

# Somerset Times

## Spring Edition

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Deon Thomas  
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## Truth be Told

The forerunner of Rosa Parks  
By Kalei Hubbard

Before there was a Rosa Parks, Sojourner Truth fought against discrimination in public transportation- on trains. It became the practice with railroad travel that African Americans had to stand outside on a flat car.

In one incident, "Sojourner had not got up from her seat on the train when white people had wanted her seat, but after a long day of work Truth was tired and decided to give up her seat not only because she was exhausted but to also prove that she has a right to sit where she was sitting, for African Americans to always stand up for themselves. But to lastly, prove a point that because even if she is a woman of color she can also do what any white women or men do."

She gained such notoriety through her protest that Mrs. Lincoln sat with her to show solidarity.

In a "nod" to those who advocate for reparations today, Truth wrote letters to congressional representatives in the 1860s calling for the government to give land to former slaves.

Truth, a former slave, earned great distinction as an opponent of slavery and a



proponent of African American and women's rights.

Even though she never had the opportunity for a formal education, she was a powerful speaker- as witnessed in her "Ain't I Woman" speech: "Look at me! Look at my arm! I have plowed and planted, gathered into barns, and no man could head me! And ain't I a woman? I could

work as much, eat as much as a man- when I could get it- and bear the lash as well! And ain't I a woman? I have borne thirteen children, and seen most all sold off to slavery, and when I cried out with my mother's grief, none but Jesus heard me! And ain't I a woman?"

Advisor: Mr. Kubeck

Editor: Isaac

### *Upcoming Events:*

- March 31st (Combined Day Schedule), Career Fair
- April 4th - Friday, April 8th, Spring Intersession
- April 11th - April 15th, Easter Break

# Covid-19's Affect on Society

By Jared Perdomo

Covid-19 is a virus that came from the Middle East and rapidly spread throughout the world, becoming a pandemic. Many things were affected, including education, work-life balance, and most drastically, the economy. Most states ordered some businesses to shut down in an effort to stop the spread of the virus. COVID-19 had a major effect on our lives. Many of us struggled during this pandemic with challenges that can be stressful and overwhelming. Many people suffered from this virus. Some reasons why covid affected us is because of social distancing, fear, and death

Humans are social creatures who need connections with others. Beyond just being a natural desire, socialization and feelings of connection have long been known to play an important role in preventing and treating mental problems. The first

reason why covered society is affected is because of social distancing. Social distancing can be one of the best tools we have to avoid being exposed to this virus and slow its spread. However, having to physically distance yourself from someone you love, like friends, family, or coworkers, can be hard. Social distancing makes you have less human interaction and less communication. That affected many people because they became socially awkward and some developed social anxiety. People were still affected even

though they did not get the virus.

Secondly, there was fear. Many people feared this virus for many reasons. Some could not make any income and were scared that they were going to lose everything. Some people were too scared to make social connections with others. Most were afraid they were going to get COVID-19, and with cases going up, more people feared this virus. People were panicking, buying more than what they needed from the store, not thinking of others. People were fighting to get groceries; they were all afraid. COVID-19 made people feel unsafe in just Los Angeles County. There were 2.7 million cases and 30,000 deaths. Lastly, death was how COVID-19 affected our society. Many people died around the world. With 418M cases and 5.85M deaths.

Someday I hope we can go back to normal and not wear a mask on our faces all day, but who knows when this pandemic will be over?



## Teachers 'Smoke' Students at Dodgeball

In the foreground, Mr. Fisher is primed to deliver a blow while Mr. Ahumada and Mr. Higgins celebrate.

As Covid restrictions relax, students enjoy fun moments with staff.



# Aliens

Evidence Suggests We May Not Be Alone

By Alan Hernandez

Aliens have been talked about for many years and are also reportedly seen. Aliens have been spotted in many countries, but many may be fake. Everyone has their own beliefs when it comes to aliens. One location that. The sighting by the U.S. Navy is confirmed by the Pentagon. A Retired Navy Lieutenant Commander Alex Dietrich reported that there was a It's a weird looking object in the sky with no wings to be able to fly. According to A news report from the New York Times Obama states that "What is true, And I'm actually being serious here, "Mr. Obama said," is that there is We have video and audio recordings of objects in the sky that we don't know what to make of. They are. " By Julian E. Barnes and Helene Cooper. In the newspaper, it

One pilot talks about Navy pilots who were often unsettled by the sighting. One pilot states that a strange object in the sky was spinning against the wind and that this object would be seen almost daily from summer 2014 to March 2015 high in the sky over the East Coast. Lt. Ryan, a retired F/A-18 super hornet pilot who has been in the navy for 10 years, told The New York Times that they would see these strange objects in the sky all day.

