



# REPORT

## THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO TO THE PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

DATE ISSUED: October 16, 2014

REPORT NO: 101

ATTENTION: Park and Recreation Board  
Agenda of October 16, 2014

SUBJECT: Rename City Heights Mini Park in honor of Virgie Hazel McCain and  
William Henry Carter

### SUMMARY

Issue – Should the Park and Recreation Board approve the renaming of City Heights Mini Park in honor of Virgie Hazel McCain and William Henry Carter?

Director's Recommendation – The Department does not take a position on facility naming requests.

#### Other Recommendations

- On August 21, 2014 the Azalea Recreation Council voted unanimously to recommend approval to rename City Heights Mini Park in honor of Virgie Hazel McCain and William Henry Carter.
- On September 10, 2014 the Community Parks II Area Committee voted unanimously to recommend approval to rename City Heights Mini Park in honor of Virgie Hazel McCain and William Henry Carter.

Fiscal Impact – None

### BACKGROUND

The City Heights Mini-Park is located in the Mid-City area of San Diego. The mini-park was developed in 1972 and is .32 of an acre with a play area, picnic shelter, natural turf area and picnic tables.

Mrs. Virgie Hazel McCain and Mr. William Carter propose to rename the City Heights Mini-Park the “Virgie Hazel McCain and William Henry Carter Mini-Park” in recognition of their advocacy and vision which were crucial to securing funds for the City to purchase and develop the land. They envisioned and understood the critical nature of that resource given the chronic undersupply of parks and open space in City Heights.

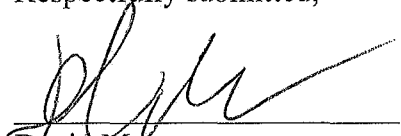
DISCUSSION

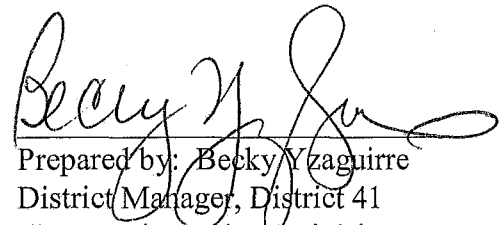
The renaming of City Heights Mini Park as “Virgie Hazel McCain and William Henry Carter Mini Park” is in compliance with Park and Recreation Board Policy #101, “Naming of Parks and Recreation Facilities” (copy attached).

ALTERNATIVES

Do not approve the renaming of City Heights Mini Park in honor of Virgie Hazel McCain and William Henry Carter.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Monroe  
Deputy Director  
Community Parks II Division

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Prepared by: Becky Yzaguirre  
District Manager, District 41  
Community Parks II Division

DM/by

Attachment: 1. Biography of Virgie Hazel McCain and William Henry Carter  
2. Location Map – City Heights Mini Park  
3. Park and Recreation Board Policy #101 – Naming of Parks  
and Recreation Facilities

cc: Councilmember Marti Emerald, Council District 9

PARK AND RECREATION BOARD POLICY

- SUBJECT:** Naming of Parks and Recreation Facilities
- BACKGROUND:** The public sometimes suggests that parks and recreation facilities be named after persons, living or dead.
- PURPOSE:** To provide a systematic procedure for the naming of parks and recreation facilities which will assist in their location by the citizenry; and to develop a method for the retention of names of historical or fiscal significance.
- POLICY:** As a general policy, parks and recreation facilities should be named to identify their locations. Especially for parks, the name of the community area, the names of nearby geographic features, the names of adjacent schools and street names should be given first consideration. However, they may also be named for individuals, living or dead, who are of historical significance to the local area or who have made major financial contributions in the opinion of the appropriate Recreation Councils and/or other advisory bodies, Board committees and the full Board. Facilities within parks; (such as buildings, gyms, courts, etc.) are more appropriate for naming after individuals than are parks.
- Renaming a facility for a person, when that facility is already named for a person, should only be undertaken with the utmost consideration. Every attempt should be made to contact the person or heirs of the person for whom the facility is currently named, to present their views verbally, or in writing, at a public hearing.
- PROCEDURE:** The Recreation Council effected by the proposed name change, shall hold a public hearing to review the request and the supporting documents and information, and shall make recommendations to the Area Committees and the Park and Recreation Board on any and all recommended changes to the renaming of existing facilities.
- SUBSTANTIATION:** Park and Recreation Board Minutes of 6/16/83 (page 2469)  
Park and Recreation Board Minutes of November 15, 2001 (page 4).



March 17, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

The Carter and McCain family go back three generations.

In City Heights they started out by pulling weeds, picking up trash, moving rocks, glass and other harmful items from their community.

They knocked on doors, some opened and some closed in their face.

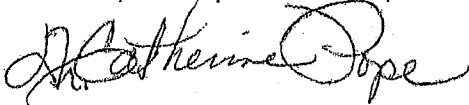
The fundraisers, car washes, hotdog and taco sells; and bus rides out of town were done to obtain grant money for the park located at 3033 39<sup>th</sup> street. All of their hard work led to the development of City Heights as it stands today.

I can't help but feel proud that our Presidents' First Lady, Michelle Obama, came to City Heights and used their garden as a model for healthy living in America.

It is because of the outstanding work that these individuals have done in our San Diego Community that we propose to respectfully ask you to rename City Heights Mini Park in honor of Virgie Hazel McCain and William Henry Carter Mini Park.

In addition, Mr. Carter will fund-raise to erect a concrete monument sign with a new park name.

Respectfully and sincerely submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine Pope". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Dr. Catherine Pope, Ed.D.

Dr. Catherine Pope, Ed.D.  
640 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt. 1207  
San Diego, CA 92101  
cpope7@cox.net

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter to gain support of you along with the "City Heights Town Council" in adding the name Virgie Hazel Price-McCain and William H. Carter to City Heights Mini Park at 3033 39<sup>th</sup> Street. These two people were able to get a grant to have the park built on, 12-2-1972. Mrs. McCain as well as Mr. Carter have made many positive contributions to make San Diego a better place to live.

Mr. Carter retired from San Diego City Fire Department and San Diego Unified School District's Integration Program. He is a San Diego High School Coaching Legend and he also served on committees both local and international. Mr. Carter has worked tirelessly throughout the years to provide San Diego's youth with experiences and opportunities to pursue their dreams and reach their goals. In 2012 Mr. Carter was nominated for induction into the "Hall of Champions" in Balboa Park. He had 10 letters of recommendation from community leaders and supporters. Enclosed are their names and titles.

Virgie Hazel saved a brochure which chronicled the establishment of City Heights Mini Park on 39<sup>th</sup> Street, December 2, 1972. She was already President of the City Heights Community development committee. In order to get the park, she and William Carter went to Long Beach to state the case for the need for this park. William said, based upon Virgie Hazel's presentation, they were able to obtain a grant to develop the park, which is in use to this day. Many of the neighborhood children called Virgie Hazel "Grandma". She was a foster mother and never turned anyone away who needed help, and although she did not have much, she would always find a way to feed someone in need.

Mrs. McCain is 103 years old and said that she would like to see, "Billy Carter and my name on the Mini Park". Please let's support this idea while she is able to see her dream come true! Both of these individuals saw a need and were determined to see to it that all children and their families were given a place to come together and celebrate as a community. For a resume and Letters of Recommendation please contact: [whcarter50@yahoo.com](mailto:whcarter50@yahoo.com) and (619) 381-3886.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Dr. Catherine Pope and Citizens for the Renaming of City Heights Mini Park

My name is Mr. William Henry Carter and I am a descendent of Biddy Mason, a black historical figure. Biddy was a slave who walked from Mississippi in 1848 to Salt Lake City, Utah; and then to San Bernardino, California, in the Santa Monica Mountains. In 1851 she became a mid-wife by trade and was known as she traveled throughout California coast. Later she moved to Los Angeles, California and in 1856 she fought for and won her freedom in the courts. In 1866 on Spring Street in downtown Los Angeles, California she bought land with the money she saved from her tireless work.

