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Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden Clarifies message to Black America

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior Correspondent

Presumptive Democratic Presidential Nominee Joe Biden clarified his message to Black America after the GOP, and others, seized on a remark he made in jest while wrapping up an interview with the famous Breakfast Club.

"I shouldn't have been such a wise guy," Biden stated after the comments to show host, Charlamagne Tha God, went viral.

"I shouldn't have been so cavalier. No one should have to vote for any party based on their race, religion, and background."

As the Breakfast Club interview wrapped and a Biden aide said he was running short on time, Charlamagne asked the former vice president to stop by the studio when Biden returns to New York.

"It's a long way until November," Charlamagne told Biden. "We've got more questions."

Biden replied, "You've got more questions?" "Well, I tell you what, if you have a problem figuring out whether you're for Trump or me, then you ain't black."

Republicans seized on the re-



"I shouldn't have been such a wise guy," Biden stated after the comments to The Breakfast Club host, Charlamagne Tha God, went viral. (Photo: joebiden.com)

mark, with some sending emails to NNPA Newswire claiming that Biden was "race-baiting."

In response, NNPA Newswire asked members of the GOP to address what many in the African American community believe have been the racially-charged remarks and actions of the president.

There was no response.

"The comments made at the end of the Breakfast Club interview were in jest, but let's be clear about what the VP was saying: he was making the distinction that

he would put his record with the African American community up against Trump's any day. Period," Biden's senior advisor Symone D. Sanders wrote on Twitter.

"Vice President Biden spent his career fighting alongside and for the African American community. He won his party's nomination by earning every vote and meeting people where they are, and that's exactly what he intends to do this November," Sanders stated.

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NAACP media forum leaves out newspapers

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A 'Smart' approach to staying fit

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West calls out Cornyn over video ad

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DISD students stand out in essay contest

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Dreams of lifting family business

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Irving to begin reopening of some city facilities

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Lovebirds shows talent, but falls flat

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READERS SOUND OFF!!!
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People In The News...

Angelina Solis

Rep. Maxine Waters

NDG Quote of the Week: "Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken winged bird that cannot fly."
— Langston Hughes

Angelina Solis

Undeterred by a crises that led her to homelessness, Angelina Solis will finish in the top 15 of her graduating class at Bryan Adams High School and attend Texas A&M University on scholarships next Fall.

At 15, Solis was a Bryan Adams sophomore, immersed in the Leadership Academy and played in the drumline of the school's marching band. Unexpectedly, her family got evicted and had to move without a day's notice to her hometown of Fort Wayne, Indiana.



"We were struggling, but my mom never let us see it," Solis said. "I only had 20 minutes to pack all my clothes and whatever I could grab. That same night, my family, my dog and my

turtle took the 19-hour road trip to Indiana."

Her family bounced from house to house after arriving. The administrators of her new high school determined she'd have to repeat 10th grade. Solis missed her high school and her old life, so she attempted to return to normalcy.

She asked her Bryan Adams friends if they could put her up while she went to school.

She convinced her mom to let her return to Texas and coordinated phone calls between her mother and her friend's parents. When all was in place, she found

a ride to Dallas with family members who were heading to Corpus Christi. And by the Fall of her junior year, she was back in Bryan Adams High School.

"I chose to come back by myself. I'm considered homeless because I don't really live with my parents and just stay with friends," she said. "That's been a challenge, because I've had to keep my academics as my focus and not let my personal challenges get on the way."

Bryan Adams High School offers Career and Technical Education through NAF Academies

and a unique Leadership Academy program.

Under this model, all students partake in a portfolio defense during their sophomore and senior year, where they speak about their leadership skills and academic achievements in front of a committee of educators and community leaders. Solis has been taking classes in the biomedical science pathway for the last four years.

"The (NAF) endorsement was important to me and I didn't want to give up on what I had accomplished in the previous years," Solis said. "This is where I start-

ed high school and where I spent two years of my life with all these people that I know now. I found a good program and a group of friends that I didn't want to walk away from."

Solis currently lives at a friend's house and works at Dick's Sporting Goods. She has already been accepted into Texas A&M University, where she plans to earn a Bachelor of Science in Health. Her mom, who is a surgical technologist, inspired her to join the medical field. Solis' goal is to become a nurse practitioner or a veterinarian.

Rep. Maxine Waters

WASHINGTON – Congresswoman Maxine Waters (CA-43) issued a statement on the murder of George Floyd of Minneapolis, MN. George Floyd was an unarmed African American man who died in police custody after Minneapolis police officers forced him to the ground and one officer pinned his knee on George Floyd's neck for five minutes. Floyd was recorded on video pleading for help and repeatedly telling the police "I cannot breathe" to no avail. Her statement follows:

"George Floyd is yet



another unarmed African American man who has been killed at the hands of the police. George Floyd's murder is a painful and tragic indication that we have, in fact, entered into an era where some law en-

forcement officers, white supremacists, and other radical extremists are feeling empowered to target, brutalize, and kill unarmed African Americans with impunity. I extend my sincere condolences to George Floyd's family, friends, and loved ones during this incredibly difficult time.

"As our community reflects on the actions by police officers that led to George Floyd's death, we cannot help but be reminded of Eric Garner, another unarmed Black man who, like George Floyd, cried out 'I can't breathe' but was ignored by New York City police offices and died as a re-

sult of their negligence and excessive use of force. We think of Michael Brown, Tamir Rice, Philando Castile, Botham Jean, Atatiana Jefferson, Breonna Taylor, and countless other African Americans who have been killed at the hands of officers who swore an oath to protect and serve their communities.

"I am grateful to those who captured video footage of the inhumane and unconscionable treatment that George Floyd was subjected to by law enforcement officers. Just as we have witnessed with the murder of Ahmaud Arbery by armed white vigilantes who were

not arrested until video footage was released publicly, were it not for the video footage of George Floyd being pinned to the ground by the knee of a police officer for five minutes, the swift action by the City of Minneapolis to remove the four officers from the police department may not have occurred.

"While I am pleased with the firing of the officers involved in this incident, George Floyd's death must be properly investigated by an independent counsel, and all who were involved must be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. Such injustice at the hands of the

police must not be tolerated. Unfortunately, African Americans cannot trust the current U.S. attorney general or the current president of the United States to provide leadership and use the power of their offices to confront the racial bias, targeting, and use of excessive force by police officers across the country. In the absence of leadership from our nation's highest office, I will be in contact with the nation's leading civil rights organizations and criminal justice reform advocacy groups as we unite and confront this epidemic of violence head on, and with one strong voice."

NDG Readers Sound Off...

Texas reopening - proceed with caution

My dogs know I spend a lot of time in the kitchen. The only place I go is the grocery store once a week at sunrise.

I now get six weeks to the gallon with my truck.

As an old goat, no visits to restaurants or bars, and no shopping at Neiman Marcus for sox or T-shirts.

- Hal Barker

Why are we so incapable of advocating for ourselves? It's like we're broken.

- Mamie Joseph

No amount of clothing is worth it right now.

- Chassity Roberson

Retirement And The IRS: What Seniors Need To Know At Tax-Filing Time

Thank you for sharing this. I have a lot of elderly clients who are about to age into different brackets, and a lot of them ask specifically about deductions claims. I will be sending this the next time I get a question.

- Matt

Capital One Bank data breach affects

140,000 Social Security numbers, 80,000 bank accounts

Lies. My mom passed and she became victim of id theft. They opened an account then cleaned her account and left nothing. Also attacking her heirs til this day.

- Shakia Holley

Secretary DeVos offers partial forgiveness for defrauded University of Phoenix borrowers

I applied for the Borrowers Defense more than

2 years ago...I am 65 yr old veteran whose GI Bill expired in 1980... I am carrying 85k in student loans from UPhoenix.... we get no news...none at all. Betsy Devos, what in the world is happening? I need help...

- Anonymous

Fort Worth Native Trains U.S. Navy Warfighters

This is a great post, I enjoy reading about people like Petty Officer 2nd Class Shumekkea Dears. - Unknown

Loved this. Ashley Congrats cousin

- Sherry

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Criminal Defense

- DWI / Suspended License
- WARRANTS Removed*
- 24 Hour Jail Release*
- Occupational license, felonies
- Protective Order
- Misdemeanor/Felonies*

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NAACP Black media forum excludes Black newspapers

By Hazel Trice Edney

(TriceEdneyWire.com)
A recent NAACP "Black Media Speaks" forum plummeted into a conversation in which the future of hard-copy Black-owned newspapers was all but pronounced dead. To the shock of some of the members of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), A federation of more than 200 Black-owned newspapers, there was not one Black newspaper journalist or publisher on the panel.

"In 2020, for there to be a virtual panel on Black Media and not invite or involve the NNPA or any of our member publishers to be on the panel goes beyond a mere oversight," said NNPA President/CEO Benjamin Chavis in an interview about the May 20 forum. "We're certainly going to meet about it as part of our ongoing strategic alliance between the NAACP and the NNPA."

