

THE SkannerChallenging People to Shape
a Better Future NowBernie Foster
Founder/PublisherBobbie Dore Foster
Executive EditorJerry Foster
Advertising ManagerChristen McCurdy
News EditorPatricia Irvin
Graphic DesignerArashi Young
ReporterMonica J. Foster
Seattle Office CoordinatorSusan Fried
Photographer

The Skanner Newspaper, established in October 1975, is a weekly publication, published every Wednesday by IMM Publications Inc.

415 N. Killingsworth St.
P.O. Box 5455
Portland, OR 97228Telephone (503) 285-5555
Fax: (503) 285-2900

info@theskanner.com

www.TheSkanner.com

The Skanner is a member of the National Newspaper Publishers Association and West Coast Black Publishers Association.

All photos submitted become the property of *The Skanner*. We are not responsible for lost or damaged photos either solicited or unsolicited.

©2016 The Skanner. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission prohibited.

THE Skanner.com

Local News
Pacific NW News
World News
Opinions
Jobs, Bids
Entertainment
Community Calendar
RSS feeds

**BE A PART
OF THE
CONVERSATION**
#SkNews

Opinion

DeRay's Mayoral Bid a Victory for Black Lives Matter

Black Lives Matter activist DeRay Mckesson deserves high props. The young man used his activism as a platform to run for Mayor of Baltimore, and he placed better than expected in the April 26 election. Initially projected to get just one percent of the votes, he ended up with two percent, or 3077 votes.

That's a miniscule number when compared to the more than 45,000 votes garnered by State Senator Catherine Pugh, the winner with 37 percent of the votes, or with the 42,000 plus votes (34 percent) scored by her key challenger, former Mayor Sheila Dixon. Mckesson placed sixth, which isn't bad for someone who entered the race last (in February) and without prior political experience. He is to be congratulated, and encouraged to continue participating in electoral politics.

Social change happens from both inside and outside. Inside, legislators and leaders make public policy that heralds change, albeit slowly and imperfectly. On the other hand, from the outside, people can yell, scream, march, write, and influence.

The Black Lives Matter folks have been instrumental in this Presidential campaign



Julianne Malveaux

NNPA
Columnist

in forcing Democrats Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders to deal with race in ways they might not have. Neither of them has gone far enough, although both have conceded some attention to reparations issues, and talked more explicitly about racial economic

“Social change happens from both inside and outside

justice.

Mckesson says he “challenged the status quo of Baltimore’s politics,” and in many ways he did. He and his team took the pain of the Freddie Gray murder and turned it into the power of a galvanizing campaign. His scant 3,077 votes (with 99 percent of the votes counted) underestimate the impact of his race in that his race is empowering for other young people. Especially young people who are considering electoral politics, and his race establishes

him as a meaningful voice in Baltimore politics. Presumptive Mayor Catherine Pugh should figure out a way to use his talents (perhaps on the Police Commission) as Baltimore continues to heal.

“While we did not win tonight, what we did was very important, and I want you to be as proud of our work together as I am,” Mckesson wrote to his supporters. “We did something very special, and it sets the table for what else is possible.” Almost anything is possible for Mckesson and the Black Lives Mat-

postracialism is insufficient to quell structural and persistent anti-black violence.

Hopefully Mckesson will not be the last Black Lives Matter activist to involve himself in electoral politics. This 2016 Presidential season has been great in illustrating some of the shortcomings of our electoral system, but also some of its strengths. That Bernie Sanders could enter a race with just a 3 percent approval rating and amass a war chest \$27 at a time is amazing. That he could seriously rival the presumptive front-runner and push her agenda to the left is commendable.

That DeRay Mckesson could go from outside agitator to inside candidate is a measure of what is possible. Imagine what would happen if there were more voter participation and if more people understood how we could accomplish so much more by working inside and outside of the political system.

Julianne Malveaux is an author, economist and Founder of Economic Education. Her latest book “Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy” is available to order at www.juliannemalveaux.com. Follow her on Twitter @drjlastword.

The Battle Over Paisley Park is Going to Be One Big Mess

Perhaps one of the greatest entertainers of all time suddenly left us April 21. Kay and I were on a plane heading to Los Angeles when it came across the screen. I was in shock and it wasn't but a few minutes before tears came into my eyes. This guy was supposed to live many more years. But nothing in life is guaranteed.

It was clear to everyone in the music business: Prince was a genius. He left this earth with thousands of unreleased songs in “the vault.” That will become one of the many “crystal balls” that will come into play while family members try to figure out just how much money and value he has left. Since his death over 4 million albums have been sold. On the same day as his death 239,000 albums were sold and over 1.034 million song downloads were tracked by Nielsen. His estate is growing larger and larger by the day.

How do we total it? It is a moving target and the courts, IRS and countless attorneys will be tussling with this big behemoth for years to come.

First off, there doesn't appear to be a will. Prince has one full sibling — his sister, Tyka, who is stepping up to help get a handle on this sit-



Harry C. Alford

NNPA
Columnist

uation. There are three half siblings one his father's side from after the divorce of his parents. His mother, likewise, produced three half siblings.

Right now, they all seem to be talking to each other and

“[Prince's] catalogue will be almost priceless — especially with the thousands of songs they have yet to release

have not “lawyered up.” Tyka has employed a reputable attorney and has agreed to Bremer Trust Bank to manage the estate funds. Prince had used them for his financial affairs so that makes something consistent here.

Then there will soon be a bunch of “baby mamas” claiming to have delivered a child of Prince's. DNA tests will become an ongoing thing.

If one hits that will throw another monkey wrench in the process of dividing up the estate that is at least worth over \$500 million and is

growing day to day. His assets such as his recording studio/mansion Paisley Park are appreciating assets. The whole compound may become a tourist attraction the same way “Graceland” for the Elvis Presley estate, which delivers millions of dollars to the Presley estate each year.

His catalogue will be almost priceless — especially with the thousands of songs they have yet to release. This will be the key to all interested parties. Let me make this

thropic, but he kept his donations a very big secret. Will those entities, who have been quietly and consistently receiving funding start speaking out and claiming a piece of the future growth? Who will have the authority to declare the price on “name and image?” Michael Jackson's estate has much activity, between Michael's mother and the IRS. Sometimes they are miles apart on each assessment. Keep in mind, Michael had a very thorough will, but debate still lives in the matter of his estate.

Get ready. The saga of the Prince estate will become historic. Maybe as they drill holes into the stored vault in his recording studio an authentic will may come to light. I doubt it. It was just Prince's style to be mysterious and cause a little “Controversy,” as documented in one of his first hits.

I envision Prince going before St. Peter and shouting, “Baby, you're much too fast.”

Harry Alford is the president, CEO and co-founder of the National Black Chamber of Commerce® (NBCC). For more information about the NBCC, visit <http://www.nationalbcc.org> or e-mail Harry at halford@nationalbcc.org.

clear: the most interested and consistent party will be the Internal Revenue Service. The federal estate tax will clock about 40 percent of all perceived value and the state of Minnesota will come in and snatch another 16 percent. Yes, the government will be a very active “partner” claiming value and assessing taxes every step along the way of settling the estate of Prince Rogers Nelson. There will be many skirmishes in the courts as different parties will have different assessments.

Prince was very philan-