2020 Census called ‘worst undercount’ in decades as Bureau misses millions of Blacks and Hispanics in final tally

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

According to many experts, the COVID-19 pandemic and an administration that displayed a complete disregard for ensuring accuracy led to a consequent undercount in the number of Black, Hispanic, and Native American residents during the 2020 U.S. Census.

Further, Census officials admit that they overcounted white and Asian residents.

The bureau reported the overall population as 323.2 million.

“The undercounting of Black, Latino, Indigenous and other communities of color rob us of the opportunity to be the directors of our fate, reducing our representation and limiting our power while depriving policymakers of the information they need to make informed decisions about where the next hospital will be built or where the next school should be located,” said Damon Hewitt, the president and executive director of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.

In addition, the undercount exacerbates underfunding of our communities because Census data is used as the basis for hundreds of billions of dollars of federal, state, and local appropriations each year,” Hewitt said.

The Census population count determines how many representatives each state has in Congress for the next decade.

It also decides how much federal funding communities receive for roads, schools, housing, and social programs. Hundreds of billions of dollars are at stake each time the census occurs.

Robert L. Santos, the bureau’s director, displayed little regard for the undercount of minorities. He said the 2020 results were consistent with recent censuses.

“This is notable, given the unprecedented challenges of 2020,” Santos said in a statement. “But the results also include some limitations — the 2020 census undercounted many of the same population groups we have historically undercounted, and it overcounted others.”

“We remain proud of the job we accomplished in the face of immense challenges,” Mr. Santos said. “And we are ready to work...”

See CENSUS, Page 12
Demarkis Cooper

By Anthony Witrado
PGA of America

As a preteen, Demarkis Cooper had dreams of playing quarterback. Maybe, one day, being the face of a franchise, or even the face of the NFL.

But over the span of a few minutes back in June 2008, after hitting a handful of golf balls while on vacation with his family, Cooper made a spontaneous declaration that would change his life.

"I’m never playing football again!" Cooper proclaimed to his father, Derwin, days after Tiger Woods won the U.S. Open on a fractured leg.

With that statement, the 12-year-old Cooper was on his way to becoming a PGA of America Member, one with an influential voice in golf’s developing effort to diversify the sport and make it a more inclusive activity.

He was recognized for that last week at the 2022 PGA Show in Orlando as a glowing example of the Make Golf Your Thing movement.

Cooper is also a part of the 2021-22 PGA LEAD class.

PGA LEAD is a two-year leadership training program for diverse Members committed to taking on voluntary leadership roles within the PGA at the Chapter, Section and National level.

It’s another way for underrepresented Members to have a stronger voice within the Association and the golf industry.

If you’re interested in PGA Membership, visit pga.org/membership.

As one of the PGA’s rare Black Professionals fewer than 1% of PGA Professionals are African American – Cooper understands his role in shaping an atmosphere that more people are comfortable in and that changes some of golf’s negative perceptions.

His work at CitySwing, an indoor golf facility in Washington D.C. that strives to change the culture of golf by eliminating the barriers into the game,” reflects that.

“All of us have to do our part to make sure we bring in more people into golf,” says Cooper, now 25.

“Being a part of the PGA and what they’re doing to really try to make things more inclusive, that’s exactly what I’m trying to do at CitySwing. So people who come from a different background, they have someone like me to look at and connect with to keep them in the game.

“I just want to be able to make the biggest difference I can.”

After that family trip, Cooper, an athlete who played multiple sports, wasted no time entering area junior golf tournaments.

To his surprise during his first competition, there was no halftime break after nine holes, and he estimates he shot “about 150” in that initial event.

Still, he fell in love with the game and went on to play college golf at the HBCU Maryland Eastern Shore while going through its PGA Golf Management University program.

The PGA’s PGM programs provide classroom courses, internship experience, and connections to the golf industry.

If you’re interested in PGA Membership, visit pga.org/membership.

See COOPER, Page 6

Madeleine Albright

Madeleine Albright, the first female secretary of state who remained a close friend with fellow secretaries, Colin Powell (the first Black secretary of state) and Condoleezza Rice (the first Black woman secretary of state), has died at 84.

Albright’s first notable foray into the U.S. political scene came when President Jimmy Carter tapped her as his national security counselor.

Born in Prague, Czechia, Albright stood just four feet ten inches tall. But her legacy is as significant as that of any other political figure.

Albright’s family escaped the Nazis before arriving in America.

Albright would make her mark in the political sphere by advising Sen. Walter Mondale, Gov. Michael Dukakis, and President Bill Clinton.

Under Clinton, she became U.S. ambassador to the United Nations and then secretary of state.

