

UPTOWN STANDARD

JUNE 2020

FREE

CHERELLE PARKER INTRODUCES HISTORIC RESOLUTION THAT COULD END STOP AND FRISK IN PHILADELPHIA



When Philadelphians vote in November, whether it be through mail-in ballots, or at the polls, we will have the chance to finally put an end to the unconstitutional stop and frisk in our city. Councilwoman Cherelle Parker's (9th District) resolution will put a question on the ballot stating as follows: "Shall The Philadelphia Home Rule Charter be

amended to call on the Police Department to eliminate the practice of unconstitutional stop and frisk, consistent with judicial precedent, meaning an officer must have reasonable suspicion that a person is engaged in criminal activity in order to stop that person, and, therefore, an officer cannot stop someone unlawfully because of their

race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, religious affiliation or expression, or other protected characteristic?" When councilwoman Parker introduced this resolution in January she said, "Never before have Philadelphia voters had a chance to formally voice their opinion on this very important and much-debated practice. Now is the perfect time."

There have been countless research studies that prove stop and frisk does not lower crime as it was originally thought. In 2016, New York city largely stopped using stop and frisk and saw their crime rate continue to drop. "While this is a complex issue, with decades of federal and state case law differentiating between constitutional and unconstitutional stops, I believe Philadelphia residents are ready to have a conversation about this subject and collectively share their opinion. Biased application of the law only serves to erode community trust, which ultimately makes it harder for law enforcement to do their jobs." Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner has had a rough relationship with the police department since being elected DA, he had this to say about the resolution. "As prosecutors, we see the destructive effects of illegal stop and frisk every day, whether it's when a violent crime goes unsolved because of a lack of community trust in police, when a

young person turns away from a career in law enforcement after being humiliated in an illegal stop and frisk, when a judge dismisses an otherwise strong case because key witnesses are too frightened to testify, or when key evidence is suppressed because it was obtained during an illegal stop and frisk. The people who elected me in historic numbers three years ago reject the lie that they can have safety, or they can have freedom, but they cannot have both."

When all of Philadelphia goes to the polls in November, there will be many big races to decide on, but none may be as important as the resolution introduced by councilwoman Parker.

As a city, it is far past the time we let our voices be heard loud and clear on this subject debated throughout the country for years. For the sake of generations to come, we must get it right.

By Brandon Brown
Photo Curtsey of Phlcouncil.com



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PHILLY FOOTBALL MAKING A DIFFERENCE BEYOND THE FIELD



“Our goal is to utilize the platform offered from sports to cultivate youth change makers. As Frederick Douglas said, “It’s easier to build strong children than repair broken men.””

The words you see above were stated graciously by former Imhotep High School football coach Nick Lincoln. Lincoln, with the help of Philadelphia Cease-

fire, is spearheading the youth led leadership council Beyond the Field, where young men throughout the city meet weekly using football as a way to try to bridge the gap and curb the violence in Philadelphia communities.

“Our first Zoom meeting was with as many Philadelphia coaches as we could get on the call, as well as ODAAP, or, Open Door Abuse Awareness and Prevention, a nonprofit youth domestic violence prevention program started in 2014, and the Philadelphia Eagles community engagement wing.” Coach Lincoln went on to say after that first meeting, they came up

with the idea to invite local captains from city area high school football teams to get a better understanding of the youth perspective on violence in the community. “It was in that call that Beyond the Field was born.

Since then, the group has invited the entire public, and catholic league coaches, as well as coaches from the region with the help of the Philadelphia Eagles. So far, they’ve seen coaches from Camden NJ, Pittsburgh, and about 15 young men representing 12 schools throughout Philadelphia join them, a number continuing to grow with each weekly meeting.

When asked about actions they plan to take to help stop the violence, Lincoln stated, “we just have given our young men the direction to develop programming. We really want Beyond the Field to be led by the voice of youth. Some ideas from the meeting so far some sort of symbolism in our games or uniforms regarding unity against violence, a youth apprentice program, as well as job fairs for all schools, and community days with youth football programs.”

