

## Jonasu Wagstaff Announces Candidacy for Justice of Peace



Candidate Jonasu Wagstaff for Williamson County JP Court. Photo by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon | Villager Columnist

Recently, Jonasu Wagstaff announced her intention to run for the Williamson Justice of the Peace Precinct 2. Moreover, the Williamson County JP covers the

“South Western” part of Williamson County including cities like Cedar Park and Leander. Just recently, two Democrats knocked off two Republicans on the Cedar Park City Council; consequently Jonasu Wagstaff can win this

part of Williamson County.

Jonasu Wagstaff decided to run for JP due to the fact that she wants to unite the people by seeking true justice. When she speaks to the people within the precinct, they mentioned that, “They are tired of divisions caused by the current JP Judge.” According to Mrs. Wagstaff, “The incumbent has been a JP judge for the last 16 years, in which there is a disparity of justice that has affected people of color.”

Finally, Jonasu Wagstaff is running for JP 2 because, “She wants to be a progressive voice for justice in Williamson County.” Moreover, she mentioned, “I will seek to end the school to prison pipeline, which mainly affects Hispanic and African Americans living in Williamson County. If elected she would work to ensure that the youth get the tools needed to succeed.

## New Series ‘Snowfall’, Co-Created by John Singleton, Tells Birth of Cocaine in Los Angeles

by: Jonathan Landrum Jr.

**ATLANTA (AP)** — Filmmaker John Singleton remembered taking a ride through a section of a south Los Angeles neighborhood seeing security bars on every window and huge metal gates surrounding each home.

The recent drive instantly reminded Singleton about when residents in the area first took cautioned measures to guard their house to prevent home invasions during the 1980s crack cocaine epidemic.

“People made it almost like they were imprisoning themselves in their homes,” the Los Angeles native recalled. “In the early 80s, people started breaking into people’s houses. Crack really took hold back then. ... But this is a story no one has ever told before. There’s always a new cocaine story that’s East Coast. But there’s really never a story how the West Coast changed from this. So, I wanted to get into it.”

Singleton co-created the new series “Snowfall,” which focuses on the genesis of how crack cocaine became a rampant epidemic in Los Angeles’ inner city neighborhoods in 1983. The first season premieres Wednesday on FX at 10 p.m. EDT.

Singleton, an Oscar-nominated writer-director, is best known for his critically-acclaimed movies from “Boyz n the Hood,”



FILE – In this Feb. 4, 2017 file photo, director John Singleton appears at the 69th Annual Directors Guild of America Awards in Beverly Hills, Calif. Singleton, co-created the new FX series “Snowfall,” (Photo by Chris Pizzello/Invision/AP, File)

“Poetic Justice” and “Higher Learning.” But these days, he is doing more television after directing episodes of “Empire” and “The People v. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story” along with the BET drama “Rebel.”

“It’s like making a movie every week, instead of every couple of years,” he said. “For me, I like telling stories. I have so many of them. With ‘Snowfall,’ I can tell a story about real folks and what they are going through.”

“Snowfall” tells a story of a violent collision course involving a young street entrepreneur, a Mexican wrestler tied up in a power struggle with a crime family, the daughter of a Mexican crime lord and a CIA operative who

begins an off-book operation to fund the Nicaraguan Contras.

“This story is very important and must be told and seen,” said Damon Idris, who plays the star character of 19-year-old Franklin Saint, a street-minded entrepreneur who was educated in an upper class neighborhood. He’s determined to get into the drug game to take care of people around him.

“Not only does it speak to an older generation who may have survived or lived through it, but it might speak to a new generation who may not be as informed,” he continues. “It’s going to teach people about their past.”

Idris, an actor of Nigerian descent who grew

## Small Business Network Mixer



Pictured left to right: Candace Poindexter, Kemminca Green, Mark and Kevin Logan. Photo by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon | Villager Columnist

Sunday, July 9, 2017, a group of Black and Hispanic owned small businesses met under the platform of the African Business Network. From the caking industry and retail to the marketing industry were all present at the meeting. According to the networking platform, there were a least ten business owners who met to find ways in which they could work in order to boost their sales and outreach.

Some of the businesses present included Poinxdeter Confession, African Diaspora United, Kevin Logan a local author, Vanguard project with Ms Green and Elizabeth with the rainbow. According to Mr. Amon with the African Diaspora United, “These types of events help small businesses to connect with each which increases a better collaboration down the road. In addition, the networking group serves as platform as an exchange of ideas.

According to the organizers, the turnout was higher than what they expected. Consequently, it shows that bringing and connecting entrepreneurs and small business together works. During the event, business owners exchanged business info with each other and also connected with each other on a personal and also in a business aspect. According to the organizers, the network meets every three Sundays of the week at Tropical Market.

## Diaspora Votes Association Holds Fundraiser Affair



Pictured left to right: Donna Coleman, Kwame Ansah and Candidate Dale Mantey. Photo by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

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Saturday, July 8, 2017, Diaspora Votes held their annual fundraiser in the heart of Pflugerville, Texas. According to the Diaspora leadership the fundraiser was meant to work with the group’s ability to run its various programs such as voter registration, house parties, candidate forums and voter issues based on conversations. In addition, the event was

up in London, said he didn’t know anything about the drug epidemic in the United States until he visited Los Angeles for the first time and saw Skid Row — an impoverished area inhabited by the homeless. He called the experience “heartbreaking.”

“When we hear

meant to help Diaspora with its operational budget.

At this event there were many communities leaders, concerned individuals and candidates in attendance. Dale Mantey for the 17th Congressional District was present, it was an opportunity for him to shake hands and to also talk with a few of the individuals present at the event. Moreover, a large part of Pflugerville is within the boundaries of the 17th Congressional District.

about these drugs stories, we tend to think, ‘Wow, do we need to see Black people in turmoil? Or Black people struggling?’” he said. “But I want people to know that this show doesn’t glorify or glamorize crack cocaine or any other drug. Kids were born into this. They are surrounded by people who

Finally, Diaspora Vote is the only non-profit organization that seeks to educate the growing African community about the political process. According to an “unofficial estimate”, there are over 25,000 Africans living in the Central Texas area; consequently Diaspora Vote plans to get this community involved. Although Diaspora Vote spends 50% of its time working with the African community, they also work with other communities in Central Texas.

are still on this drug, people who didn’t survive and was destroyed by it.” Singleton said it took some years for “Snowfall” to see an actual premiere date. He said Showtime was originally supposed to air the series, but he said the network parted ways with them because they “just didn’t get it.”