She cherished her kinship with Rice and Powell, both of whom acknowledged seeking her out for advice when they were cast in the role of secretary of state.

Following Powell’s death in 2021, Albright spoke of the bond between the two respected public servants.

He was truly an incomparable man in every way and incredibly smart, dedicated to this country,” Albright told NPR. “And turned out we were – got to be very, very good friends.

And he was somebody that understood what our country needed and had served it with great honor.”

Albright often spoke of her concerns about divisions in America, particularly during the Donald Trump presidency.

In 2021, she spoke of being bothered by individuals who “know about where facts come from” but ignore them.

“In a (2018) book that I wrote about Fascism: A Warning,” I went back, and I actually looked at how fascism began, which it did with Mussolini,” Albright stated during a broadcast conversation with Rice.

“The best quote in the whole book comes from Mussolini, and he said, ‘if you pluck a chicken one feather at a time, nobody notices,’ and that is what I think is kind of happening in the United States,” she stated.

“The major thing Musso- lini did was to identify with one group at the expense of another, who then became the scapegoats. That is what worries me now. We have been, I think in many respects, artificially divided to blame somebody else.

“I think we need to re-

spect why people are coming from where they’re coming from and to make it a point to listen. And we’re not doing that enough. But the main issue now is, how are we getting our informa-

tion?”

Albright’s legacy in the American conscience even led to her appearing in popular television shows, such as the Gilmore Girls (as herself on October 25, 2005) and another appearance on Parks and Recreation, in the eighth episode of the seventh season.

Albright reportedly died surrounded by her family. Her three daughters and grandchildren survive her.

PO2 Javier Lopez Lazo

SAN DIEGO - Petty Of-

ficer 2nd Class Javier Lopez Lazo, a native of Dal-

las, Texas, serves the U.S. Navy at Assault Craft Unit Five (ACU-5) operating out of San Diego, Californi-

a.

Lopez Lazo joined the Navy six years ago. Today, Lopez Lazo serves as a boatswains’ mate.

“My family taught me to always be helpful and to do my best,” said Lopez Lazo.

Located on a Marine Corps base, ACU-5 is a self-sustained command established in 1983 and encompasses 34 buildings across shore and sea components including a control tower, eight hangars, a 100,000-gallon fuel storage-and-supply facility, a HAZMAT storage and collection center and a 50-acre flight apron. ACU-5 is composed of over 600 Sailors and 30 Civilians that train, maintain, repair and operate the 32 Navy hovercraft, Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC).

The Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC) is a high-speed, over-the-beach fully amphibious landing craft, capable of carrying up to a 75-ton payload. It is used to transport the weapons systems, equipment, cargo and personnel from ship to shore and across the beach. LCAC can carry heavy payloads, such as an M-1 tank, at high speeds. The air cushion technology allows this vehicle to reach more than 70 percent of the world’s coastline, while only about 15 percent of that coastline is accessible by conventional landing craft.

With more than 90 percent of all trade traveling by sea, and 95 percent of the world’s international phone and internet traffic carried through fiber optic cables lying on the ocean floor, Navy officials continue to emphasize that the prosperity and security of the United States is directly linked to a strong and ready Navy.

Lopez Lazo and the sailors he serves with have many opportunities to achieve accomplishments during their military service.

“My biggest accom-

plishment since joining the Navy was becoming a petty officer second class in two years, which isn’t common,” said Lopez Lazo.

As Lopez Lazo and other sailors continue to train and perform missions, they take pride in serving their coun-

try in the United States Navy.

“Serving in the Navy has helped me develop my personality and find a higher level of confidence,” added Lopez Lazo.

Let us hear from you!

If there is any news, events or anything else we need to know about, give us an e-mail at:
editor@northdallasgazette.com
Lessons Republicans can learn from Ukraine

By Rep. James E. Clyburn

House Majority Whip

Lady Justice wears a blindfold to indicate that justice is blind and, therefore, fair. However, that fairness is not reflected in the makeup of our courts. In fact, one might say Lady Justice’s blindfold prevents her from seeing the imbalances on current federal benches.

Last month we celebrated women’s history, I believe is an appropriate time to take a good look at the status of women in our judicial system. We all know that representation matters, and the federal judiciary has been sorely lacking on this front.

During the 2020 Presidential campaign, I often heard expressions of displeasure that there had never been a Black woman on the U.S. Supreme Court, nor had one ever been seriously considered. That is why I believed it to be appropriate and timely that then-candidate Joe Biden pledge during the South Carolina primary that, if given the opportunity, he would nominate a Black woman to the highest court in the land. He made the pledge during the South Carolina presidential debate and went on to win the state’s primary by a narrow margin. The importance of those who serve.