Biddy Mason, through her philanthropy established schools, was a social worker, and among other contributions to her race and community she started the first African Methodist Episcopal church in Los Angeles, California which still stands on its 4<sup>th</sup> site located at 2270 South Harbor Boulevard. At various times in its history it has served up to 18,000 members. My ancestor, Ms. Biddy Mason a leader who protested segregation and slavery was not only one of the first wealthy black women in the city of Los Angeles; she was also one of the great stewards of our time. She died on 1891, in Los Angeles, California. In 1989 Mayor Tom Bradley, of Los Angeles, California, issued a formal proclamation making November 16, Biddy Mason Day.

My family came to San Diego in 1912. They lived on Menlo Street until 1918. In 1918 our family moved to 4060 Wabash Ave. where my grandfather Charlie Jones built his home. In the book, "Only in America", by Angelo Alessio, my grandmother Mrs. Francis Jones is pictured with Mrs. Rosie Aleesio; mother to the owners of Mr. A's Restaurant, Callante Race Track and partners and developers in the Pepsi Cola Company and previous owners of Hotel Del Coronado. Both families lived and became lifelong friends on Wabash Ave.

My mother, Blanche K. Jones was born on June 18, 1919 in Omaha, Nebraska. She married Ted Carter and they had six children; Charles, Ruth, Robert, William, James and Timothy. We all grew up in the house that my father built at 4077 & 4075 Wabash Ave., San Diego, CA. My mother Blanche had one sister Tommie Jones, who later married Handy Farries. They had three children; Francis, Richard and Nathaniel. She was the first African American to graduate from Our Lady of Sacred Heart, a Catholic School in San Diego. She was also a founding member of the 1<sup>st</sup> and only black Catholic Church in San Diego, Christ the King. My mother was employed by the county of San Diego and retired after many years of work at Hillcrest Receiving Home. She was the president of Woman's Axillary Branch of the Fleet Reserve Branch 62. My father Theodore was a past president of this organization as well. My mother use to cook and provide refreshments for participants in the Toyland Parade for many years. She was also known for her cooking. Anyone was welcomed at our home for a hot meal or lodging. At her funeral people testified to her knocking on their door and leaving groceries there and trying to leave before they opened their door.

My father was one of the black instructors for the US Navy at Unit "K" West; a segregated section of the US Navy. He was promoted to Chief Petty Officer and at that time it was the ceiling for blacks in the Navy. My father was very instrumental in helping many young blacks to higher ranks, such as Captain Thomas Groce.

I began my life and education like my mother and older brothers and sister; kindergarten at Edison Elementary, then first and second grade at Our Lady of Sacred Heart. My brother Robert was a TV Star on Smoky Rodgers show on Saturdays. He sang and taped danced on the show.

My older siblings were given tap dancing, singing and music lessons. However I fell in love with the park and recreation center. I began to excel in sports. That is where I began my leadership role among my peers by being team captain. I volunteered to do many jobs at the recreation center. I had an independent paper route and I worked at Sabols Gas Station in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. My neighborhood was a melting pot of nationalities celebrating the various cultures in our community. Blacks, Native Americans, Japanese, French Mexican, Caucasians, Italians and Filipinos were all a part of my community. I was raised by this village. I was taught to always reach out to everyone who is in need with an open hand. When I was asked to help clean up or lend a helping hand to our elderly I did. When asked to go to Long beach to obtain money to enhance our community by creating a park I did. With the help and support of Mrs. McCain we traveled to Long Beach and represented our city. We later secured the funds through our efforts and the support of the community. The park is now located at 3033, 39<sup>th</sup> Street, San Diego, California.

My record of service in San Diego is long. Among my contributions are: I was one of the first on the scene of the P.S.A. plane crash in North Park, San Diego, California; I have received several letters of commendation from the San Diego Fire Department; I also helped recruit many minority firefighters including women and women of color.

I was fortunate to be coached by Don Hoodo of Park and Recreation. He instilled a lot of good sportsmanship and values in me along with my parents who always said, "When you leave the house remember you represent our family in everything that you do". I did and I did it well.



**Happy 100th Birthday  
Mamma!**



*Date of Birth: August 24, 1910*



**Birthdate Celebration: Saturday, August 28, 2010**  
2:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.  
Fairbury Hotel & Resort  
950 Hotel Circle  
North San Diego,  
CA 92108  
Phone: 619-298-0511



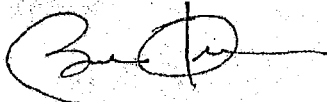
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*Happy 100th Birthday! We wish you the very best on this momentous occasion.*

*You have witnessed great milestones in our Nation's history, and your life represents an important part of the American story. As you reflect upon a century of memories, we hope that you are filled with tremendous pride and joy.*

*Congratulations on your birthday, and may you enjoy many more happy years as a centenarian.*

*Sincerely,*

 *Michelle Obama*

SUSAN A. DAVIS

53RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

1826 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-2040

DISTRICT OFFICE:

4305 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SUITE 515  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92105  
(619) 280-5353

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-0553

COMMITTEES:

ARMED SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEES:

MILITARY PERSONNEL

OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

EDUCATION AND LABOR

SUBCOMMITTEES:

EARLY CHILDHOOD, ELEMENTARY AND  
SECONDARY EDUCATION

HIGHER EDUCATION, LIFELONG LEARNING  
AND COMPETITIVENESS

August 24, 2010

Ms. Virgie Hazel McCain  
3021 Secret Place  
Lemon Grove, CA 91945

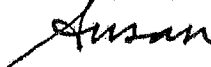
Dear Ms. McCain:

I send my warmest greetings as you celebrate your 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. You have my best wishes for a memorable day.

I am honored to join your family and friends in offering my sincere congratulations for your lifetime of accomplishments including cofounding the New Bethel Baptist Church and serving as the President of the City Heights Improvement Committee. Judging from the letter my office received from your daughter-in-law, it is clear that you have achieved the greatest success of all- the love and admiration of your family and friends.

You have my best wishes on this milestone birthday.

With warm regards,

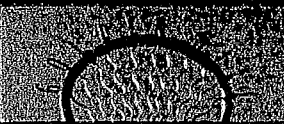


SUSAN A. DAVIS  
Member of Congress

NORTH PARK

CITY HEIGHTS

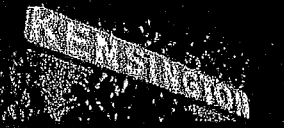
NORMAL HEIGHTS



UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

SOUTH PARK

HILLCREST



# COUNCILMEMBER TODD GLORIA Special Commendation

Presented to

## VIRGIE HAZEL MCCAIN

In honor of your 100<sup>th</sup> birthday

Your involvement in the community of City Heights will be forever cherished.

Thank you for your service and dedication to our community over the years!

### Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

*Todd Gloria*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Todd Gloria  
Councilmember, Third District

August 24, 2010  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Proudly representing the communities of:  
BALBOA PARK • CITY HEIGHTS • GOLDEN HILL • HILLCREST • KENSINGTON • NORMAL HEIGHTS  
NORTH PARK • SOUTH PARK • TALMADGE • UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

August 28, 2010 2:00 P.M.  
Celebrating Momma's 100th Year Birthday

Prayer ..... Pastor Curtis Moss  
(New Bethel Church)

M.C. .... Thurston McCain

Welcome/Thank You ..... Rudy McCain

Poem: ..... Prudence McCain-Taylor

Song: ..... Sia Taylor & Jangy Taylor  
(Grand-Daughters)

Words of Expressions: Mother Hazel McCain

~The reading of Mother Hazel McCain's History ~

Special Remarks ..... Beulah Peal Frazier  
(Sister)

Poem ..... Victor McCain

Tributes from Children

Rudy McCain      Fairly McCain-Muhammad

James McCain      Prudence Taylor

Kathy Robinson      Thurston (Butch) McCain

Victor McCain      Connie Muhammad

Remark from Family & Friends (2 min Please)

Song (How Great Thou Art) ..... Ruth Barrett

Words of Encouragement:  
Dr. Donald K. Barrett, D. Min.  
Pastor of Greater Gospel Center C.O.G.I.C.

Presentations OF Gifts

100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR VIRGIE HAZEL MCCAIN  
HISTORICAL DATA and ANECDOTES

Written by Fairy McCain-Muhammad

August 28, 2010

Handlery Hotel & Resort

**BIRTHDATE:**

Mother, Virgie Hazel Price-McCain came into this world August 24, 1910. Her birthplace was Arcadia, Oklahoma.

**PARENTS:**

Virgie Hazel was the first born of nine children to George Washington Price and Alberta Price. Great-Grandfather Daniel Harmon, also known as Papa Dan, and his first wife raised Alberta and other grandchildren. Papa Dan later married George Price's sister, Mary, after his first wife left him. When George visited his sister, Mary, he became smitten by young Alberta, who was 23 years his junior. Since Papa Dan was a strict guardian, it is a mystery how Alberta had the nerve to run away with George. When Papa Dan found that his beloved granddaughter had run away with "Mr. Price", he was furious and wanted to kill George. The two runaways did not see Papa Dan until Virgie Hazel was born. When they appeared at Papa Dan's home, he took Virgie Hazel out of the wagon and cried, which ended the hatred and hard feelings. George's first marriage produced two sons, Cleveland and Reuben.

**SIBLINGS:**

There was a total of ten siblings, including Cleveland and Rueben. Cleveland and Rueben lived in Omaha, Nebraska. Virgie Hazel and her other siblings were born in Oklahoma, and their first names are as follows with the number of children that each had: Opal (three daughters); John (one son); James (one son and a daughter); Helen (one son); Beatrice (deceased at birth); Fairy (one daughter); Daisy (deceased at birth); Beulah (one daughter, three sons).

**EARLY YEARS:**

Years before George Price married Alberta Harman, he passed for Italian to teach school in Louisiana. In fact, while he was teaching school, he and his students witnessed the lynching of a black man. He got permission from the lynch men to cut the body down.

The Price family lived in Arcadia, Luther, Wetumka, and Drumright, Oklahoma. All of the Price children had some form of education. The older children worked in the fields; therefore, Virgie Hazel could not attend school full time. Virgie Hazel was a bright student who excelled in math. In fact she knew Roman numerals so well that she unintentionally offended a teacher by correcting a student who had been given the wrong information. The teacher resented her for that and proceeded to harass her. Alberta stepped in and told him in no uncertain terms that he was not to disrespect her daughter again. Alberta could be a formidable foe when she was angry. Fairy was the only one of the siblings who went to college - Langston University. She said that those negroes at Langston almost starved her to death (smile). Virgie Hazel could probably have been a professor somewhere because her half brother, Cleveland, who owned his own barber shop in Omaha, wanted to remove her from her situation and educate her. However, Alberta would not permit it.

George Price was the product of a Choctaw Indian mother (Matilda Danforth), and a white father. His mother's village was raided by the cavalry, and she was taken into slavery at the age of 13. She was forced to give birth to seven children by two slave masters whose last names were Minor and Price, with George being the youngest. He told his daughter Virgie Hazel, that he was born in 1866, the year of Emancipation. However, the Emancipation Proclamation was signed January 1, 1863. George was born in Texas and most of the slaves did not know they were freed. After slavery, his mother married a black man who was a Freedman. It is not certain how many children were born to this union. After marriage to Alberta and the children started to come, the Price family settled in different towns in Oklahoma. During that time, Fairy and Beulah contracted and survived Typhoid Fever, a dreaded and deadly disease.

George's Indian bloodline provided the funds used for a school in which his children attended. There were happier times, such as, when Virgie Hazel designed a pattern on a table cloth, and Opal did the crocheting, for which they won second prize at the county fair. Virgie Hazel and her siblings rode horses like experts; however, the girls never learned to swim because Alberta did not allow them to wear swim suits.

#### RELIGION:

The Price family attended small Baptist churches in Oklahoma, traveling by wagon for the services. When Virgie Hazel and Opal were young women, they were chosen to represent the church at a convention. However, George Price said "Little Hazel and Little Opal will not be going without me". He was not going to have his young daughters traveling around with other folks, so he went with them the next year. Virgie Hazel was baptized in a dirty watering hole at the age of 14. It was cold and the deacons would not go in the water to assist the minister in the baptism, so George Price went in

and helped baptize his daughter. In her late 70's, she was re-baptized in her current church, New Bethel Baptist, San Diego. There are photos showing her being baptized by Pastor Michael Wilson at Mission Bay in San Diego.



#### ARTWAY MCCAIN'S CHILDHOOD (VIRGIE MCCAIN'S HUSBAND):

Artway McCain's mother, Artelia, died giving birth to him. His grandmother, Anna Smith-Foreman, a Cherokee Indian, and his African grandfather Homer Foreman took, Artway and his cousin, Theodore, to raise after the death of their mothers. Although Artway was born in Okmulgee, he lived with his grandparents in Tulsa, Oklahoma. In 1921 at the age of 12, he and his family were in the middle of the Tulsa



race riot. Tulsa was a very successful and powerful black town which the whites resented. That time in history was printed in the Parade magazine, and documented in a book called "Black Wall Street." The whites accused a black man of raping a white woman, and they were going to hang him. The blacks were not going to let that happen, and that is when the shooting started. There were bullets flying everywhere, and to win the battle, the sheriff commandeered an airplane and dropped dynamite on the black business district. There were many, many lives lost, both black and white. Artway's grandmother thought that he and his cousin had been killed. She had a nervous breakdown and ended up in a mental institution. Grandpa Homer Foreman was deceased by that time and did not witness the riot.

Artway and his cousin were placed in an orphanage where he learned to play the slide trombone. When Artway was approximately 16, he walked away from the orphanage after witnessing the murder of the superintendent, and lived a nomad life, moving from place to place. He traveled to many places on freight trains, and even went into Canada. Later he found his father, accidentally, when he was pulled off a train in Wetumka, and was hit in the head by a railroad detective. He was arrested and a man in that town told his father, Albert McCain, that there was someone in the jail who might be his son. When Artway got out of jail, he lived with his father for awhile, but he wanted his independence so he worked for different people in that area.

#### MARRIAGE:

Artway met Virgie Hazel around 1931 while working for preacher White. The



preacher ran out of wood and sent Artway to Virgie Hazel's house to borrow some. That is where he met "Miss Hazel". It was love at first site, at least for him (smile). After they met, whenever Virgie Hazel and Opal went to town, Artway happened to be there. Opal asked Virgie Hazel why was that "old boy" staring at Virgie Hazel.

Prior to meeting Artway, Virgie Hazel said she was friends with another "old boy" in that town whom Artway also knew. When the other "old boy" tried to get imitate with her she stopped talking to him. Also, some of the fellas in the town told Artway that he should not marry that "gal" because she might have Tuberculosis. They were, of course, very jealous. She said Artway never tried to disrespect her. In fact, when they wanted to get married, Artway and Virgie Hazel went to her parents to ask permission to marry. Artway was not religious, but he got baptized because he loved Virgie Hazel.



