How God got Ella Owens’ attention

By Sylvester Brown Jr.  Of The St. Louis American

“It appeared that my life was going along rather well.”

In her letter to The American, Ella Owens expressed appreciation for her life. As an assistant and missionary president at Greater Leonard Missionary Baptist Church in the Old North neighborhood, she involved in running the church, collecting offerings, worshipping, doing missionary work in the neighborhood, and overseeing once-a-week food and clothing give-aways.

When COVID-19 struck, Ella Owens lost her husband, Phillip, in March and her brother, Joseph, in May. She lost her mother, Ella and her husband, Philip, in July. She lost a sibling, I lost best friends, I lost my boyfriend, Ms. Turner could tell when something was wrong. I didn’t have to say anything.”

Ella Wilson was a self-proclaimed “busy bee” during her senior year at Lift For Life Academy in 2019. She was class president, heavily involved in sports, an activist and valedictorian.

Ariel Turner is 2020 SEMO Counselor of the Year

By Rebecca Rivas  Of The St. Louis American

The St. Louis American was a self-proclaimed “busy bee” during her senior year at Lift For Life Academy in 2019. She was class president, heavily involved in sports, an activist and valedictorian.

“Yet, I was still growing up on the North Side of St. Louis,” Wilson said. “During the last two years of high school, I lost a lot of people. I lost my brother, I lost best friends, I lost my boyfriend. Ms. Turner could tell when something was wrong. I didn’t have to say anything.”

Ariel Turner is a college and career counselor at Lift For Life Academy, a charter school in St. Louis. The school building, at 1371 South Broadway was once a bank and still has the marble teller counters and columns in the school lobby. Turner could tell if something was off. The minute Wilson walked through the school doors, Wilson said, and they would “talk for hours” in.

Explaining the important dates for the Nov. 3 general election

By Nigel Holloway  Of The St. Louis American

Ordinary people with extraordinary vision can redeem the soul of America by getting in the church and gathering with fellow parishioners.”

For The St. Louis American

By Nigel Holloway

“Voting and participating in the democratic process are key. The vote is the most powerful nonviolent change agent you have in a democratic society. You must use it because it is not guaranteed. You can lose it.”

Every citizen has the opportunity of having their voice heard in the November 3 presidential election by casting their ballot. Absentee voting is underway, as of September 22. Voters should note these other important dates.

• October 7: Last day to register to vote
• October 21: Last day to request ballot by mail
• October 31: Saturday absentee voting 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
• November 2: Last day to vote absentee in person
• November 3: Absentee ballots must be received by election authority by 7 p.m.

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American wins Gold Cup from MO Press

Captures the coveted award for the sixth time in eight years

The St. Louis American won the Gold Cup award for weekly newspapers with a circulation of 5,000 or more from Missouri Press Association in its 2020 Better Newspaper Contest. This marks the sixth time in the past eight years that The St. Louis American has won top honors among all large weeklies from the state press association.

In all, The American won 41 statewide awards, the most it has ever won in this competition. Besides the Gold Cup, The St. Louis American won 10 first place awards, 12 second place awards, nine third place awards and 11 honorable mentions.

Each year, a different state press association judges the competition. This year, it was the South Carolina Press Association.

“This is an affirmation of the journalism quality of our mission-driven work that is achieved by our staff,” Wilson said.

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2020 Salute to Excellence

‘Second mom’ at Lift For Life

Ariel Turner is 2020 SEMO Counselor of the Year

By Rebecca Rivas

The St. Louis American earns its 2020 Gold Cup, Harris-Stowe sign agreement to develop STEM educators

See page B1

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Owens
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to church. The modern, red brick building, Greater Leonard Missionary Baptist Church, is on 11th Street in the Old North neighborhood. Ellis serves as the administrative assistant and

mencypastor

for the church. Churching her roles, Ellis or the church (constantly. The attends to its business, col-

lection of offerings, worshipping, being the missionary work in the neighborhood), and overseeing once-a-week food and clothing drive.

Then, Ella’s fulfilled life

was interrupted. The first job
came on her birthday, March 22 as she prepared to attend the last Greater Leonard worship service for a while. At the time, the federal government strongly urged Americans to limit gatherings to no more than 10 people. St. Louis Mayor Lyda Krewson even halted a teleconference with 30 clergy members, including

Black ministers, to encourage them not to hold services.

It was a small move. By July, more than 460 counties

cases nationwide had been linked to religious facilities.

Millions of churches, like Ellis, suddenly found them-

selves without the sanctuary of safety, solace and fellowship during a insulate and charitable

Ella’s survived COVID-19.

Dr. Michael Annsats, MD

is a board-certified gastroenterologist. He treats all disorders of the gastrointestinal (GI) tract, including irritable bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease, pancreatic disorders, esophageal disorders, biliary disorders, and more. He also provides cutting-edge surgeries and procedures that align with the latest research and technology.

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“f feared I might have spread it to them.” Ella said. “I felt like everything was my fault. I blamed myself for that I cried out to God.”

Ellas was interrupted. The first job came on her birthday, March 22, as she prepared to attend the last Greater Leonard worship service for a while. At the time, the federal government strongly urged Americans to limit gatherings to no more than 10 people. St. Louis Mayor Lyda Krewson even halted a teleconference with 30 clergy members, including Black ministers, to encourage them not to hold services. It was a small move. By July, more than 460 counties cases nationwide had been linked to religious facilities. Millions of churches, like Ellis, suddenly found themselves without the sanctuary of safety, solace and fellowship during a insulate and charitable

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