Hosted by NAACP President/CEO Derrick Johnson and moderated by journalist Ed Gordon of Ed Gordon Media, formerly of BET, the forum had been widely promoted by the NAACP as a discussion on the need for Black media during the coronavirus pandemic and continued physical attacks on Black people by police and others. But those topics were barely mentioned during the entire hour.

Chavis was particularly taken-aback by remarks from panelists who painted a grim picture about the future of Black newspapers. Perhaps most notably were comments by Earl "Butch" Graves, president/CEO of Black Enterprise Magazine.

Graves was responding to a caller who identified herself as a second-generation publisher among those still "on the front line". She asked how members of the panel would use their positions to support Black print publications.

At first, Gordon responded

briefly: "This is all about survival at this point." Gordon mentioned how he'd worked closely with Real Times Media CEO Hiram Jackson to assure the survival of several of his Black-owned newspapers - such as the Michigan Chronicle and the Chicago Defender - now fully online. Then Graves weighed in heavily.

"We can't be tone deaf though," Graves said. "The reality is it's like those that are in retail that thought that retail would always survive... Print is not going to survive. It will not be here five years from now. That's a hard pill to swallow but it is a reality. So, either you reinvent or you die. And the reality is that now Black-owned media companies need to accept that cold hard fact."

Dorothy Tucker, president of the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) and a long time reporter for CBS, Channel 2 in Chicago, had stated earlier that there are "170 African-American newspapers that still exist." And, she said, "It is critical that we as African-Americans support Black-owned media," including historic Black newspapers that fought for the freedom of Black people and continue to do so.

Underscoring the need for a Black newspaper representative on the panel, Chavis said Tucker's number, 170, was inaccurate. Based on the NNPA member papers received at the D.C.-based NNPA headquarters, he said, there are 220 NNPA newspapers in print and 10 online publications that are Black-owned.

Chavis reflected on the videotaped forum. "It was like our epitaph. They were having the funeral, the eulogy, and the final rites." But, he noted, this is historically how the Black Press has been treated.

"For 193 years, the Black-owned press, since the days of Freedom's Journal, has faced the negative speculative and false analysis - not

just from White supremacists about the value of the Black Press - but sometimes the history will show that at one point some of our own people also attempted to undervalue the purpose, the mission, and the sustainability of the Black Press. By analogy, this is the same argument that people have said about HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) and the same questions about the need for the continuation of the historic Black church. If there's any person of African dissent who does not know the value of the Black-owned church, Black-owned HBCUs; Black-owned newspapers; then that person or group of people of African descent needs to re-immers themselves in the history and the long struggle of African people to build our own institutions, to build our own businesses, and to have our own voice in all of the media platforms - print, digital, online and social media."

Chavis was not alone in articulating the views of the NNPA. Denise Rolark Barnes, normally a mild-mannered NNPA publisher and former NNPA chair, emailed a letter expressing "disgust" about the forum to NAACP Senior Vice President of Marketing and Communications Aba Blankson.

Blankson responded the next day, directing a letter to Barnes, Chavis, NNPA Senior National Correspondent Stacy Brown, and the "NNPA Family." Both letters were copied to the Trice Edney News Wire.

Blankson said the Black Media Speaks forum was one of several events planned for this year. "In addition to NNPA, there are other voices we must include in future conversations, especially those about media. I want to use this moment to strengthen our relationship."

She offered to "work together to plan an NNPA / NAACP specific event in the coming weeks."

Blankson did not explain

how or why members of NNPA or other reporters for Black newspapers were not invited to the "Black Media Speaks" panel in the first place. Neither did NAACP President Johnson respond to repeated requests for an interview about the matter.

However, the NAACP's Crisis Magazine, a quarterly print publication, was not spared amidst the criticism as NAACP President Johnson took it to task.

"We run the Crisis Magazine. It's been in continuous publication," he said. "But it's not timely. And we have to recognize that until we can develop the publication to where people can consume it in this new media reality - that they see the value in it - I can't fault others for not investing in Crisis when we have not kept up with the times. That's the reality across the board when we're talking about Black media."

Johnson said the Crisis has survived mainly because it's been underwritten. "Because if it had to stand up on its own, it would have been out of business 50 years ago. So, we have to figure out a new business model to keep it moving."

Likewise, Graves said his late father, Earl Graves Sr., would not understand the decision he has now made to move Black Enterprise almost completely online. But, he said, it has been done with great success and an astronomical increase in readership.

Chavis concluded, "I am a loyal and life-member of the NAACP and I know we will work this matter out. Both the NNPA and the NAACP need to be made stronger together by working together to help improve the overall quality of life of Black Americans and all others who cry out for freedom, justice and equality. Thus, the NNPA does not accept the eulogy, the final rites or the epitaphs that are now being untimely articulated by people who should know better."

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High-tech 'smart fitness studio' is smart choice for COVID-19 era workouts

Known since 2011 as a "Smart Fitness Studio" franchise due to its bio-adaptive, robotic exercise equipment providing a customized, efficient workout, The Exercise Coach is now considered a "smart" fitness studio for yet another reason: its value proposition regarding the Coronavirus.

"We are different from big box gyms as our boutique fitness studios have always been small, private and super clean. This remains our core offering," said Brian Cygan, Exercise Coach founder and CEO. "Additionally, we have adapted our already hygienic studio environment policy to further mitigate contagion for clients and



Courtesy photo

staff."

The Exercise Coach is a much safer fitness option for several reasons:

- The Exercise Coach is a proud user of Environmental Protection Agency registered MicroShield 360™ antiviral spray throughout its fitness studios
- Sessions are either one-

on-one with a personal trainer or semi-private sessions with a trainer and two clients

- All clients are strongly encouraged to wear masks and disposable gloves
- Personal trainers/coaches disinfect all equipment touch points after every session

- Our customized workouts have always been just 20 minutes, so clients need not linger outside of their homes as they re-emerge into public life

- Employees undergo temperature checks before beginning their shifts and wear masks and gloves

- Clients are required to use hand sanitizer (provided in all fitness studios) before workouts

- Workouts have always been scheduled by appointment only – no walk ins

Outfitted with high-tech computerized machines instead of traditional equipment, The Exercise Coach's personalized programs are optimized for efficiency, resulting in only two 20-min-

ute workouts per week that can't be matched in effectiveness with even seven days a week of traditional activity-based exercise. The Exercise Coach's robotic exercise technology is combined with the guidance of certified coaches to provide a unique, comprehensive approach to fitness designed to be a perfect fit for anyone, regardless of current fitness levels. The studios create a dynamic exercise experience that blends personalized strength and interval cardio training in each session.

More than 120 million Americans say they "know

they need exercise and wish they participated more." The Exercise Coach uses its technology to capture the more reluctant exercise consumer — people who are either too busy to spend a great deal of time at the gym, dislike the gym scene and/or are afraid of injuring themselves. Rather than use their proprietary technology competing with other gyms to court the most athletic people, The Exercise Coach offers privacy, convenience, personalization, efficiency and guidance to change the quality of life for people who are less familiar with fitness successes.

In the wake of the coronavirus, we must design and build the schools we need—not simply reopen schools as they were

By Khalilah M. Harris
Center for American Progress

Communities using parent power and progressive school districts alike are beginning to plan recovery strategies coming out of the COVID-19 crisis that focus on the needs of every student and keep equity at the center of their proposals. Using federal and state funds to reinstate a broken public school system that has operated against all concepts of equity is the wrong approach. Instead, the federal government should make it a priority to fund efforts to reimagine what's possible for public education and public school students.

Whether it's access to the care and concern of expert educators, school-based meals, supports for learning differences and learning English, safety from homelessness or from abuse that may be present at home, America's public school students deserve to rise from the COVID-19 pandemic in a better position than when the crisis began. This will only happen

if the nation commits itself to providing today's young people a quality education and equitably provides the resources to accomplish that in the near and long term. America must run toward equity in this time of need—not away from it.

The impulse to consider how to cover more content or squeeze three months of missed learning into a new school year instead of pursuing age-appropriate mastery should be avoided at all costs. Using the community as a classroom can no longer be a novel idea. Better still, family and community engagement, especially when it comes to what schools will look like, must be a necessity versus simply a nice element to have.

This pandemic has revealed that opportunity has not only been beyond the reach of students from families with fewer resources but also that the quality of education for working- and middle-class families has been limited if not subpar. When race is factored in, Black, Latinx, Indigenous, and some populations of Asian American and Pacific

Islander students have clearly been deprived of the basic tools for success. Likewise, their educators too often are working in conditions that undermine the country's stated commitment to invest in students' futures. Before policymakers set out to determine the dollars needed to get students back to learning, they should take this opportunity to slow down and place equity at the center of their efforts before speeding up to address student and educator needs in the midst of this crisis.