When Virgie Hazel and Artway married in 1933, Beulah was nine years old. Virgie Hazel took care of her like she was her own, and at the wedding, Beulah told Artway that he had better not be mean to Hazel.

After Artway was grown, married, and with children, he found his grandmother in the mental hospital in Norman Oklahoma. When he went to see her, she did not know him because the last time she saw him, he was a little boy who called her "Mama". Sadly, that was the last time he saw his beloved grandmother. Years later, when the McCain family was living in San Diego, Artway learned where his cousin Theodore lived, and traveled with his family to Fontana, California to see him. Theodore was married to some crazy woman who would not invite the family into their home. The family spent time with Theodore outside. He was mentally challenged because of an accident in Oklahoma. He and Artway were so glad to see each other after all those years. Theodore would sing and play catch with Artway, and everyone ate the food Virgie Hazel prepared. That was the last time Artway saw his beloved cousin.

#### CHILDREN OF ARTWAY AND HAZEL:

In 1935, the first born was Rudolph in Wetumka. In fact Espanola (Opal's first born) was born first and Rudolph was born one day later in the same house by midwife. James, Fairy, and Cathy were the next three born in Wetumka. After arriving in California, four more were born: Prudence, Thurston (Butch), Victor, and Connie.

Not to forget, Henrietta Jefferson, who is Virgie Hazel's adoptive daughter, who has always been a part of the family. Thank you, Henry, for all the love.

Times were very difficult, financially, and Artway brewed moonshine liquor to make ends meet. He sold the stuff to the neighbors, and one day while he was away, some of his "customers" came looking for moonshine. Rudy, who was about five years old, got the rifle and stood on the porch and pointed it at these people, aiming it from side to side. The "customers" got out of there in a hurry. They told Artway that Rudy had pulled a gun on them. He said, "That's right boy, protect your mother." Artway also worked in the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) under Roosevelt's New Deal. At that time Alberta and other members of the family moved to Drumright. The McCains stayed in Wetumka.

#### CALIFORNIA - MIGRATION:

Artway got tired of making illegal moonshine, and living such a hard life. Since this was the depression era, he decided to go to California to work as a picker in the San Joaquin Valley. Virgie Hazel and her four eldest children moved to Drumright to live with Alberta. In 1943, Artway saved enough money to send for his wife and his four children. Alberta, Beulah, and Opal's two daughters accompanied them, while most of the family had already come to San Diego. It was a five-day trip on a troop train full of soldiers going to war to fight in Europe in WWII. This trip is what Rudy calls the "Train ride from Hell".

The first stop was Linda Vista at Helen's house. From there, it was onto live in one of cousin Daisy's houses. Cousin Daisy was also raised by Papa Dan. She was Alberta's first cousin and beloved companion until the end of their lives. Eventually the family moved to Frontier Homes where four more children were born: Prudence, Butch, Victor, and Connie. In 1956, the last move was to East San Diego where Virgie Hazel still lives.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS TO FAMILY, FRIENDS, CHURCH, AND COMMUNITY (SAN DIEGO):

Virgie Hazel belonged to the PTA in the schools in which her children attended. Whenever there was trouble, she did not hesitate to go to the school and confront any issue. Prudence, Butch, and Victor went to Hamilton Elementary School, which was full of whites and much prejudice. An example of this is, one day Victor was in his classroom, looking out of the window, when he saw Butch fighting with some white boys. Victor jumped out of the window, and he and Butch went to war.

Virgie Hazel met her childhood friend from Oklahoma here in San Diego quite by accident. Her name was Willie Nero. Mrs. Nero took her on many trips: Oklahoma, Lake Tahoe, Hawaii, and other places. She called Virgie Hazel her Sister in Christ.

Not long after coming to California, Virgie Hazel worked in a cannery in Old Town, canning peppers. Later she worked for Convair, and later did day work in a doctor's home.

Virgie Hazel was fearless when it came to her children. She would meet Artie Fairy, Cathy, and Prudence at 1:00 a.m., at the bus stop on University Avenue when they worked at the post office during Christmas holidays. During that time there wasn't a lot of crime; they would ride the bus downtown and to see Tarzan movies. While living in Frontier Homes, they would ride the street car to Alberta's house in East San Diego. Does anyone remember the clickety clack of the street car on the tracks as it moved over the canyon in Balboa Park?

Virgie Hazel decided to go back to night school and earn her high school diploma, and in 1968, graduated from Hoover High School along with long-time friend of the family, Mr. Theodore Carter. Her youngest daughter, Connie, was attending Hoover High School at the same time.

The New Bethel Baptist church started when Virgie Hazel, Beulah and Reverend Allbritten canvassed the City Heights neighborhood. The first meeting was held in Beulah's home. Fairy and other members of the community were also participants. Reverend Allbritten made a deal with a man who had a barn to purchase it for the church. Virgie Hazel received many accolades from her church for her work in the Women's Auxiliary and being a faithful member, and has been a Church Mother since 1956.

Virgie Hazel saved a brochure which chronicled the establishment of City Heights Mini park on 39<sup>th</sup> Street, December 2, 1972. She was already President of the City Heights Community Development Committee. In order to get the park, she and Billy Carter went to Long Beach to state the case for the need for this park. Billy said, based upon Virgie Hazel's presentation, they were able to obtain a grant to develop the park, which is in use to this day. Many of the neighborhood children called Virgie Hazel "Grandma". She was a foster mother and never turned anyone away who needed help, and although she did not have much, she would always find a way to feed someone in need.

1267  
640 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt. 1004  
San Diego, CA 92101

381-3886  
619-444-4482 Call  
619-269-7073 Home/Fax  
e-mail: whcarter50@yahoo.com

# William H. Carter

---

## Philosophy of Coaching:

You're a Champion when you have given 100% and the match is over you're the 1<sup>st</sup> up on the mat and you congratulate your opponent by saying the words, "Job Well Done" and shake your opponent's hand and their coaches hand. Then you will return to your school, home and team with class.

"Be A Champ on and off the Mat"

Be a Champ on the Mat; In the Classroom; at Home and In your Community.

## Education:

1964-1968                      Mission Bay High School                      San Diego, CA  
High School Diploma

June 1983                      San Diego City College                      San Diego, CA  
AS Degree: Associate of Science  
Major: Fire Science- Rescue  
AA Degree: Associates of Arts  
Major: Liberal Arts- Option I

August 1977                      San Diego City College                      San Diego, CA  
AA Degree: Associate of Arts  
Major: Mid-Management

## Experience:

### Wrestling Coach

1969-1973                      Boy's Republic (Head Coach)                      Chino, CA

### Coached Stanley Tookie Williams

- Heavy weight; founder of the L. A. Crips Gang.
- Later he was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

1970-1972                      Ganisha High School                      Pomona, CA

- Proctor
- Coach

1969-1971 Boys Republic Chino, CA

- Head Coach at Boys Republic for 3 years

1970-1971 Garnisha High School Pomona, CA

- Served as Proctor

1973-1990 Lincoln High School San Diego, CA

- Assistant Coach
- Ivan Olson's Key lock Wrestling Society

1997-2003 Lincoln High School San Diego, CA

School-wide boys and girls wrestling coach for 8 years; with 11 years head coaching experience

- Coached the first California High School Girl's All-Star Wrestling Team at the Girl's National Tournament in Detroit Michigan -- 2003
- 1<sup>st</sup> place in Detroit Michigan
- 2003 Coaches Award from Mt Carmel's Wrestling Tournament

#### **Other Coaching Experience**

Balboa Pop Warner City of San Diego San Diego, CA

- Coach for 6 years

Famous Boxer; Archie Moore San Diego San Diego, CA

- Assistant to Archie Moore
- Traveled throughout the World with Archie Moore
- Set up and trained fighters for championship fights USA  
Coached CA High School Wrestling Team San Diego, CA
- All Star Team Head Coach San Diego, CA
- 2003 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winners in National Tournament Detroit, Michigan

#### **Trained Boxers**

- Trained Light, Middle and Heavy Weight Boxers
- Worked with Billy Moore (son of Archie Moore) of Mongoose Boxing ABC Program (focus is on scholarship, Health and Citizenship)
- Helped Archie and Bill Moore set up Redick Bowe Training Camp when he beat Evander Holyfield
- Gilbert Sweet Baptist fights, corner man and coach against Bernard Hopkins; Mongoose Boxing, ABC Co.

