested tapes now is like

using a time machine. The sound is as high fidelity and vital as the day it was recorded. Capturing this pivotal moment in music was one of the high water marks of my life, and releasing this Acony pressing realizes a decades long dream."

The band is currently in the midst of their 2024 Jubilee Tour, which celebrates their 25-year anniversary as well as the release of their GRAMMY-nominated album of the same name. Last year, Secor spoke with Rolling Stone and NPR's Here & Now about the band's latest album and shared more insight into their activism. Earlier this fall, the group announced a milestone achievement as they regained ownership of the masters of their first three albums, O.C.M.S., Big Iron

World, and Tennessee Pusher.

Old Crow Medicine Show Tour Dates:

December 30 – Nashville, TN @ Ryman Auditorium w/ The Kentucky Headhunters & Steve Poltz

December 31 – Nashville, TN @ Ryman Auditorium w/ Maggie Rose and Big Richard

January 31 – Meridian, MS @ MSU Riley Center

February 22-28 – Miami, FL @ Outlaw Country Cruise 9

March 13 – Evansville, IN @ Old National Events Plaza

March 14 – Shipshewana, IN @ Blue Gate PAC

March 15 – Waukegan, IL @ Genesee Theatre

March 23 – Cullowhee, NC @ Ramsey Center at Western Carolina University

March 26 – Beaver Creek, CO

@ Vilar Performing Arts Center

March 27 – Pueblo, CO @ Pueblo Memorial Hall

March 28 – Aspen, CO @ Belly Up Aspen

April 7 – West Palm Beach, FL @ Dreyfoos Hall at Kravis Center for the Performing Arts

April 8 – Jacksonville, FL @ Florida Theatre

April 9 – Clearwater, FL @ Ruth Eckerd Hall

April 11 – Fairhope, AL @ Halstead Amphitheater

April 23 – Morristown, NJ @ Mayo Performing Arts Center

April 24 – Patchogue, NY @ Patchogue Theatre

April 25 – Great Barrington, MA @ Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center

April 26 – Groton, MA @ Concert Hall at Groton Hill Music Center

April 27 – Portsmouth, NH @ The Music Hall

May 6 – Geneva, NY @ Smith Opera House

May 7 – Ridgefield, CT @ Ridgefield Playhouse

May 8 – Medford, MA @ Chevalier Theatre

May 9 – Lancaster, PA @ American Music Theatre

O.C.M.S. tracklist:

SIDE A

1) Tell It To Me

2) Big Time In The Jungle

3) Poor Man

4) Tear It Down

5) Hard To Love

6) CC Rider

SIDE B

7) Trials & Troubles

8) Hard To Tell

9) Take 'em Away

10) We're All In This Together

11) Wagon Wheel

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Atlanta, Georgia to host NFL Super Bowl LXII ... from ent. page 11

time at Mercedes-Benz Stadium, with the most recent game hosted in 2019.

"This is a tremendous honor for the city of Atlanta and the state of Georgia to be selected as host for Super Bowl LXII," said Atlanta Falcons Owner and Chairman Arthur M. Blank. "Thank you to my fellow owners for their trust in awarding Atlanta this opportunity, and thank you to Commissioner Goodell, Peter O'Reilly and the entire league for their

continued leadership in making the NFL the greatest sports league in the world. Mercedes-Benz Stadium was built to host the world's largest sporting events, and I know I speak for many when I say we are honored to bring it back to Atlanta in 2028 and build off the success of Super Bowl LIII in 2019. I look forward to working alongside our city and state officials as we continue to elevate Georgia as a premier, global sports destina-

tion."

As part of the lead-up to Super Bowl LXII, Atlanta will host a highly anticipated lineup of events, including NFL Honors, Super Bowl Experience, Super Bowl Opening Night and an expansive community program. Spanning the Atlanta metropolitan area, these events will offer countless opportunities for both residents and visitors to enjoy memorable, family-friendly experiences ahead of the Big

Game.

"We are thrilled to welcome the Super Bowl back to Atlanta in 2028 for a fourth time," said Dan Corso, president, Atlanta Sports Council and Atlanta Super Bowl Bid Committee. "As we made clear throughout the process, no city is better positioned than Atlanta to host events of this magnitude. Super Bowl LXII would not be possible without the incredible cooperation of leaders in the civic and business com-

munity who continue to come together to deliver for our city and state."

On Location, the Official Hospitality Partner of the NFL, today launched its Priority Access deposit program for Super Bowl LXII hospitality packages, offering fans the first opportunity to guarantee seats to the game. On Location's packages include premium seating options, world-class hospitality service,

high-end food and beverage offerings, exclusive entertainment and one-of-a-kind experiences that will create lasting memories. A fully refundable, time-stamped Priority Access deposit assures fans their first choice of Super Bowl LXII tickets and bespoke experiences.

To learn more or place a deposit, visit OnLocationExp.com/SuperBowlLXII or call 1-877-373-5062.