At a small scale, the consequences of inequity are surfaced when students are locked out of crumbling schools during inclement weather, locked out of careers due to inadequate career and technical education, or locked out of college due to lack of preparation. However, COVID-19 has shined a harsh light and laid those inequities bare in the face of students who won't be able to access college because their family's income has been wiped out or because the digital divide is making access to guidance counselors difficult if not

impossible. Students with disabilities and English language learners likewise are without necessary supports. Educators have been tasked with being a bridge between trauma and normalcy for students, even though they lack the adequate training to accomplish distance learning or the space to manage

See **SCHOOLS**, Page 8

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Senator Royce West calls Cornyn attack ad a 'Trump Junior' move

State Sen. Royce West, candidate for United States Senate in the July 14 Democratic Primary runoff, responded to an attack ad released by Sen. John Cornyn Tuesday, calling it the work of a "Trump Junior" campaign.

"Cornyn called me the leader of a liberal mob today to raise money," West mused. "Like I said, if being liberal means I stood up for women's rights, or healthcare for all, or better education, then I'll take it as a compliment. The truth is, he's desperate. He's pulling



Texas Sen. Royce West, seen here in his own Youtube video, is calling out Sen. John Cornyn for a recent video the incumbent has produced. (Image: Youtube)

out the Trump Junior playbook of misinformation and bullying tactics. It's not a

good look for a U.S. Senator."

West commented on the

irony of the situation, considering Cornyn's silence about radical right-wing mobs.

"He was quiet as a mouse when mobs burned effigies of President Obama. He didn't say anything about racist chants at Trump rallies. If he's looking for a mob, he might want to look around the fringes of his own support base."

"For 16 years in the Senate, Cornyn has stood silent on voting rights, he has stood silent on women's rights, he has stood silent as

President Trump said there were 'good people on both sides' when an innocent person died in Charlottesville at the hands of a neo-Nazi during right-wing mob violence," West said.

"I'm sure he is afraid of facing a candidate like me in November," West continued. "I have the record and the experience to more than match him, and I can bring together the diverse coalition of voters he and the Republicans have tried so hard to suppress in Texas,

even now denying the common sense of voting by mail during COVID-19, because they value power more than people's safety."

"On Election Day in November, an army of reasonable Texans marching to the ballot box who want leadership that cares and can get things done will be the ones to defeat John Cornyn. That won't be a liberal mob, but moms, dads, grandparents, and everyday Texans who want real leadership in the US Senate."

A&M Immigrant Rights Clinic demands release of medically-vulnerable immigrants

The Texas A&M Immigrant Rights Clinic filed a petition in federal court last Friday demanding that ICE immediately release eleven medically-vulnerable immigrants from the Prairieland Detention Center in Alvarado, Texas, where 45 detained individuals have tested positive for COVID-19. Professor Fatma Marouf, Adjunct Professor Sehla Ashai and stu-

dents Teresa Reyes Flores, Marisela Gonzales, Mario Guerra, Maria Jose Rosales Lagos and Emily Malden, joined forces with RAICES and the civil rights firm Loevy & Loevy in bringing the case.

According to the lawsuit, ICE transported a plane of over 80 individuals, some of whom had tested positive for COVID-19, to Prairie-land without taking safety

precautions. These immigrants were flown to Texas from two jails in New York and Pennsylvania where there were already COVID-19 outbreaks.

"Our clients at Prairie-land are terrified of getting sick and dying of COVID-19," said Marouf. "Many of them have lived in this country for decades and have family members who are U.S. citizens. They

don't want to become an invisible statistic."

Detainees are unable to safely social distance, have been given only one disposable mask and are living in very close quarters with other cellmates.

"Despite repeated warnings from public health experts, ICE refuses to implement the most basic of steps to protect people detained at Prairieland," said

Manoj Govindaiah, director of litigation at RAICES Texas.

Scott Rauscher of Loevy & Loevy noted, "ICE authorities are constitutionally obligated to take common sense measures to protect the health and lives of people imprisoned in their facilities."

Rauscher added, "Detention cannot and should not be a death sentence -- not

for the detainees, not for the people who work in ICE facilities, and not for the people in surrounding communities."

Nine hundred sixty-five ICE detainees have tested positive for COVID-19 during the pandemic out of the 1804 detainees tested, according to the latest government statistics. As of May 9, ICE reported nearly 28,000 people in detention.

BIDEN, from Page 1

In a "Meet the Black Press" segment of an interview on the web-based show, "Make It Plain," National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) President and CEO, Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, said people should react favorably to the exchange.

"Charlamagne always asks pointed questions, he takes no prisoners and he's a great brother," Chavis stated. "But, the vice president is a street fighter who comes from Wilmington, Delaware. Remember, he was speaking directly to Charlamagne."

Pressed further, Dr. Chavis noted that the issue boils down to the current administration verses a possible Biden administration.

"What Black people have to decide is not all of the prerequisites, but given

what we know today, what is our aspirations? Who can best improve our quality of life? That's the issue," Chavis stated.

"We can't get caught up in personality politics. I would rather have a president who speaks from the heart, from the gut, than a president who speaks from a teleprompter. I want to know what Biden is thinking about. That he's thinking about Black, White, Latino, about the oneness of man."

"I would prefer to hear what he has to say, rather than to muzzle him. I tell hip-hop artists that they have freedom of expression, but they have to be responsible for what they put out. You have the freedom to say what you want, but after you say it, you have to be accountable."

In an interview with NNPA Newswire in February, Biden said the Black vote was critical to anyone with aspirations of winning in November.

He then laid out his plan for Black America.

Last month, he called on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to collect more data regarding how COVID-19 is affecting communities, including breaking down its impact by race.

"The data we've seen so far suggests that African Americans are dying from COVID-19 at a higher rate than whites. Long-standing systemic inequalities are contributing to this disparity -- including the fact that African Americans are more likely to be uninsured and to live in communities where they are exposed to high levels of air pollution," Biden stated.

Barack Obama's former vice president's plan for Black America includes:

- Advance the economic mobility of African Americans and close the racial wealth and income gaps.
- Expand access to high-quality education and tackle racial inequity in our education system.
- Make far-reaching investments in ending health disparities by race.
- Strengthen America's commitment to justice.
- Make the right to vote and the right to equal protection real for African Americans.
- Address environmental justice.

Biden, who this month fiercely denounced the shooting death of Ahmaud Arbery, noted that he spearheaded the Community Oriented Policing Services program, which authorized funding both for the hiring

of additional police officers and for training on how to undertake a community policing approach.

However, the program has never been funded to fulfill the original vision for community policing.

He said he would rein-vigorate the COPS program with a \$300 million investment.

As a condition of the grant, Biden stated that hiring police officers must mirror the racial diversity of the community they serve. Additionally, as President, Biden promises to establish a panel to scrutinize what equipment is used by law enforcement in our communities.

He said he would invest in public defenders' offices to ensure defendants' access to quality counsel, and create a \$20 billion grant program to support criminal justice reform at the

state and local level.

Biden pledged to work with Congress to reform federal sentencing and provide incentives to state and local systems to do the same.

He said he would end once and for all, the federal crack and powder cocaine disparity, decriminalize the use of cannabis and automatically expunge all prior cannabis use convictions.

The Democrat also promises to end the criminalization of poverty and cash bail, which he called the modern-day debtors' prison.

"We need a comprehensive agenda for African Americans with an ambition that matches the scale of the challenge and with a recognition that race-neutral policies are not a sufficient response to race-based disparities," Biden noted.

Spruce student pursuing a business degree to help his dad further grow his business

"I feel that the ending of our high school experience was taken from us. However, I'm still grateful that I will be able to graduate, as not everyone has the opportunity to receive an education," says William Alexander Garcia, a senior at H. Grady Spruce High School.

Garcia is part of the PeerForward group that was newly introduced to Spruce to help students learn more about the next steps to take

after after high school. He's also part of the varsity soccer team and tennis team.

The COVID-19 crisis transformed seniors' daily lives, Garcia says.

"Not being able to see my friends or even leave my house to have fun, just being stuck at home is frustrating," he said. "I deal with it by being optimistic and knowing that it won't last forever, and since I have a lot of spare time, I've been able to find

new hobbies like reading and also working out."

His parents tell him to stay on top of his schoolwork, and that although he might not be having a graduation ceremony, he will still be graduating and going on to college. They understand that even if it's a difficult situation, they have to push through because doing so only makes them stronger.

Garcia sees his future clearly – graduating from a

university with a major in business management and helping his dad further grow his company by applying his experience on the business side of work.

"My main goal in life is to have the opportunity to provide enough money so my parents won't ever have to work again because they've worked so hard already," Garcia said. "I would just like to see them enjoy the rest of their lives without worries."