- **Set up sparing sessions for Don King Fighters**

**Other Experience:**

1974-1982 Nontraditional Roles San Diego, CA  
 Forerunner in training the first woman on the job to have successful  
 Careers in S.D.P.D, U.S. Marshals, S.D Sheriff's Department, State and  
 Federal Corrections Department and S.D. Fire Department.

**Awards:**

- 1964 4<sup>th</sup> Place AAU Wrestling 85 lbs.
- 1967 1<sup>st</sup> Place Grossmont Tournament 115 lbs.
- 1968 Most Improved Wrestler, Mission Bay High School
- 1969 Most Valuable Winter Athlete, Mission Bay High School
- 1969 Athlete of the Year, Mission Bay High School
- 1970 Coach for Mickey's Missal's for Mickey Tyler
- 1970 Assistant Coach with Ivan Olsen
- 1987-1985 Brothers United, Minority Firefighter of San Diego City  
 And County
- 1982 Record Holder for 50 meter dash in the CA Fireman's won 3  
 Three gold and silver medals
- 2001 Balboa Park Program Employee of the Year Award
- 2003 Coaches Award, Mt. Carmel Wrestling Tournament
- 2003 Lincoln High School's Coaches Award
- 2003 Lincoln High School's, "Coaching Legend" Award
- 2009 Volunteer of the Year Harriet Tubman Elem. Middle School,  
 San Diego Unified School District
- 2010 Street Lights Award, Aspiring Youth Actors Organization  
 Award

**Honors:**

Worked on and contributed to the film "Fathers of the Sport", A  
 documentary about basketball players. This film helped in the negotiations  
 to increase retired NBA Player's pensions who retired before 1985.

Organized the first community track meet sponsored by Brothers United  
 Firemen.

Keynote speaker at the Neighborhood House Graduation 1990 "First Step  
 Graduation".

Scottish Rite Mason and Shriner, Saint Joseph Lodge

NAACP Board of Directors, 1977-1973

Keylock Wrestling Society Member since 1973

Director of San Diego, city and county Fire Fighters "Brothers United", and  
Member of International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters.

**Letters of Recommendations:**

1. Tony Young, President of city Council 2012
2. Dan McAllister, County Treasurer Tax Collector 2012
3. Dr. Robinson Lincoln High, A.D.
4. Dr. Catherine G. Pope, Professor at Point Loma Nazarene University,
5. Walter Fairley, V.P. La Jolla High School, 2012
6. Elmer Runge, High School Coaching Legend Recipient
7. Roy Reed, Wrestling Coach 1969, 1992, 1995, 1998, 2012.
8. Francois Portee, Head Coach Lincoln High School 2012
9. Billy Moore, Any Body Can and Mongoose Boxing Inc., 2012
10. Sherri Foster, Wrestling National Champion, 2003





THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANTHONY YOUNG  
FOURTH DISTRICT

May 18, 2012

Hall of Champions Sports Museum  
Attn: Anthony Lachica  
2131 Pan American Plaza, Balboa Park  
San Diego, CA 92101

To whom it may concern:

Mr. William H. Carter would be an excellent candidate for an induction into the San Diego Hall of Champions.

Mr. Carter has won numerous honors and awards for his boxing achievements in coaching professional and amateur boxers. For decades Mr. Carter has devoted his life to coaching our San Diego youth in boxing, as well as inspiring our youth to achieve their best in athletics and in academia. Outside of the ring, Mr. Carter has worked with the NAACP, Neighborhood House, and Youth Actors Organization to make San Diego a better place. Mr. Carter is a versatile individual – a professional in the ring and a community builder in our city.

I ask that Mr. Carter not only be considered for induction for his expertise in sports, but for his character in bringing hope to youth and neighborhoods from underserved communities which need it most. Mr. Carter is a legend in District Four, and I support his induction as a champion in San Diego.

Sincerely,

  
Anthony Young





# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER • 1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 112  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101-2477 • (619) 531-5231 • FAX (619) 595-4605



Website: <http://www.sdtreastax.com>

DAN McALLISTER  
Treasurer-Tax Collector

March 1, 2012

Hall of Champions Sports Museum  
Attn: Anthony Lachica  
2131 Pan American Plaza, Balboa Park  
San Diego, CA 92101

RE: Letter of Support to William H. Carter, Hall of Champions Candidate

To Whom It May Concern,

As County of San Diego's Treasurer-Tax Collector, it is my pleasure to write a letter of support for Mr. William Carter to be inducted to the San Diego Hall of Champions.

I understand that the San Diego Hall of Champions prides itself in recognizing outstanding athletic accomplishments and traditions, including enhancing youth involvement, and I believe that Mr. Carter greatly embodies those characteristics. As a past athlete, and as a wrestling coach for Boy's Republic, Ganish High School, and Lincoln High School, Mr. Carter has earned great recognition by receiving awards such as "1969 Athlete of the Year" for Mission Bay High School; Mt. Carmel's Wrestling Tournament "Coaches Award"; and Lincoln High School's "Coaching Legend".

Mr. Carter's coaching philosophy of being a champion on the mat, in the classroom, at home, and in your community not only makes him a winning coach but also a great role model for young athletes. This is exemplified in his work with world famous boxer Archie Moore and other boxers, as well as his membership to the International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters.

For his many years of coaching and contributions to the San Diego community, I fully support the San Diego Hall of Champions efforts to induct Mr. William Carter.

Sincerely,

Dan McAllister  
San Diego County Treasurer-Tax Collector



## San Diego Unified School District

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL  
Centre for the Arts  
4777 Imperial Dr, San Diego, CA 92113

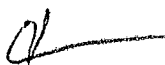
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12/18/12

### Letter of Recommendation For **William H. Carter**

To whom it may concern:

I would like to join the chorus of teachers, community leaders and ex students who are recommending William H Carter for in induction into the San Diego Hall of Champions. I am the current Athletic Director at Abraham Lincoln High School and a forty-year teacher in the San Diego Unified School District. It is with Great pleasure that I support an individual who has been a role model, friend, father, and leader to the community that surrounds our high school. Mr. Carter has worked not for recognition, but rather for the good of young and old to provide professional preparation in a sport that sometimes goes unappreciated in our neighborhood and schools. His inclusion of girls in a sport that is so male dominated has changed how we now view wrestling at Lincoln and other schools in San Diego County. Mr. Carter remains an inspiration to many of us who continue to strive to make our world a better place to live. It is an honor and privilege to recommend Mr. Carter for induction into such a prestigious organization and it is of my opinion; William H. Carter should be memorialize for the next thousand years for his work ethic, sense of community and expert skill in the wrestling wing of your great hall.