Last week, Philly local and Philadelphia Eagle Will Parks joined the zoom meeting and spoke to players and coaches about how they each can make a difference

in their communities by doing their parts to help stop the violence. “I’d like to continue to connect with our Philadelphia stars who have reached the heights of the NFL, as well as the leaders on all levels of college football though our mentorship program. We then want to lead our young men to become beacons in their own communities with the youth. Our young men are engaged, intelligent, and poised to bring about real change. Expect it from Beyond the Field.”

With the current climate of our city and country, the Philadelphia youth need an outlet to go and express their feelings and emotions. Beyond the Field gives them just that, thankfully we have Coach Nick Lincoln, Philadelphia Ceasefire, the ODAAP, and all the other coaches and players committed to making a difference in our communities and to making a better life for our youth.

To get involved visit Beyond the field on Instagram
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email coachlinc@gmail.com

By Brandon Brown
Photo Courtesy of
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MARTIN LUTHER KING ATHLETIC DIRECTOR REGINA JOHNSON CONTINUES TO GROW MLK'S ATHLETIC PROGRAMS



Many words come to mind when you think of the feelings that been left by the empty hallways, classrooms, and fields at Martin Luther King High School. No graduation, no prom, no season. Amidst the many feelings of disappointment a word that many haven't use is "opportunity".

First year athletic director and educator Regina Johnson says, amid disappointment a chance to "view things differently," still exist. Johnson who was also a well-rounded athlete in her youth, has a vision for how athletics should look at

MLK. "The school could be one of the top athletic programs in Philadelphia," says Johnson, "we are also working to introduce new opportunities to student-athletes. Under Johnson the school has look to add sports such as Field Hockey and Tennis, while thoughts have been put into also adding Boys Volleyball, and both girls and boys lacrosse.

A connection to the community is also in the works as Johnson also serves as the Director of the Healthy kids running series for the West Oak Lane area. Healthy kids is an event that invites Pre-

K to 8th grade a chance to run and exercise in a safe environment and also boost the importance of exercise. Many times current and former Cougar athletes serve as volunteers for the event.

Johnson who also serves as the Head of Field Hockey for District 12 admits it was "a struggle," when the school first offered Field Hockey. "It was difficult at first, but by using track and field girls and selling it as a way to stay in shape for the season, it opened the door for a new sport and an opportunity for many Lady Cougars!" The hope for Johnson is that she can continue to help the surround-

ing middle school teams to encourage to promote Field Hockey to continue to make the High School program more competitive.

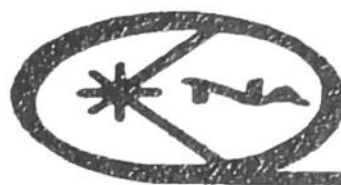
Johnson who says she was "influenced" by both Rodd McCuen and Ms. Schaffer her former athletic directors, says their balance of equality is what fuels her vision in her current role at the school. "They treated girls' athletics as equals." Johnson who wants Football and Basketball to be just as important as Volleyball and Tennis in her program.

While it seems that athletics looks to be trending upward for the students at MLK, the

suspension of spring sports amid the COVID-19 virus weighs heavy on the minds of many, especially the class of 2020.

"There are always opportunities to learn," a reminder that hangs above Johnson's desk in her office. "You can use this as a learning experience both on the field and beyond." Coach Johnson offers her heartfelt thoughts to the seniors, who missed their final spring season to "compete." "That opportunity to compete awaits them wherever they may go."

By Andre Brown
Correspondent



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REP. RABB INTRODUCES RESOLUTION TO HONOR LIFE, LEGACY OF ONA JUDGE



Ona Judge was a woman who dared to be free — even if it meant fleeing enslavement from George and Martha Washington, our nation's idyllic first couple.

More than 170 years after her death, and more than 220 years after she left Pennsylvania, Ona Maria Judge Staines, remains one the most courageous people

to ever live in Pennsylvania, although she was never formally a resident of the state. She was brought to the city of Philadelphia as an enslaved maid to George and Martha Washington. But the Washingtons were careful to not keep her in Pennsylvania for more than six months at a time, lest she establish a legal residency, which would have freed her from enslavement under Pennsylvania law, according to MountVernon.org. Ona Maria Judge Staines is one of the most understudied fugitives from slavery in America who, at the age of 22, literally stole herself from the Washingtons.

