



PRESTANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO 585
SAN DIEGO, CA

The San Diego Voice & Viewpoint

50¢
Plus Tax

"People Without a Voice Cannot be Heard"

Vol. 51 No. 39

Serving San Diego County's African & African American Communities

Thursday August 4, 2011

www.sdvoice.info



SPORTS C1

106th & Park - Blaze the Stage

Many children in our community are blessed with the ability to express themselves musically. Whether they choose to pursue a career in medicine, law, technology or entertainment, one commonality...

See Stage on A8



The Shelia Jackson Residency Issue

See Editorial on A3



Women's Multicultural Business Showcase

See Showcase on B1



Southeast Relay for Life

See Relay on B1

Black & Missing: Serving the Community of Color Missing Persons

By Kimetha Hill
Staff Writer

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

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

"Our focus and goal is to provide an even playing field for all missing persons. We do not turn away any cases and we are not trying to dishonor the national community, but we feel that equal representation is important," Natalie emphasized. "We want to reunite and provide closure for families."

A non-profit organization based out of Baltimore, Maryland, the Black & Missing Foundation was founded by President, Derrica Wilson and Natalie Wilson, Director of Public Relations. Derrica and Natalie Wilson explained the purpose and need for the foundation,

"We felt missing persons of color were not getting the exposure that their White counterparts were receiving. The foundation was founded in May of 2008, a short time after the Natalee Holloway case was garnered so much national attention. Simultaneously, there was a young Black woman, Tamika Huston, who went missing in Spartanburg, South Carolina. While Natalee Holloway's story flooded the news, the family of Tamika Huston struggled to garner media attention."

Sadly, this story is far too common as at that time missing persons of color represented around 30% of all missing persons cases. However, White missing persons were disproportionately shown across media channels, while people of color were rarely, if ever, given any media exposure.

"Research shows that missing persons of color embody about 40% of all missing persons cases, though that number is rising," cited Derrica.

The media plays a large role in attention given to cases of missing persons and Derrica and Natalie shared insight on the disparity between cases of Caucasians who go missing as compared to cases of people of color,

"There needs to be more diversity in newsroom. Diversity can give precedence into what stories are exposed and the level of exposure. As well, the police department

See Missing on C6

THE OFFENSIVE MEXICAN SIGNAGE OF MEMIN PINGUIN



By Dr. John E. Warren
Publisher

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

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

See Sinage on C6

Rosa Parks Essay Reveals Rape Attempt



Associated Press

Long before Rosa Parks rose to fame for her role in the civil rights movement, she wrote a detailed account of her attempted rape by a white neighbor who employed her as a housekeeper in 1931, the Associated Press reports:

The six-page essay, written in her own hand many years after the incident, is among thousands of her personal items currently residing in the Manhattan warehouse and cramped offices of Guernsey's Auctioneers, which has been selected by a Michigan court to find an institution to buy and preserve the complete archive.

The Associated Press was provided with some samples of the documents in the archive, including portions of the essay. Archivists had reviewed the documents for Guernsey's and provided descriptions of their contents.

Civil rights historian Danielle McGuire said she had never before heard of the attempted rape of Parks and called the find among Parks' papers astounding.

It helps explain what triggered Parks' lifelong campaign against the ritualistic rape of black

See Parks on C6

Subscribe Now



Follow us on Facebook and add us to your friends list



Visit us at sdvoice.info