Donald N. Robinson   
Athletic Director  
Abraham Lincoln High School

**Dr. Catherine Pope, Ed.D.**  
3705 Tiger Ridge Lane, North Las Vegas, NV 89084  
Phone (619) 519-2568. Email:

July 23, 2012

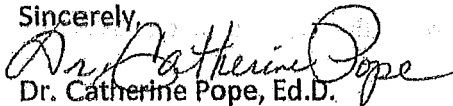
To Whom It May Concern:

It is with pleasure and confidence that I am recommending Mr. William H. Carter for induction into the Hall of Champions. Mr. Carter was the head wrestling coach at Lincoln High School for eight years. During my tenure as Vice Principal of Lincoln High school I was assigned to the wrestling team as supervisor and educational advisor. As part of Lincoln High School's administrative team I worked with Mr. Carter and his wrestling students for five years and I continued working with his wrestling team for another three years as Lincoln competed in several competitions throughout the United States. Mr. Carter's resume shows his experiences spanned across many years. He began coaching in the early 1970s and he still coaches students when-ever and where-ever they seek out his knowledge and expertise in this sport.

Coach Carter has dedicated most of his life to serving the San Diego community as a fire-fighter and a coach. As a Lincoln High School Coaching Legend he has already proven himself to be deserving of this special honor. Mr. Carter has made a tremendous and positive impact on many San Diego youth. He is also an outstanding role model as shown by his third place win in the International Police and Fire-fighters Championship Games in Wrestling at sixty-one years old. He was the oldest athlete in this competition.

Mr. Carter was picked by his peers in California to coach the first high school Girls Wrestling Team. His team won the National Wrestling Championship in 2003. I sincerely hope that you select Mr. Carter for this honor, not just for his commitment and dedication to the sport of wrestling; but also for his desire to make his community at large a better place.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Catherine Pope, Ed.D.



**LA JOLLA HIGH SCHOOL**  
A CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

March 15, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: William H. Carter

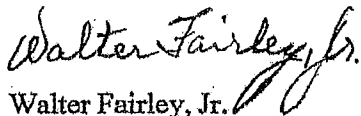
I have known William for approximately thirty-five years. I worked closely with him as an assistant wrestling coach during my past tenure as a teacher and coach for Lincoln High School. William is a very kind hearted person. He is patient and gentle with young children and teenagers. He gets along well with his fellow colleagues, an example of this point was a comment made about him by another coach who said, and "I trust him and know he will do the right things".

I have watched him work with children/students from very low income to very high income families, students from almost every racial and ethnic group, and students from almost every religious affiliation. The point being made is that he has worked successfully with students from all walks of life.

William has taken the initiative to become involved in leadership roles during his highly successful coaching career. He was the Head coach of the first California High School Girls 'All-Star Wrestling Team; he was a coach for the Balboa Pop Warner Football program, where he was a mentor and positive role model for those inner-city young boys; and he helped to train such professional fighters as Redick Bowe and Gilbert Sweet Baptist for world championship fights, all of which show evidence of a coach who is a leader by example.

William is a dedicated coach, and it is my pleasure to recommend him as a candidate for the honor of being inducted into the San Diego Hall of Champions.

Respectfully,



Walter Fairley, Jr.  
Vice Principal  
La Jolla High School

(858)454-3081 Ext. 2206

Hall of Champions Sports Museum

March 9, 2012

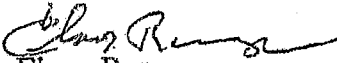
To the attention of: Anthony Lachica

I just recently received a historical resume of William H Carter's education, coaching experiences, awards and honors dating from 1964 through 2010.

This resume sent to me by William Carter is most impressive and I was astonished by all he had accomplished since wrestling for me at Mission Bay High School 47 years ago (1965 through June of 1968). At that time he was a very dedicated athlete.

I am sure, judging by the outstanding awards and honors William has received over the years, he would be a very worthy candidate for the Hall of Champions.

Yours truly,



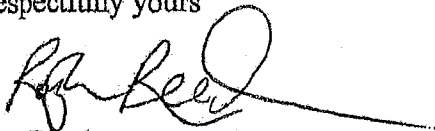
Elmer Runge  
1999 High School  
Coaching Legends  
Recipient

February,10,2012

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this on behalf of William Carter. First let me say that I was the assistant wrestling coach under the legendary Dr. Ivan Olsen at Lincoln High School. During a portion of the time we were privileged to have Mr. Carter as a valuable member of the coaching staff from about 1976-1983, if I remember correctly . Mr. Carter is a man of Integrity and Class teaching wrestling skills on the mat and life lessons to the young people who came through our program, which they used to become wonderfully productive members of society. We hold Mr. Carter in the highest of esteem.

Respectfully yours

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roy Reed", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Roy Reed  
Wrestling Coach Lincoln High  
1969-92 and 1995-98



## San Diego Unified School District

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

Center For the Arts – Teacher, Head Wrestling Coach and Track & Field  
4777 Imperial Dr, San Diego, CA 92113

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February 15, 2012

Dear Hall of Champions of San Diego,

Hello! My name is Francois Portee and I a teacher and athletic coach on Lincoln High School's campus. I am proud to be able to say that I was trained by coach William Carter to be a head coach of any program. He taught me the values of putting the athlete first and focus on the character of the student, which is the core to any program. I coached with coach Carter from 1999 to 2003. Within those years we saw the most success in any program there at Lincoln High in the field of Wrestling. At the end, we ended up producing the first California State Champions in female wrestling. We were also invited to participate with our athletes in the National Girls Wrestling Championships, which took place in Michigan at Lake Orion High School. For the first time as a California team, we won the National Championship in 2002. Our athlete from Lincoln, Sherri Foster was the team captain of this California team. She became an "All American" that year placing 6<sup>th</sup> at the Nationals.

Coach Carter is a father figure to many of our student athletes on the campus. He was even a father figure to me showing me the value of cultivating leadership first in our young athletes. Today, I have been the head coach for Lincoln High School's wrestling team and have carried on the philosophy and tradition that coach Carter first laid when he got here. "Be a champ on the mat, in the classroom, at home and in your community". Coach carter was not only a great coach be he was also a great mentor for me to carry on the tradition of excellence!

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at anytime at 619-266-6500 X2674. Thank you.

Sincerely

Francois Portee  
Education Specialist II  
M.ED – Special Education  
[Fportee@sandi.net](mailto:Fportee@sandi.net)  
619-266-6500 X2674

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BECOMING AMERICA'S BEST



February 17, 2012



Dear Hall of Champions of San Diego,

I am writing this letter to disclose my past experiences working with my good friend William H. Carter. William has assisted my father, legendary boxer Archie Moore training and coaching fighters for various championship fights throughout the world. As an All Star Team Head School Coach in San Diego, his ability to train boxers of all classes (light, middle and heavy weight) demonstrates his range of abilities as an instructor.

William's assistance and support with my personal Boxing Program- The Mongoose Boxing ABC Youth Foundation- has helped to positively develop its cause to encourage scholarship, health, and citizenship of our youth fighters. Furthermore, he helped set up the Redick Bowe's Training Camp prior to him defeating Evander Hollyfield as well as being the corner man and coach of Gilbert Sweet when he fought Bernard Hopkins under Mongoose Boxing.

I am honored to have worked with William and grateful of his contribution to the arena of Boxing and Coaching. His coaching philosophy is in line with the positive values and discipline great athletes and individuals seek to maintain.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 619-244-4572.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Billy R. Moore'. The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the 'Thank you,' text.