On May 21, 1796, while the household of Washington's Philadelphia mansion was preparing to travel to Mount Vernon for the summer, Ona Maria Judge Staines walked out of the house while the family was eating dinner. She boarded a ship to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and she lived the remainder of her life in New Hampshire, free but a fugitive. When she died in New Hampshire on Feb. 25, 1848 at the age of 75, she was legally the property of George Washington's step-grandchild. Ona Maria Judge Staines forced the first president of the United States to show his slave-catching hand.

Her story is significant for it reminds us of the untold number of Africans who were kidnapped, tortured and faced the degradation of the auction block. She was caught in that web of human trafficking and, like millions of others, she survived. She was a woman who found the courage to defy the President of the United States; the wit to find allies, escape, run and survive. Her story is the only existing account of a fugitive once held by the Washingtons. Although she was forced to live as a fugitive for nearly 50 years in New Hampshire, this brave woman told her story to two aboli-

tionist newspapers. Her life reminds us of the power of protest and the never-ending search for liberty, and exposes the sting of slavery and the drive of defiance. Ona Maria Judge Staines fought for what she believed to be her right: Freedom. She is an American hero; an enslaved girl born at Mount Vernon who, once exposed to Black Freedom in Pennsylvania, was compelled to pursue it at any cost. She must never be forgotten.

*Story/Photo Courtesy of
State Rep. Chris Rabb
Office*



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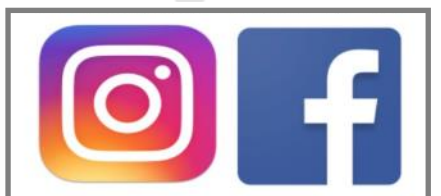
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HOW TO MAKE MONEY OR JUST MAINTAIN IN THIS CRISIS



It's too much going on right now. 40 million people- yes 40,000,000 are out of work in the USA. In China its over 80 Million unemployed and in India there are 120 Million (yikes) out of work. We have a pandemic that no country seems to be able to

control. Flare ups in covid19 are reoccurring in China, so you know its going to happen in the USA. Brazil is having a hard time as you read this and is second in covid deaths after the USA (and Brazil not testing nearly enough people, so you know their numbers are higher. China is trying to take back Hong Kong. Meanwhile, Taiwan attempts to join the WHO (World Health Organization, even though Taiwan warnings of coronavirus were rejected by the WHO in December 2019/January 2020 stating that the virus can be spread airborne. This vital information

could've given the world more preparation to fight the disease. Nigeria and other African countries are stopping payments to China on the loans because of the mistreatment of Africans in China and trying to blame Africans for starting the second wave of the virus. Even young adults graduating from college have high student loan payments but work at the grocery store That's a lot. But remember, I'm Raw Street Broker, so I should be taking about money. So, lets go back to the USA. Now we are adding the death of George Floyd, and the citizens of

the United States of America are fed up. We know Black Americans (and Brown) are treated differently. We even seen the Asian Americans are treated differently as well. Black lives always got the short end of the stick in America. So why should you invest if your black? Ownership, equity in companies (public or private), Real Estate, buying commodities like Gold and Silver, etc. will give you a voice. First comes the money, then comes the power, and then comes respect. Please note- as the rich become richer, the poor become poorer. This seems to affect all rac-

es in USA. Investing is becoming more and more necessary as the race wealth gap also becomes a class wealth gap (Middle class shrinking- more poor). We struggle with having our assets in order as a group. Home ownership is key, stock market is key, starting businesses is key. These are the fundamentals of a great neighborhood. When more and more are working at the poverty level, how can you get your money right to make life easier to live a better life? Well start with the Traditional or Roth individual retirement account. You can talk to a financial advisor or open a brokerage account. You can start off with \$250, and put in as little as \$50 a month into it. That same account you can use up to half of it to buy a house or investment property. Or stack enough to start a business. Basically, you have to get your money to work for you. So please don't be discouraged, your fate is in your hands. Whether your 20 or 60, a new transfer of wealth is upon the horizon. This isn't just the USA going through a change. The whole world is... It won't be easy, but you never know until to try. Oh, and don't forget to follow me on IG at TheGetMoneyShow. Believe in yourself, believe in your dreams, and always remember money a'int just green. We are in for a long road on this matter. Some believe this could take up to the year 2022 for the pandemic to end. Others believe it will be done by July (it won't). One thing for sure, the world will change because of this.

By RSB

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