William Alexander Garcia is pursuing a business education through DISD's PeerForward program to help expand his father's business. (Photo: Dallas ISD)

Dallas ISD debate students shine in essay competition centered on the COVID-19 pandemic

While local and national politicians are responding to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, Dallas ISD secondary debate students applied their researching and writing skills to propose solutions to the crisis in an essay competition sponsored by the Dallas Urban Debate Alliance (DUDA).

Student Activities partnered with DUDA to give secondary students in the District debate program the option to participate in two essay contests instead of the live debate tournaments that were canceled due to the coronavirus outbreak, said Sharla Hudspeth, director for Dallas ISD Student Activities.

"Selecting the COVID-19 essay topic was important because it allowed students to utilize their debating and critical thinking skills to create written arguments about the pandemic that is relevant and is impacting their teenage lives now," she added.

More than 100 students from about 30 secondary schools submitted 71 essays in the competition. The essays for the high school division could not exceed 2,000 words; and for middle schoolers, the word count could not ex-



Dallas ISD

Top Essays from Magnet High Schools		
Rank	School	Student(s)
1 st place	Science & Engineering	Olivia Northcutt-Wyly
2 nd place	Talented & Gifted	Francesca Gilbard, Joe Suek, Tvisha Garg
3 rd place	Law Magnet	Amanda Arroyo, Sophia Silter-Hays
Top Essays from Comprehensive High Schools		
Rank	School	Student(s)
1 st place	Roosevelt	Evelyn Borrego
2 nd place	Hillcrest	Amelie Sahadevan, Elle Nies
3 rd Place	Jefferson	Imzadi Diaz
Top Essays from Middle Schools		
Rank	School	Student(s)
1 st place	Rusk	Ha Le, Emmanuel Cooper
2 nd place	Franklin	Morgan Dillon
3 rd place	DESA	Cindy Briseno, Mason Klein

ceed 1,000.

DUDA Executive Derek Liles said the essay competition gave students the opportunity to spend time outside of their at-home school schedule to research academic literature, articles and policy briefs and con-

vert their findings into persuasive essays.

"The essay contest showcases the outstanding educational opportunities afforded to Dallas ISD students," he said. "Through this contest, these Dallas ISD debaters continue to

function as community leaders, bringing the insights and knowledge of urban youth to the forefront of American political discourse."

All coach-nominated essays were graded by two judges. The top essays advanced to a final round of judging for placement ranking. One of the essay rules was that students could prepare an essay in teams of no more than three debaters.

The first essay competition topic asked debate students to take a stance on the United States response to COVID-19: Should the federal government offer universal healthcare or universal basic income while the pandemic is active?

A list of the top essays is in the chart below, followed by essay excerpts from School of Science and Engineering, Roosevelt High and Rusk Middle School: first place division winners.

Olivia Northcutt-Wyly, School of Science and Engineering

Affirming the Resolution with a Solution: Negative Income Tax:

"In the wake of coronavirus, thousands of people found themselves unemployed or furloughed, a

condition that necessitated intervention from the federal government in the form of stimulus checks. This plight is not a new one for many Americans who live below the poverty line. For many, a stimulus check is a band-aid over an ever-growing bullet hole that hasn't yet been triaged. On the bright side, however, the stimulus packages did highlight the important fact that the government has the necessary resources for expansive welfare programs..."

"...Covid-19 brought along many unfortunate consequences; however, it did highlight a possibility for reforming current welfare programs. Implementing a negative income tax, much like a stimulus check, provides cash to households that are in need. Removal of any UBI or stimulus check programs with the conclusion of coronavirus ignores the fact that many households are never able to make ends meet, pandemic or not."



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Collin County may end coronavirus case reporting on Friday

Collin County announced it will continue to report COVID-19 data through Friday. A special session of the Commissioners Court will be held Friday for an expected vote on whether to continue case

reporting under new state guidelines and definitions.

Collin County Health Care Services (CCHCS) reports 32 new COVID-19 cases in Collin County, including 6 in Plano. The total number

of positive cases in Collin County is 1,189, including 364 in Plano. The County has 311 active cases, including 102 in Plano.

There are four cases in the Denton County portion

of Plano. All four are now recovered. With the Denton County cases, the total number of positive cases in Plano is 368.

17,092 people have been tested for the virus in Collin

County. 15,868 tested negative. 1,189 tested positive.

2,024 people are currently under monitoring (PUM) in Collin County, including 603 in Plano. A PUM is an asymptomatic person with

an epidemiologic exposure to the COVID-19 virus. The exposure may be close contact with a confirmed case or with their infectious secretions or clinical specimens; or designation as a PUM by CDC.

Select City of Irving facilities slowly reopen

The City of Irving will reopen several recreational and library facilities in June with the health, safety and welfare of Irving residents as the number one priority.

The city will continue to follow all recommended health and safety guidelines provided by the state and county authorities, and asks that Irving residents who use the facilities comply with all posted signage and protocols while visiting.

Please be advised that facility operations are subject to change. Visit CityofIrving.org for full details regarding facility reopening information.

Reopening June 1

- Irving Public Library:



City of Irving

South, West and Valley Ranch branches. Visit CityofIrving.org/library for details.

Limited Services by appointment only – computer access, “Grab and Go” checkouts.

- City of Irving Dog Park – 4140 Valley View Lane.

- Lively Pointe Skate Park – 909 N. O'Connor Road.

- Park Pavilion Rentals – Located at parks throughout Irving, limited

to groups of 15 or less.

Reopening June 8

- Recreation Centers: Time slot booking required, visit cityofirving.org/IrvingRec

- Cimarron Park Recreation Center – 201 Red River Trail

- Lee Park Recreation Center – 3000 Pamela Drive

- Senter Park Recreation Center – 901 S. Senter Street (Locker rooms and shower facilities closed, restrooms open)

- Summer Camp: Visit CityofIrving.org/IrvingRec to register.

- Aquatic Facilities: Visit CityofIrving.org/IrvingRec to reserve times.

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Garland

The City of Garland library staff is offering **curbside service**. Pickups must be scheduled. (Book drop-boxes also are open during these same hours.)

The Central Library is open Monday - Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Branch Libraries are open Tuesday - Saturday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Follow the procedures below:

Place items on hold as



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normal. Patrons may use the online catalog, the library app "GarlandPL" or call the library at 972-205-2500.

Copies of the 1040 tax form and 1040 form instructions be delivered with items. This only applies to the paper 1040 forms and

instructions that were sent by the IRS.

A library representative will call you when items are ready, schedule a pick up time and check them out.

When arriving at the library, park in the designated spot in front of the library and call the number provided. We will use your library card or ID to confirm your identity.

We will put you on hold while your materials are retrieved and put outside on

tables or carts.

After staff is back in the building, we will come back on the line to inform you that your items are ready.

For more information, resources and service updates, visit the Library website.

Irving

The Irving Parks and Recreation Department challenges families and individuals to a **Virtual Scavenger Hunt** that will test their knowledge of features found

in Irving. The hunt is family friendly and open to all ages.

All that's needed is a camera on a mobile device. At each correct spot, a new QR code will be provided with clues to take you to the next spot. Focus on the QR code to scan and click link above to access each clue. Once completed, the final clue will link participants to submit their answers online for a prize.

Two Virtual Scavenger Hunts are available.

Richardson

The Richardson Chamber of Commerce will present the **Women in Leadership Quarterly Luncheon** with the program "Personal branding: Your strategy for success." The lunch will be held Wednesday, June 3 at noon via virtual Webex meeting. Jill Slomski, president of Niche Team will present an interactive virtual presentation that "will provide you with actionable steps to get you exactly where you want to go."

Dallas City Of Learning and Big Thought complete Family Needs Survey

Dallas City of Learning, a citywide initiative to ensure all students have access to high-quality summer learning programs and its managing partner, Big Thought, an educational non-profit, published the results of a Family Needs Survey to help guide and shape summer programming for Dallas families and students.

"It is critically important for us to gauge the needs of Dallas families about their concerns and expectations about programming for

their children this summer," said Dr. Froswa' Booker-Drew, vice president of community affairs and strategic alliances at the State Fair of Texas "The insights from the Family Needs Survey will help youth-focused organizations make key decisions about in-person programming to how we communicate with families."

The survey was distributed to Dallas parents with children ages 4-17. There were 1,171 responses to the survey, which was conduct-

ed from May 12 - 18. Multiple organizations came together to prepare and promote the survey, including Big Thought, Dallas City of Learning, United Way of Metropolitan Dallas, Dallas Park and Recreation, Dallas Afterschool, SMU Center on Research and Evaluation, The Budd Center at SMU, Dallas Public Library and State Fair of Texas.

"We are so grateful to the hundreds of parents who shared their thoughts

and concerns. Their input is essential," said Ashley Brundage, senior vice president of community impact at United Way of Metropolitan Dallas. "We applaud Big Thought and Dallas City of Learning for helping equip service providers across the metroplex with this critical information to guide the creation of engaging and effective summer youth programs."