Billy Moore  
President  
*Mongoose Boxing*  
*AnyBody Can Youth Foundation*

February 10, 2012

Hall of Champions Sports Museum  
2131 Pan American Plaza  
Balboa Park  
San Diego, CA 92101

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Mr. William Carter is the epitome of a great leader, mentor, professional, and coach. The words "you are a champ" remain in my head to this day. I was the first female on his wrestling team at Lincoln High School in San Diego, California, from 1999-2002. I never wanted to wrestle; softball was my passion at the time. I went to try-outs to prove that females can do whatever a man can, and surprisingly made the team. My first wrestling match was against a twelfth grader who was a CIF champion and had a scholarship to Iowa state university to wrestle. The referee blew the whistle and the match started and was over in 30 seconds; I had a bloody lip, and a bruised nose. I cried hysterically and told Coach Carter I was going to quit that day. He comforted me, told me I was a champ, and assured me that everything would be okay if I continued to practice and kept the mind-set I could win. That day opened my eyes to the unlimited possibilities because with his help I started to believe in myself. Coach Carter made sure I would never give up on myself, and more importantly never quit or feel defeated.

Coach Carter's vision was for every person he interacted with to "be a champ on and off the mat." I grew up without a father who has been incarcerated since I was five years old, and I had a single mom who worked 12-hour shifts at the county jail. Coach Carter was like a father to me. He guided me in the right direction and taught me not only the technical and tactical skills of wrestling, but also to value my body and respect myself in all situations. Because of his support, motivation, and charismatic personality I did not become a negative statistic as many others who grew up in the same predicament.

Coach Carter went above and beyond for everyone on the wrestling team. He visited our classes to make sure we were attending, getting good grades, and acting accordingly to fulfill the title of being a "champ" in the classroom. He emphasized the importance of education to little league baseball teams as well when he gave speeches on opening day. During Lincoln High Schools monthly newsletter, he made sure the team's achievements from wrestling matches and tournaments were acknowledged. Furthermore, the local newspaper the *voice and viewpoint* and a local news anchor brought attention to the program by coming to the matches and tournaments which were a direct result of Coach Carter's voice and talent. Coach Carter spent many hours at Lincoln High School, and was there when we needed him, no matter what.

Some of my most memorable moments were when we travelled throughout California and to Lake Orion, Michigan for wrestling tournaments. Coach Carter made sure our team had all the necessities and could attend by organizing fund raisers and speaking on our behalf to the community. If it weren't for him it would have been impossible for my counterparts and I to attend the tournaments because of financial limitations.

I am an All-American wrestler, and have won county, state, and national titles because of his coaching and motivation. Today, I am a government contractor and travel to various locations world-wide (including some hazardous environments) to train and teach government regulations. I joined the United States Army upon graduation from high school and received various accolades to include the Meritorious Service Medal. I learned discipline from Coach Carter before I joined the military and I believe his mentorship has a direct correlation with the success I have experienced in my life. Moreover, I have an associate's degree from Central Texas College, a Bachelors of Science degree from University of Phoenix, and am pursuing a Master's of Business Administration Degree from Howard University.

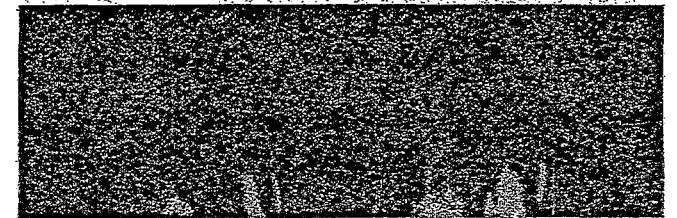
I wanted to emulate what I saw in Coach Carter because he is positive, did great things in the community, and never gave up on his team. He always puts others before himself and he has such a great heart. He even reached out to some of the troubled males in my family, and had a positive influence in their lives as well. I highly recommend that Coach Carter be inducted into the San Diego Hall of Champions Sports Museum and I appreciate your most valuable consideration. Coach Carter is a true champ and I am honored to know a man of his stature. Thank you,



Sherri Foster  
Springfield, VA  
619-565-8804

# ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

The Year of the Bucs . . . William Henry Carter, better known to his wrestling fans as "Spiderman," was selected as the Outstanding Winter Athlete. Carter was selected by the Letterman's Club on the basis of his performance in wrestling. Carter's record was 15 wins, 1 loss, and he totaled 67 points for the season. He also lettered in Varsity football this season.



Jeanette Alessio-Way  
The History Lady  
5641-C Lake Murray Blvd  
La Mesa, CA 91942  
619-462-6363

June 15, 2014

To whom it may concern:

I have known the Carter family for my 73 years and I have known of Virgie McCain's community service for years.

When my grandparents Dominic and Rosa Alessio moved to San Diego in 1921, William (Billy's) grandmother was the first person to live on Wabash in North Park, and they became close friends. We have been close friends for three generations now.

William has been giving back to the community all of his life, and has not stopped his work with youth through sports and as a strong role model. His work as a Firefighter, putting his life on the line for those of his community.

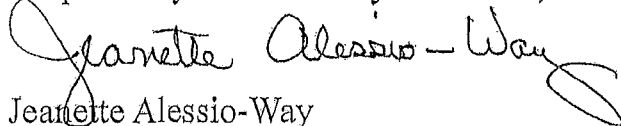
During the North Park PSA Airline crash William Carter was a First Responder, the small plane had gown down on Polk and Lincoln streets, it was half a block from my parents home and his parents.

William has strong family values, and he is a believer in church and the betterment of his community.

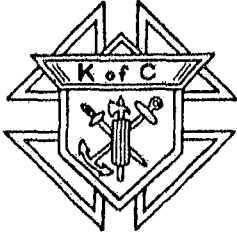
It would be so fitting to change the name of City Heights Mini park in honor of Virgie Hazel McCain and William Henry Carter Mini Park.

It was such a plus when First Lady Michelle Obama came to San Diego to use the City Heights Mini Park garden as an example of healthy living in America.

Respectfully and sincerely submitted,



Jeanette Alessio-Way  
The History Lady



**Knights of Columbus**  
COLUMBUS CLUB  
4425 Home Avenue  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92105  
(619) 262-9098

**June 13, 2014**  
**Raul Contreras, Area 2 Manager**  
**Parks & Recreation Department**  
**City of San Diego**  
**4380 Landis Street -M S 804-C**  
**San Diego, California 92101**

**As a new member in the area, I am very impressed to discover that there was a grassroots effort to involve the community in transforming an empty lot, that for some was a sore point but for others an opportunity to develop a better place for the community.**

**There were two people who lead through example, secured funding, developed fund raising activities, to clear the land and then develop a mini park. The City Height Mini Park is now one cornerstone of the community.**

**To Virgie Hazel McCain and William Henry Carter a great tribute should be acclaimed for what they accomplished and as role models. Their names will be inspiration for those who think it can't be done and for those who say yes we can.**

**Renaming City Heights Mini Park to Virgie Hazel McCain and William Henry Carter Park along with a written inscription of their effort would be a great tribute. They are community role models of success.**

**In God I Trust,**  
*Vic Resendez*  
**Vic Resendez**  
**Manager, Columbus Club**

---

*New Bethel*



*Baptist Church*

To: Raul Contreras

Area 2 Manger Parks & Recreation Department

Re: Renaming the mini park in City Heights on 39<sup>th</sup> Street, near Quince.