# MLB Players see a “third strike” with Owner Lockout

Amidst Covid, Players seeking a minimum 800k  
By Duece Perezidente

## How the People feel about it

Major League Baseball has currently been in a lockout since December 1, 2021. This means that owners can literally lockout players from the team facility and stop all baseball activities, including games and trades. This is the first lockout there has been since 1994. There have only been four lockouts in the past 50 years. This has also been the longest lockdown, at 75 days and still going. It was only 13 days in 1973, 17 days in 1976, 32 days in 1990, and now it is 2021. Spring training is right around the corner and baseball should be starting up again, but with this lockdown, there is no saying if it will start or not. This lockout has players and millions of baseball fans upset. With football being over and basketball ending soon, people are waiting for baseball. The off-season is very exciting for baseball fans, with all the off-season games, trades,



This late March will be a lonely time at the Arizona and Florida Major League Baseball training camps. Empty ballfields, stands, and maybe fewer fans will be the result. Spring training is a fun time for young kids to meet players, watch teams early and see how they have grown. MLB players also get their chance to shine and prove they deserve to be in the MLB during spring training, but now, with this lockout going on, they might not get the chance.



retirements, and contracts being signed. Fans enjoy seeing which new players are going to help their favorite team and who will be leaving the team. Since MLB has been in a lockout, we have not seen anything like that, and it is frustrating millions of people. When the lockout started, people did not think too much of it. Players' profile pictures had to be removed and turned into blank mannequins looking people. People started to make memes and funny pictures and edits about it. However, once it started to go on too long, people started to get mad. A deal is the only thing that can stop the lockdown and the CBA from denying the deal for 5 years now.

## What is a Lockout?

A lockout is exactly what it sounds like; players are locked out of their team facilities and cannot participate in any baseball activities. The only things going on during a lockout are contract deals and players' working out. When everything is stopped, they do it to pressure the union into expediting CBA negotiations.

## Spring Training

# Virtual Reality

By Edy Salazar

A person using special electronic equipment can interact with a computer-generated simulation of a three-dimensional image or environment that can be interacted with in a seemingly real or physical way through virtual reality. Virtual reality has many uses other than just having fun with friends playing games. Some of the many uses that it has are helping with mental health, medical training, education, architecture, and many more.

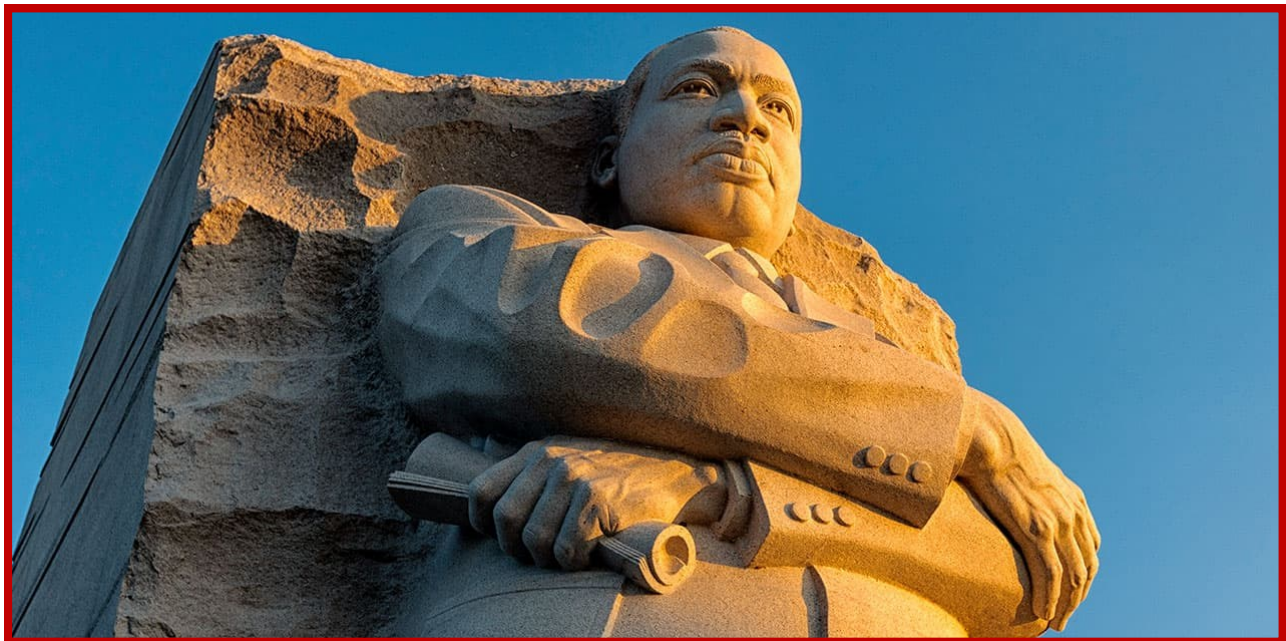
VR is used in the medical field to help doctors visualize the inside of a body, uncovering inaccessible areas. Doctors also use it to plan difficult surgical procedures like skull-based procedures. It allows them to safely navigate through very small "corridors" in the brain to get the tumor out.



Virtual reality is also used in education by providing students with memorable and immersive experiences that would otherwise be impossible. Virtual reality can help students learn better through experience, spark imagination and creative thinking, promote peer interaction, and provide a realistic travel experience.

Virtual reality is used in architecture by allowing the engineer to look at the infrastructure of a building before actually building it.

## Dr. King's Legacy



As we observe African American History month, we honor his accomplishments, but look forward to further progress.