"Our team at Big Thought looks forward to sharing this parent feedback with

our program partners across the Dallas City of Learning network," said Byron Sanders, president and chief executive officer of Big Thought. "Now is a time for us to come together in the service of our youth and families. Sharing information, best practices, plans, and ideas is how we will get through this together as a cohesive network. We appreciate all of our partners' openness to work together."

The results of the Family Needs Survey will be

shared with hundreds of youth service agencies and providers across Dallas to help them make programming decisions for this summer. A copy of the full results of the survey are available online.

Big Thought will host a virtual Town Hall for youth-focused organizations to review the survey data and share insights from Dallas experts on Wednesday, May 27 at 11 a.m. Registration is available online.

NFL announces steps to incentive teams to hire minorities for top posts

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior Correspondent

National Football League teams must now interview at least two minority candidates for head coaching positions under new resolutions that the league hopes will improve diversity

among its 32 teams.

In an expansion of its Rooney Rule, which had previously called on teams to interview minority candidates, the league said teams must also interview at least one minority candidate for coordinator openings and one external candidate for

positions in teams' front offices.

"While we have seen positive strides in our coaching ranks over the years aided by the Rooney Rule, we recognize, after the last two seasons, that we can and must do more," Commissioner Roger Goodell said during a

media conference call.

"The policy changes made today are bold and demonstrate the commitment of our ownership to increase diversity in leadership positions throughout the league."

Troy Vincent, the NFL's executive vice president of football operations and

second-in-command to Goodell, said the league is now in a better position to not only hire minorities and women but to retain their services.

"What the chairman (Art Rooney II) and the commissioner did today and what the ownership voted on to-

day has been a fight for decades to get mobility that has disproportionately affected people of color," Vincent stated.

"Just the ability to get an interview, you don't get hired unless you have

See NFL, Page 11

SCHOOLS, from Page 4

their own grief and families.

Moreover, there will be massive shortfalls in state budgets that will not be stabilized by provisions in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act or by proposed funding levels in the Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions (HEROES) Act. While the federal government has responded to this crisis for the very short term, that response and approach is woefully inadequate. The 2008 recession showed that state governments have been inclined to reduce investments in

education following a crisis while simultaneously expecting improved outcomes for students.

Absent a vaccine or approved treatment, one can anticipate the upcoming summer learning loss and massive gaps in literacy development that will occur in the face of school closures with no foreseeable opening date. Therefore, district officials, labor leaders, educators, and community members should make plans to establish clear grade-level competencies as a target for students to end the 2020-2021 school year. Those efforts should be funded with

federal dollars and prioritized before school districts make decisions about how to resume school. Any process should consider community assets for families interested in extending classrooms outside of the school building to avoid long-term instruction through screens.

Just as critical, for the long term, is determining what systems need to be in place for future extended school closures and in support of an equitable model of schooling. Funding should be established for the recovery stage of this pandemic to ramp up innovative strategies that are beginning to be seen around the country such as the use of public

access channels to deliver instructional content and ensuring 1-to-1 access to technology for every student. Likewise, instead of elected leaders focusing on absolving institutions of higher education from being liable for endangering students, staff, and faculty by opening too soon, they should focus on the role that they can play to quickly redesign teacher and administrator training. This resource should be targeted at preservice educators, as well as for those already serving students, to function in a system that works for everyone. Finally, federal dollars need to be effectively and strategically deployed to eradicate the digital divide

in both rural areas and urban cores.

Undoubtedly, there are immediate needs to be addressed by this massive disruption. However, these needs won't be remedied by simply thrusting equipment into the hands of students and educators with an expectation that they continue to participate in a structure that left many underprepared and others unprepared to continue the process of learning. Instead, serious consideration must be given to both a school calendar that is structured to support families through a year-round system of learning and educator training that supports teachers'

and school leaders' roles in preparing civically engaged and future-ready students.

While there is no silver lining to a global pandemic that's taking people's lives and creating untenable living and financial situations for millions, this nation was built by people who innovated and thrived despite desperate circumstances. Now is the time to use that ingenuity to create a system of education that makes it possible for all children to thrive in a society that will sustain us all into the distant future.

Khalilah M. Harris is the managing director of K-12 Education at the Center for American Progress.

The Lovebirds highlights an up-and-coming talented pair

By Dwight Brown
NNPA Film Critic

It probably looked really good on paper. Bickering couple gets caught up in a murder and goes on the lam. It's just enough of a framework for two comic geniuses to flaunt their comedy licks.

Kumail Nanjiani made a name for himself on the series Silicon Valley and hit it big with the romantic comedy The Big Sick. His

screenplay, written with wife Emily V. Gordon, won an Oscar nomination. Issa Rae turned her YouTube series The Misadventures of Awkward Black Girl into opportunity after opportunity; from HBO's Insecure to the very romantic film The Photograph.

The two are hot commodities in the entertainment world. They are as contemporary and edgy in this day as Eddie Murphy was in his, when he stum-

bled into Beverly Hills Cop and his career blew up. The key difference? That film's director (Martin Brest), writer (Daniel Petrie Jr) and editors (Arthur Coburn and Billy Weber) flung a door open for him.

Jibran (Nanjiani), a documentary filmmaker, and his lover Leilani (Rae) are a very modern couple. Not because they are multicultural, Pakistani American and African American, though that is very au cur-

rent. More because they are so caught up in their Instagram, entrenched in Google calendars and deeply neurotic. They barely function as humans, barely make a connection. Communications are usually verbal jabs and cryptic feelings that when expressed send mixed signals at best. After years of living together they still can't read each other: "Is that your I wanna kiss you



Every happy couple has one moment that defines their relationship. #TheLovebirds stars Issa Rae and Kumail Nanjiani. (Photo courtesy of Paramount Pictures)

See FILM, Page 12

Daddy Yankee lands 20th No.1 on Latin Airplay chart

Definitivamente by Daddy Yankee and Sech hits #1 on Billboard Latin Airplay this week. The song released by El Cartel Records on January 31st has surpassed 200 million streams globally.

With Definitivamente Daddy Yankee scores his 20th #1 on Billboard Latin Airplay Charts and his 65th total charted titles on the list.

The song was written by Raymond Ayala (Daddy Yankee) and Carlos Isaías Morales (Sech), produced by NeKxum and Ovy and mixed by Francisco Saldaña (Luny).

The official music video for "Definitivamente",



was filmed in Miami and directed by Marlon Peña (Con Calma & Que Tire Pa'Lante).

Definitivamente has also reached #1 in Mexico for two consecutive weeks.

Daddy Yankee is consid-

ered a pioneer of the Reggaeton genre being named as one of the "Most Influential Hispanics" globally by both Time Magazine and CNN. In 2019, his global hit "Con Calma" was rated as the #1 Most Watched

Video on YouTube with over 1.7 billion views. The remix version feat. American pop star, Katy Perry was RIAA's top certified Latin single in 2019 (15x Latin Platinum). His latest single "Que Tire Pa' Lante" has generated over 410 million

views on YouTube Music and also reached No.1 on Billboard's Latin Airplay and Latin Rhythm Airplay charts. Daddy Yankee is also behind the decade's most viewed video on YouTube for "Despacito" feat. Luis Fonsi.

Sech is one of Latin music's most sought-after singer-songwriters of this generation. With over one billion streams across all digital platforms, Sech has mesmerized audiences globally with his unique lyrical style and catchy melodies.

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Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first serve basis.

*Camp is open to children ages 6 to 12 years old.

*Tuition is only \$100 for the entire eight weeks and must be paid in full by May 30, 2020. No refunds.

*Camp hours are from 9AM to 4PM, Monday through Thursday and culminates with a showcase by camp participants July 30, 2020.

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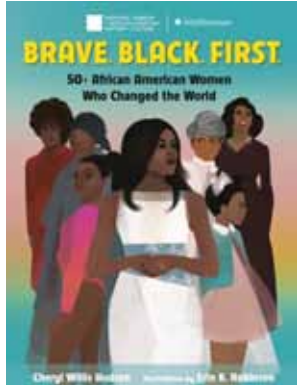
NDG Book Review: *Brave. Black. First* is a perfect book for quick readers

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Step right up.

When you want to be first in line, that's what you have to do: get in place at the head, let everybody else queue behind you, and lead them forward. You might have to show them how it's done. You might have to show some responsibility. Or, as in the new book "Brave. Black. First." by Cheryl Willis Hudson, illustrated by Erin K. Robinson, you might have to take some big risks.

Is it always good to be first? You might think so: you often get the best seat, the newest things, the nicest choice in a bunch of choices. But think about this: sometimes, being first is really hard. Sometimes, it's downright scary.

Take, for instance, Ruby Bridges. When she was just six years old, she became the first Black child to attend what had once been an all-white school. She put on



a brave face and marched into the school building but afterward, Ruby's dad lost his job and her grandparents lost their farm because she just wanted to go to school. Still, Ruby continued going day after day after day.