Mr. Contreras,

I am Rev. Curtis L. Moss, Sr., Pastor of New Bethel Baptist Church located at 2924 39<sup>th</sup> Street. The church has been at this location since 1959. I have been the Pastor since March 28, 2009. I am writing you this correspondence in order to make a request that the Parks and Recreation Department would consider renaming the mini park in our neighborhood after two people that was very instrumental in having the park here in City Heights. Their names are Mrs. Virgie Hazel McCain, and Mr. William Carter. Mrs. McCain, better known to us as Mother McCain, is a member of our church and was helpful in establishing it here in City Heights in 1959. Mother McCain was born in Oklahoma, August 24, 1910. She will be celebrating her one hundred and fourth birthday in August. She has lived in this community since 1956. She has raised eight children; she is a historian, she has always been a community activist and was a member of the City Heights Development Committee in 1972, which established the park we now have. Mr. William Carter was on the committee with her in 1972, he also lived here in the community. It is my sincere request that you would please consider these two people in the renaming of the mini park.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Regards,

*Rev. Curtis L. Moss, Sr., Pastor*

Rev. Curtis L. Moss, Sr., Pastor

New Bethel Baptist Church

---

**Pastor Curtis L. Moss, Sr.**

2924 39th Street San Diego, CA 92105 • Phone: (619) 283-9914 • Cell (619) 606-1797 • email: curtis\_moss@att.net

*The San Diego*  
**Voice & Viewpoint**



P.O. Box 120095 · San Diego, CA · (619) 266-2233 · FAX (619) 266-0533

John E. Warren  
*Publisher/CEO*

Chida Warren-Darby  
*Managing Editor*

June 19, 2014

Raul Contreras, Area 2 Manager  
Parks & Recreation Department  
City of San Diego  
4380 Landis Street – MS 804-C  
San Diego, CA 92101

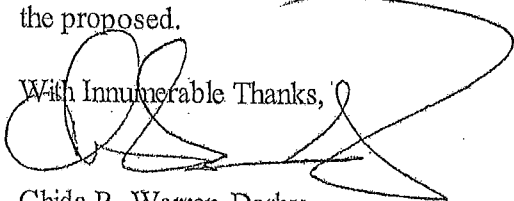
Mr. Contreras:

This letter is to inform you that *The Voice & Viewpoint Newspaper* is in support of the renaming of the City Heights Mini Park to the proposed name of the Virgie Hazel McCain and William Henry Carter Mini Park.

For the past 42 years, the residents of City Heights have benefited from the hard work of McCain and Carter and it would be fitting to show how much they're appreciated through this gesture.

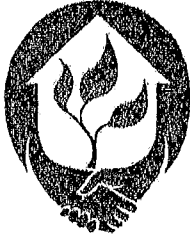
For their many years of servitude and dedication, we hope that you will strongly consider and act upon the proposed.

With Innumerable Thanks,



Chida R. Warren-Darby  
Managing Editor/CAO





**CITY HEIGHTS  
COMMUNITY**  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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*4001 El Cajon Blvd., Suite 205*

*San Diego CA 92105*

*619-584-1535*

June 18, 2014

Re: Support for the renaming of City Heights Mini Park

To whom it may concern:

City Heights Community Development Corporation affirms its support for the renaming of City Heights Mini Park in honor of Vergie Hazel Price-McCain.

Through decades of service in the community, Vergie Hazel Price-McCain and her family brought about real change in City Heights including working for the creation of the City Heights Mini Park located at 3033 39<sup>th</sup> Street.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Grimes", is written over a horizontal line.

Kenneth Grimes



Administrative & Counseling Offices  
Barrio Youth Center & Community Swimming Pool  
2175 Newton Avenue • San Diego, CA 92113  
Tel: 619.238.0314 • Fax: 619.238.0331  
E-mail: [info@barriostation.org](mailto:info@barriostation.org)  
Website: [barriostation.org](http://barriostation.org)

June 9, 2014

Raul Contreras, Area 2 Manager  
Parks & Recreation Department  
City of San Diego  
4380 Landis Street – M S 804-C  
San Diego, California 92101

Re: Support for Renaming of City Heights Mini Park to The Hazel-Carter Mini Park  
In honor of Virgie Hazel and William "Billy" Carter longtime residents of City Heights

It gives me great pleasure to recommend the renaming of the City Heights Mini Park as stated above because of the hard labor of love carried out by Virgie Hazel and William "Billy" Carter to create the referenced community mini park while calling attention to the numerous physical needs of the City Heights community.

They worked to get funding to create the park and finally made it happen on December 2, 1972. It is a real tribute to these two individuals who have demonstrated strong back bone and love for their community. It would be a fitting tribute to the unnoticed heroes and sheros of times when struggle was at its highest point of perseverance and struggle for community empowerment.

Both Hazel and Billy have outstanding backgrounds in community involvement and recognition. They quietly continue to live as proud members of the City Heights community. They have served City Heights as activists including Ms. Hazel being President of the City Heights Community Development Committee, church leadership and other social activities and Mr. Carter serving on the City Schools challenging Integration Committee, nomination to the Hall of Champions and much more; always striving to make their community a better and better place for all the area constituents to live in.

I wholeheartedly support this renaming initiative. Please open up your hearts and pay tribute to these pioneers of color; now in a time when Americans are deemed to be open minded about honoring quiet leaders who surfaced from within the very grassroots of their communities,

It is hoped that you will receive this recommendation with your hearts open and seize a rare opportunity to honor two humble servants of the community which they love and have nurtured over many decades.

Sinceramente,

Rachael Ortiz, Executive Director

**In Partnership with:**

The Private Sector • Foundations • Individual Contributors • City of San Diego • County of San Diego

MS

Continued from B

"The firefighters kept boiler get out. I said, 'I'm pretty hear said, 'We don't care how hear we're going to get you out.' I foolish."

Surveying the damage to be as she walked across the sp soaked carpet, 65-year-old Iv called how she awoke at 4 stepped out of her bed into water.

Clothes and records were p her bed, and her sofa, a laund of clothing and other furniture moved into the center of her



United Press International/Paul Richards

Firefighter Ralph Cirillo, top photo, leads the way as fireman Billy Carter carries a grateful Ival Astor to higher ground, lower.



INS

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star of the BuCs . . . William Henry Carter, known to his wrestling fans as "Spider" was selected as the Outstanding Winter Athlete. Carter was selected by the Letterman's on the basis of his performance in wrestling. Carter's record was 15 wins, 1 loss, and he scored 67 points for the season. He also played in Varsity football this season.



BA  
Ro  
Ma  
Go



Scott  
Dave



*Victor X Crawford, DDS*

5106 Federal Blvd, #209  
San Diego, CA 92105  
619 264-0179

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*June 19, 2014*

*Raul Contreras, Area 2 Manager  
Parks & Recreation Department  
City of San Diego  
4380 Landis Street - MS 804-C  
San Diego, California 92101*

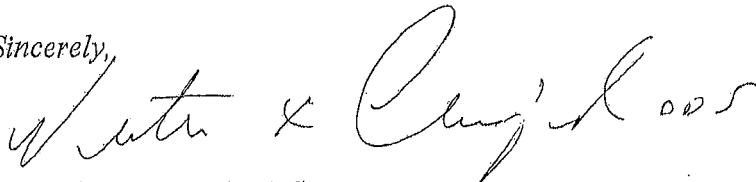
*RE: Supporting the renaming of City Heights Mini Park to The Hazel  
-Carter Mini Park*

*I am pleased to add my name to the list of those supporting the renaming of the City Heights Mini Park to The Hazel-Carter Mini Park. Both individuals have shown a great love of their community and family. I have known them and their family members for over forty years and they have my full support.*

*I believe the community will greatly benefit from the name change of the park. Their past involvement in the community will be shared with future generations to come, and the preservation of the history of those from the community.*

*Mrs. McCain is 103 years old and it would certainly be a benefit to do this in her life time. I fully support this renaming process, and the positive attributions for these two individuals and their community.*

*Sincerely,*



*Victor X. Crawford, DDS*

