

The copy below is the original of the main article as submitted to the Leisure World News for publication in the September 20, 2024, edition. Everything highlighted in yellow was edited out of the published copy. (S. Weaver)



Sharon Waugh Lee with the MJ Playbill
(Photos by Sherry Weaver)



Arriving back at Clubhouse II after MJ

Starting a New LWAAAC Year by Sherry Weaver

September Membership Meeting

Meeting day, September 4, began at 2:30 with the return of representatives of the Maryland African American Health program, who resumed their monthly offering of medical screenings for members. President Maxine Hooker opened the business meeting at 4:00 and welcomed the membership back after the organization's customary two-month hiatus. On a somber note, she reported that four LWAAAC members had passed away since the last meeting and extended heartfelt condolences to family members and friends.

Optimistic reports were delivered by committee chairs, including plans for the coming 30th anniversary year celebration to be held on Saturday, December 21, an ongoing review of the organization's bylaws, and a makeover of the quarterly newsletter's graphics. Community service committee chair Juanita Sealy-Williams reported that she and other LWAAAC members have responded to the call for door monitors at Strathmore Elementary School. Anyone interested in signing up can contact volunteer coordinator, Linda Mahler, at Lindamahler50@gmail.com.

Road Trip

Around 6:30 pm on Thursday, September 5, two Eyre buses rolled up to the main entrance of Clubhouse II and disgorged about 150 happy LWAAAC members and others returning from the long-anticipated performance of *MJ The Musical* at Washington's National Theater. These theater excursions are a hugely popular staple among LWAAAC activities, and this one sold out well in advance of the day of the performance.

Reviews of the show were glowing. Fairways South resident Joan Oliver said, “It was a great show.” And Sharon Lee added, “You almost thought it was Michael.” High praise also was reserved for trip coordinator and chair of the programs committee, Sandy Henderson. Helen Hendricks, one of LWAAAC’s lifetime members who relies on a walking frame, summed up: “Sandy took such good care of me. I didn’t have to walk down any steps in the theater.” The bus will roll next for a performance of *JaJa’s African Hair Braiding* at Arena Stage on October 9. Tickets for this production were limited and expected to be sold out by mid-September.