Being first might be a big honor, as it was for Barbara Jordan, "the first African American elected to the Texas state senate after Reconstruction, and the first African American woman elected to the... House of Representatives." And then there's Shirley Chisholm, who was the first Black woman elected to Congress and the first Black woman to try to be a Democratic candidate for the office of President.

The first American athlete to compete in the Olympics while wearing a hijab was Ibtihaj Muhammad. Ella Fitzgerald

was the first African American to win Grammy Awards. Phillis Wheatley was America's first Black published poet. Ava DuVernay was the first Black woman to direct a film with \$100 million budget. Basketballer Sheryl Swoopes

was the first Black female player to land a major shoe sponsorship. And though she's not the last in this book of firsts, Michelle Obama was America's first Black First Lady.

Sometimes, the easiest-to-learn lessons come in the smallest of doses. That's certainly the case inside "Brave. Black. First."

Indeed, this book leaps

See **Brave**, Page 11



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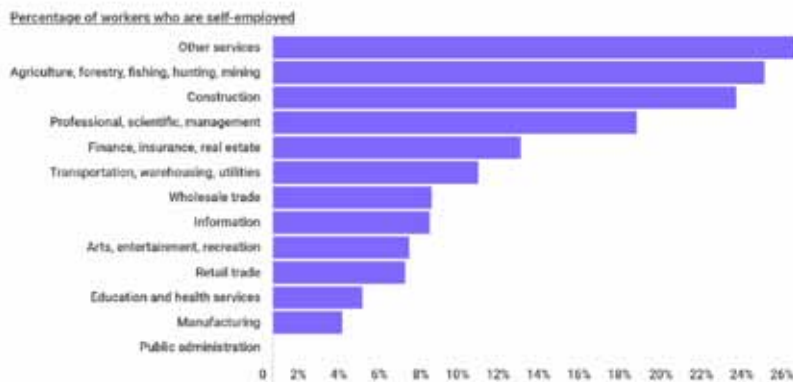
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Texas' 'self-employed' numbers highlighted by COVID-19 pandemic

The coronavirus pandemic has cost a record number of Americans their jobs as much of the economy shut down in mid-March. Even as some states start to re-open, many businesses will remain closed or operate in a reduced capacity, meaning millions of workers will remain unemployed.

According to Census Bureau data, there are over 15 million self-employed workers in the U.S., making up about 9.7% of the nation's workforce. Self-employed workers are especially vulnerable during economic downturns since they do not have the same

Workers in construction, agriculture, and other services are most likely to be self-employed



Source: U.S. Census Bureau's 2018 American Community Survey

type of job protections as other workers. The CARES Act provides emergency

government aid to workers affected by the pandemic, including the self-em-

ployed, who might normally fall through the social safety net. But these funds have

been difficult to secure and can have long wait times. Furthermore, confusing messaging around the loans leave many self-employed workers unsure about what the funds can be used for.

The self-employed, which for the purpose of this analysis includes those adults who operate either incorporated or unincorporated businesses, are represented in every industry sector except public administration. Other services—a catchall industry sector that includes, among others, car repairs, barbershops, salons, dry-cleaning, and pet care services—has the largest share

of self-employed workers at nearly 26%. Both the Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining industry and the Construction industry have high rates of self-employment, at 24% and 23% respectively.

As of 2018 (the most recent year of Census data available), these three industry sectors accounted for over 5 million self-employed workers, but a combination of non-essential business closures, disruptions of the food supply chain, and a hold on construction work in many states will likely drive these numbers down.

NFL, from Page 8

an interview. The mobility resolution today was significant and historic, because it has been a fight for decades. That's the foundation. Frankly, we would call that the linchpin of these inequalities. With these initiatives, the enhancement of the Rooney Rule, which is a tool; it just allows us to have a broader scope of how we look at things."

The new rules include a provision that begins in

2021, which states that teams will no longer restrict staff from interviewing with other clubs for "bona fide" coaching or front office positions. Goodell called the commitment to improving diversity throughout the league is "critical" for future success.

"While we have seen positive strides in our coaching ranks over the years aided by the Rooney Rule, we recognize, after the last two sea-

sons, that we can and must do more," Goodell said.

"The policy changes made today are bold and demonstrate the commitment of our ownership to increase diversity in leadership positions throughout the league."

Clubs also will be required to "include minorities and, or, female applicants in the interview processes for senior-level front office positions such as club president and senior executives in communications, finance, human resources, legal,

football operations, sales, marketing, sponsorship, information technology, and security positions," according to the expanded rule.

Also, league officials stated that they would use an advisory panel to further strategies aimed at fostering an inclusive culture of opportunity both on and off the

field.

Goodell also promised to improve the league's pipeline for minority coaching and player personnel candidates with assistance from its Bill Walsh NFL Diversity Coaching Fellowship.

"This fight has been going on for a long time," said Vincent, who could one day

become the league's first African American commissioner.

"The facts are we have a broken system, and we're looking to implement things to change the direction in where we're going, and it's been south. Not a gradual south but a direct south."

BRAVE, from Page 10

into its subject matter with no introduction, just biography, which is something young readers might appreciate since it won't overwhelm them with too much information. No, author Cheryl Willis Hudson gives them just enough to teach but also enough to keep them curious with a nice balance of biographies. Women from all walks of life, from many periods of history, all age groups, and with accomplishments in a variety of fields are represented, and Hudson includes tales of adversity as well as those of triumph. That, and draws-them-in artwork by Erin K. Robinson, makes this book accessible and meaningful for kids ages 8-to-12, and for boy readers as well as for girls.

"Brave. Black. First." is perfect if your child enjoys quick reads that are eas-

ily browsed and flipped-through. It's likewise great for the kid who loves inspirational biographies, so step right up.

Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to build a 37.3-foot Steel Monopole Communications Tower at the approx. vicinity of 4100 St. Andrews Blvd., Irving, Dallas County, TX 75062. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Trileaf Corp, Patricia Rees, p.rees@trileaf.com, 2121 W. Chandler Blvd., Suite 108, Chandler, AZ 85224, 480-850-0575.

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How businesses can come back stronger from the pandemic

By Michael Ungar, PhD

It is the paradox of resilience that the very things that make us strong can also prevent us from being nimble during a crisis. The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the weaknesses of how we have been doing business. If we look at businesses like nested Russian dolls, one system embedded inside another, we find clues to where change is needed if we are going to come back stronger from this crisis.

The first and smallest system is the employee. The lack of no-deductible healthcare, low minimum wages, and long commutes created a vulnerable workforce that didn't have the minimum savings needed to cover household expenses for two months. It also meant that entire industries

were vulnerable to workers becoming sick because they had no paid sick leave.

These are not individual problems. They reflect business practices that have given us cheap food and furnishings, but left us with little resilience when there is a natural disaster or economic crisis (or both).

The next system is the business itself. The most resilient corporations are those that plan for sustainability months before it is needed. They were already considering ways to let workers work from home or had diversified their supply chains to avoid dependency on a single supplier in a single country.

Large international businesses, like Unilever, have been emphasizing sustainability and adaptation as they sell soap and food

around the world. According to Alan Jope, Unilever CEO, that drive to protect people, profits and the planet made them quick to respond to the crisis, sending their workers home in mid-March and looking at what they could do globally to prevent the pandemic from getting worse.

Resilient businesses are those that have redundancies built into their production. Much like aircraft that have fail-safe systems layer upon layer, small businesses need to anticipate what could happen during an economic crisis. Distilleries that are producing hand sanitizer and grocery stores that are offering delivery are showing the resilience that is necessary during a crisis. These practices are possibly new business models that will keep them afloat in the

future.

Businesses also operate in a physical environment. Whether workers are building steel towers or programming code in office spaces, changes to workplace structure are going to make businesses more sustainable during a crisis. Online meeting applications that were once thought too risky for daily corporate communication have suddenly been adopted by even the most technologically-phobic individuals. Changes like these shouldn't be forgotten when we find a vaccine for COVID-19.

Lastly, businesses are part of social and political systems. Two-party political deadlock, taxation rules that consolidate wealth, xenophobia that chokes the flow of human capital, and unnecessary international con-

flict have exacerbated our supply chains, turning our global economy into a "buy local" hippy commune that has little resilience when shortages begin. Where I live on the East Coast, we say that a high tide raises all boats. At a time when we needed global cooperation, political rhetoric was instead divisive and trade was stalled.

When individual systems are too attached to one way of doing business, they may look resilient, and even profitable. But, they won't be able to withstand a disruption as great as a public health crisis. To make industry more resilient and productive, we need to start what resilience scientists refer to as "new regimes of behavior." That will mean changing from immediate economic gain to consid-

ering the long-term social benefits of changing each system that makes a business more resilient. The good news is that resilience is possible.

Michael Ungar, Ph.D., author of upcoming book, Change Your World: The Science of Resilience and the Path to Success (Sutherland House Books, May 2019) is a Family Therapist and the Canada Research Chair in Child, Family and Community Resilience at Dalhousie University. For the past two decades, Dr. Ungar's work has influenced the way resilience is understood globally, helping to improve the capacity of children and adults to cope when faced with serious challenges. His blog, Nurturing Resilience, can be read on Psychology Today's website.

FILM, from Page 9

face?" says Leilani. Sister, if you have to ask him, you two need therapy.

One fateful night in New Orleans, benign antagonism rises to a level of no return. "I don't want to be with someone who is so f—ing insecure!" "I don't want to be with someone who is a failure." At the height of their squabbling they drive into a cyclist, who cracks the window of their Subaru Forester and starts them on a chain of mishaps. They're carjacked by a murderer, kidnapped and then drawn into a sex cult. Can they make it through the night?

Nice setup. Actor turned screenwriter Aaron Abrams delivers a screenplay that has as a solid foundation for comedy. Odd characters, continuously evolving unimaginable situations and a beginning, middle and end frame the hysterics. A formulaic, TV sensibility thwarts those good intentions. The script persists in giving Jibran and Leilani too much dialogue. Add in the two leads penchant for running their comic mouths, and tedious scenes turn into verbal quagmires with no

exit plan. A little, pointed back and forth is fine. Incessant talking tests patience.

If the writer doesn't know how to end a scene, it would be helpful if the editors (Vince Filippone and Robert Nassau) did. They don't. They cut the footage down to 86 minutes, so the overall film is short, but most of the vignettes drag.

Filmmaker Michael Showalter displayed a great

ability to direct urbane romantic comedy (The Big Sick). His stab at action/comedy/crime is less exact. The fight scenes, get-aways and skirmishes suck. From the car sequences, to the fistfights, to the torture chamber (barn).

Cinematographer Brian Burgoyne's lighting is far more flattering to Rae's complexion than it is to Nanjiani's, for no apparent reason. His inability to shoot action scenes with

any zest makes the footage dull visually. Clayton Hartley's production design, Neil Floyd and Selina van den Brink's set decoration and Megan Coates costume design are definite assets. Michael Andrews' musical score adds certain spirit.

Nanjiani and Rae, separately and together, are fun to watch. Their take on humor seems innate. They're photogenic. They are likable—nearly loveable. Whether on a talk show, ca-

ble TV or on-screen, something about their personalities wants you to look, listen and laugh. Their insights on being Asian and African American today is so timely and engaging you want to ride along them on their life journeys.

A really smart producer would reimagine the 1934 film The Thin Man and adapt it for this very talented duo. In that classic film, a former detective named Nick Charles and his

wealthy wife Nora investigate a murder case, mostly for the fun of it. The Lovebirds had potential. Nanjiani and Rae were up to the challenge. Stilted direction, a persistently talky script and imprecise editing left them performing without a net. Regardless, this talented duo should have a bright future.

Visit NNPA News Wire Film Critic Dwight Brown at DwightBrownInk.com and BlackPressUSA.com.


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Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to build two small cell monopole communications towers in the vicinity of Dallas, Dallas County, TX. The heights and locations for the proposed installations are as follows: 36-foot tower at the approx. vicinity of 4745 Fairmount St, 75219, Lat: [32-48-53.3016], Long: [-96-49-30.7308]; 36-foot tower at the approx. vicinity of 6032 East University Blvd, 75206, Lat: [32-50-47.1516], Long: [-96-45-47.898]. Public comments regarding potential effects from these sites on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Trileaf Corp, Alicia, a.santucci@trileaf.com, 2550 S. IH-35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704, 512-519-9388.

JOB FAIRS

On-going U.S. Army Opportunity

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Ongoing Census Bureau

The Census Bureau conducts continuous surveys to supply the nation with important statistics on people, places and our economy. Local field workers know their communities best, and are instrumental in conducting surveys with residents on a variety of topics. Visit census.gov to apply.

Ongoing City of Dallas

The City of Dallas' HR Dept is currently accepting apps for the Budget and Contract Administrator position. Bachelor's degree in a business/public administration, human resources or healthcare administration field, plus 7 yrs exp.

For more info and to apply, visit: <http://bit.ly/2NcCfVP>.

Ongoing House of Blues

Want a cool job in live music? House of Blues Dal-



las is hiring! Spruce up your resume and join us on Monday, August 26th for a Job Fair in our Cambridge Room from 1-5PM. All departments are hiring. View job openings at <http://livenationentertainment.com/careers>.

On-going First Fridays Virtual Job Fair

Every month computer professionals can participate in the monthly job fair in the comfort of your PJs. Job Seekers must complete profile on https://tao.ai/p/fff/_dfw

#FirstFridayFair (#FFF) is estimated to be largest attended career fair with around 8,000 professionals and 500 recruiting companies. The data science and software development focused career fair is delivered right at your desktop. No need to travel anywhere, just signup and wait for TAO.ai to organize your interactions.

On-Going Customer Rep job fairs

Pro Staff in Arlington will be hosting an in office Customer Service Representative Job Fair for a call center located downtown Dallas every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 700 Highlander Blvd. Suite 110. The positions pay between \$12 - \$13.50 per hour plus up to \$1.50 an hour in performance pay. The workdays will vary, must be available 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., with overtime as needed. Must have at least one year of customer service experience.

NOTE: As the recent pandemic has caused many changes to the normal operations of businesses and organizations, double-check any events before attending.

BETHEL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP, CARROLLTON (A NEW PLACE TO BELONG)

NOTICE: *New You, Pastor Woodson serves the community by providing "Professional Therapy and Counseling Services" on a "Sliding Fee" scale. To schedule an appointment call the Pastoral Counseling Center at 972-526-4525 or email the church at www.bethelbiblefellowship.org*

Note: Until further notice, all services at Bethel church will be via Video-Conferencing and perhaps other churches as well; log on individual churches websites for details. See Bethel's website www.bethelbiblefellowship.org for their details because of the coronavirus.

May 31, 9:45 am

Please join us in our quiet time, "Prayer and Meditation" followed by Morning Worship. You will be blessed and inspired as we celebrate service to God, our community and all mankind.

June 3, 7 pm

You Are invited to join us via video-conferencing for Prayer from 7 to 8 pm as we pray for the world's coronavirus.

Dr. Terrance Woodson,
Senior Pastor
1944 E. Hebron Parkway
Carrollton, TX 75007
972-492-4300
www.bethelbiblefellowship.org

FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH IN ALLEN "THE SHIP" We are Saving You a Seat!

Check "The Ship's" website for details of their services until further notice because of the coronavirus.

May 31

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

You are invited to join us in our Sunday Morning Services as we praise and worship God in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall, followed by our Worship Services; and bring someone with you, you will be blessed. It's for God's glory and honor.

June 3

Join us in our Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day Live, Prayer and Bible Study class and/or our Wednesday Night Live, Prayer and Bible Study at 7 p.m. to learn more about God's Word. Be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and His glory; and most of all; be prepared to grow.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed. D.
Senior Pastor
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INSPIRING BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH, Let's Go Fishing! MATTHEW 4:19

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not open the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing that there will not be room to receive."

- Malachi 3:8-10

Check "IBOC's" website for details of their services until further notice because of the coronavirus.

May 29, 7 pm

All men are invited to Men's Ministry meeting each Friday night at 8 pm, (IBOC promotes proactive male leadership.)

May 31, 10 a.m.

Join us for our Morning Service; and don't forget to invite family and friends to join us as we celebrate our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

June 3, 7 p.m.

You are invited to Monday School to see what God has to say to us in His Holy Word.

Pastor Rickie Rush
7701 S Westmoreland Road
Dallas, TX 75237
972-372-4262

www.Ibocchurch.org

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See CHURCH, Page 14



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Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to build a 36.5-foot utility pole communications tower at the approx. vicinity of 3897 Noble Avenue, Dallas, Dallas County, TX 75204, LAT: 32-48-34.5528 N, LONG: 96-47-40.5456 W. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: *Trileaf Corp, Gerald Renzino, g.renzino@trileaf.com, 2121 West Chandler Blvd., Suite 108, Chandler, AZ 85224, 480-850-0575.*

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Death Notices - ndgobits@northdallasgazette.com

Elsa Wolday

Born: 07/15/1956

Died: 05/21/2020

Visitation: Wednesday,
05/26/2020 (2-6 p.m.)

at Sandra Clark Funeral
Home

Service: Friday,
05/27/2020 (11:00 a.m.)
at Medhanealem Eritrean

Orthodox Tewahdo Church
Burial: Restland

**Sandra Clark Funeral
Home**

Brandi Thompson

Born: 10/09/1990

Died: 05/21/2020

Visitation: Thursday,
05/28/2020 (2-6 p.m.)

at Sandra Clark Funeral
Home

Service: Friday,
05/29/2020 (2:30 p.m.)
at Sandra Clark Funeral

Home
Burial: Lincoln

**Sandra Clark Funeral
Home**

DeWayne Porter

Born: 3/19/1987

Died: 5/9/2020

**Prepared Place Funeral
Home**

Diana Timmons

Born: 2/23/1961

Died: 5/9/2020

**Prepared Place Funeral
Home**

Willie Hall, Jr.

Born: 9/17/1939

Died: 5/19/2020

**Prepared Place Funeral
Home**

CHURCH, from Page 13

Our mission at MOCOP is to make the Word of God R.E.A.L. (Relevant, Engaging, Authentic, Life-Changing)

Check "MOCOP's" website for details of their services until further notice because of the coronavirus.

May 31, 10 a.m.

Join us for Morning Worship Service as we praise and worship God for His Honor and His glory. Don't forget to comeback at 7 p.m. for our Brazilian Church.

June 3, 7 pm

You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study class; you will learn what God has to say to us. Come to be encouraged by God's plan for your spiritual growth and His glory.

Dr. Sam Fenceroy, PhD
Senior Pastor and
Pastor Gloria Fenceroy
300 Chisholm Place
Plano, TX 75075

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Check "SMBC's" website for details of their services until further notice because of the coronavirus.

May 31, 8 and 11 am

You are invited to our Worship Services as we honor God for His goodness and faithfulness.

**June 1, 7 to 8 pm
Every Monday Night**
Sister II Sister (Women's Mission) in the Main Fellowship Hall and the Men II Men Bible Study in the Youth Church Sanctuary (Chapel).

June 3, 7 pm

You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study class; you will learn what God has to say to us. Come and be encouraged by God's plan for your spiritual growth and His glory.

Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.
Senior Pastor
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Church Happenings

is a weekly calendar of religious services produced by the North Dallas Gazette.
To make additions or corrections to the calendar, contact: religion@northdallasgazette.com

**Special Death Announcement
Program to Funeral Homes**

North Dallas Gazette will publish death announcements "complimentary" on NDG's/Legacy.com Obits Page and in the Newspaper based on space availability.

Funeral Directors send your customers' Death Announcements to:
Vickie Richardson Steward
Senior Executive / NDG's Obits Department
Cell: 682.408.2322
Email: ndgobits@northdallasgazette.com

Lester H. Parman

Lester H. Parman went to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on August 26, 2017 in Allen, TX. He lived in Elkhorn from 1962-1976 and worked for Western Electric Co. in Omaha, NE. Lester was born on July 11, 1926 on a farm near Denver, Missouri. He was preceded in death by his parents, Carrie Abplanalp Parman and Dennis Woodson Parman, and his four brothers George, Loren, John, Dennis, Jr. and one sister, Colette with Dennis Jr. and Colette dying at a young age. Surviving family members include two brothers Charles Parman and Donald Parman; his wife, Eleanor Teel Parman; daughters Glenda Parman Hardin, Susan Parman Atkins and son Philip Parman and their spouses. Lester also left eight grandchildren: Heather Hardin Shaid, John Hardin, Mark Hardin, Ashley Parman Spencer, Aaron Parman, Preston Parman, Elizabeth Atkins Schabinger, and Anna Atkins. There are four great-grandchildren who will remember him fondly: Ava Spencer, Maddie Spencer, Brice Shaid and Brooks Hardin.

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Eleanor Joann Parman

Eleanor Joann Parman went to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on May 19, 2020 in Murphy, TX. She was born Eleanor Joann Teel on June 29, 1932 in McFall, MO. She is survived by her children, Glenda Hardin (Bill) of Tyler, TX, Philip Parman (Melody) of Allen, TX, Susan Atkins (Mark) of Virginia Beach, VA, her grandchildren Heather Shaid (Trey) of Ben Wheeler, TX, John Hardin (Cara) of Ft. Worth, TX, Mark Hardin of Tyler, TX, Ashley Spencer (Matt) of McKinney, TX, Aaron Parman (Emily) of Anna, TX, Preston Parman (Ashley) of Trenton, TX, Elizabeth Schabinger (Justin) of Vienna, VA, Anna Atkins of Virginia Beach, VA and great grandchildren Ava Spencer, Maddie Spencer, Brice Shaid, Brooks Hardin, James Hardin and Ivy Parman. She is also survived by her siblings Marilyn Crain, Richard (Dick) Teel (Patty), and David Teel and their families. She was preceded in death by her husband Lester Parman, her parents Ruby and Crystal Teel and two brothers, Bill Teel and Kenneth Teel. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Lung Association or Stonebriar Community Church in Frisco, TX.

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Removing hindrances that block trust



Sister Tarpley
NDG
Religion
Editor

Note: In times of the coronavirus Christians should not have the fears like the world; they should put their trust in God for He is in total control.

“But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because He first loved us” (1 John 4:18-19).

The story is told that in another country a man had just completed a teaching on how spiritual strongholds (2 Corinthians 10:4) can hinder us from fulfilling our destinies.

A woman approached the man at the end of the meeting and asked him if he could join her and her friend for lunch so that she could learn more, he agree to join them. The woman

was slightly overweight and exhibited extremely high energy and was aggressive.

Before she began asking him questions he asked her to tell him about the relationship she had with her father.

“Why in the world would you ask me such a question, she said? What does that have to do with spiritual strongholds?” The man pressed her for the answer to his question.

“I have an awful relationship with my father. He says I’m fat and that I’ll never amount to anything.” The man responded gently to her statement: “Jennifer, you have a generational stronghold of rejection. You try to mask it by trying to be successful in business.

Your aggressive nature is rooted in a fear of failure because you’ve lived your whole life trying to win the approval of your father through performance. The man wanted her to know that she is totally loved and



Ryan Elise Douglas is graduating from Lakehill Preparatory School in Dallas, Texas on June 6 with many scholastic honors. She is heading to North Carolina State A & T University (NCAT) to study Computer Engineering in the fall. She is the recipient of the WTS Women in Transportation and NCAT Merit scholarships.

accepted by her Heavenly Father. You can stop trying to win His favor.”

Immediately, she began to weep in the middle of the restaurant. Her friend was intrigued by what the man was saying. “No one has ever told me this but, what you say is true.”

They prayed for God to destroy the stronghold of fear and rejection in her life through the blood of Jesus Christ. The woman walked

out of the restaurant that day with a new sense of love and acceptance.

Pray that out of God’s glorious riches that He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ

may dwell in your heart through faith. And pray that you being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and

deep is the love of Christ, and to know God’s love that surpasses knowledge.

Also, pray that you may be filled to the measure of all His fullness and pray in the name of Jesus.

NDG^{tv} North Dallas Gazette takes a moment to reflect on the past with **Historical Perspectives from Sister Tarpley**. Hear what it was like growing up in a very different Dallas when Booker T. Washington was a black school. Sister Tarpley graduated from there and went on to college and later became a city councilmember in Carrollton.

Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com

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Relief: Tools And Resources To Navigate Today's Financial Crisis

In the face of so much uncertainty what many of us need most are answers to our most pressing questions, and a plan to help determine our next moves on the road to recovery. Wells Fargo is committed to providing information necessary to help address your unique financial needs and concerns, starting with the tools and resources to find relief.

How can I protect my credit report if I can't keep up with my loans?

The best way to protect your credit report is to make arrangements directly with your lender. Try asking your bank/lender about deferring payments and interest on your loans/credit lines and having fees waived. On a case-by-case basis, Wells Fargo is offering fee waivers, payment deferrals, and other expanded assistance for credit card, auto, mortgage, small business lending, and personal lending customers who contact us.

Can I apply for a credit limit increase for disaster relief?

In this time of crisis, increasing the limit on your credit card could be a way to help alleviate some financial strain and increase your purchasing power. We're currently reviewing credit card line increases on an individual basis over the phone. To find out your options, reach out to your bank directly.

What are some programs that can help me get by?

The government has designed programs to provide support and relief to those in need during this time. Here are some highlights of the CARES Act that may impact your finances:

Unemployment

There have been temporary changes made to unemployment eligibility. Today, workers who are furloughed, but haven't been fully laid off, are eligible. This special program also extends to those who are typically self-employed and/or part of the gig economy.

Paid Leave

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act is now covering up to 12 weeks of family leave for families who have faced school/daycare closure because of the pandemic and must stay home with their children.

Small Business

Wells Fargo is committed to helping as many small business customers as possible through programs like the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) established by the CARES Act. Wells Fargo mobilized thousands of employees and introduced new automation to rapidly process as many PPP applications for submission to the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

Wells Fargo is with you as you embark on your road to recovery. To learn more about our COVID-19 relief efforts visit wellsfargo.com/heretohelp.



The
Road To
Recovery

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