These same Republican senators have twice voted to confirm Judge Jackson to two courts, yet, this time, Senators like Mitch McConnell and Lindsey Graham, who have voted twice for her in the past, now refuse to vote to confirm this Black woman to the highest Court in the land. To support their insanity, they created concepts like Judicial Philosophy, which have nothing to do with service. Interestingly enough, the Constitution does not even require that a Supreme Court Justice be a lawyer, just get confirmation.

As the Russians left and are continuing to leave the bodies of men, women, and children in the streets as symbols of the human carnage of their war crimes, so are bodies being left in the streets of this country as the result of mass shootings by weapons so many Republicans refuse to outlaw like AK47 assault rifles, which have nothing to do with the Second Amendment Right to keep and bear arms.

Yes, like the Russians, the Republicans do not care about the threat to democracy and the way of life it guarantees to all Americans. While some allow the use of bullets others prefer Voter Suppression, the removal of polling sites, and penalties for eating or drinking while waiting in long lines to vote.

The good news is that, we the American people, still believe in democracy, our constitution, and equality for all. Like the people of Ukraine, we can unite and fight the inhumane and conspiratorial conduct of our Republican Russians. Like the people of Ukraine, we must rally around democracy and fight with the weapons of our institutions and our votes to remove the Russians among us.

Let’s celebrate Women History Month by adjusting Lady Justice’s blindfold

By Rep. James E. Clyburn

House Majority Whip

Lady Justice wears a blindfold to indicate that justice is blind and, therefore, fair. However, that fairness is not reflected in the makeup of our courts. In fact, one might say Lady Justice’s blindfold prevents her from seeing the imbalance on current federal benches.

Last month we celebrated women’s history, I believe is an appropriate time to take a good look at the status of women in our judicial system. We all know that representation matters, and the federal judiciary has been sorely lacking on this front.

During the 2020 Presidential campaign, I often heard expressions of displeasure that there had never been a Black woman on the U.S. Supreme Court, nor had one ever been seriously considered. That is why I believed it to be appropriate and timely that then-candidate Joe Biden pledge during the South Carolina primary that, if given the opportunity, he would nominate a Black woman to the highest court in the land. He made the pledge during the South Carolina presidential debate and went on to win the state’s primary by a narrow margin. The importance of those who serve.

These same Republican senators have twice voted to confirm Judge Jackson to two courts, yet, this time, Senators like Mitch McConnell and Lindsey Graham, who have voted twice for her in the past, now refuse to vote to confirm this Black woman to the highest Court in the land. To support their insanity, they created concepts like Judicial Philosophy, which have nothing to do with service. Interestingly enough, the Constitution does not even require that a Supreme Court Justice be a lawyer, just get confirmation.

As the Russians left and are continuing to leave the bodies of men, women, and children in the streets as symbols of the human carnage of their war crimes, so are bodies being left in the streets of this country as the result of mass shootings by weapons so many Republicans refuse to outlaw like AK47 assault rifles, which have nothing to do with the Second Amendment Right to keep and bear arms.

Yes, like the Russians, the Republicans do not care about the threat to democracy and the way of life it guarantees to all Americans. While some allow the use of bullets others prefer Voter Suppression, the removal of polling sites, and penalties for eating or drinking while waiting in long lines to vote.

The good news is that, we the American people, still believe in democracy, our constitution, and equality for all. Like the people of Ukraine, we can unite and fight the inhumane and conspiratorial conduct of our Republican Russians. Like the people of Ukraine, we must rally around democracy and fight with the weapons of our institutions and our votes to remove the Russians among us.
Study shows that white people cared less about COVID after realizing it hurt Blacks the most

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

White people were more likely to ignore safety precautions like wearing masks and social distancing during the pandemic when they realized the various and disproportionately ways COVID-19 affected African Americans.

Psychologists at the University of Georgia’s Department of Social Science & Medicine made those points out the importance of Scrub Ball in the North Texas community, said Karen Cherry, founder of the nonprofit foundation bearing her name. Cherry will also serve as one of the chairs with both individuals. The event will offer Continuing Education Units (CEU) to workers, seminars, workshops, scholarships, and an awards gala. Another feature will be a Healthcare Job and Scholarship Fair for those seeking employment and additional industry knowledge. Awards will be given out in five categories that acknowledges healthcare workers to employees of hospitals, nursing homes, and clinics. Those categories are:

**VIVIAN THOMAS HEART AWARD:**
A leader in the medical field that started at the lowest level and through hard work and determination worked their way up to becoming a major leader in healthcare. This person should have knowledge that has propelled them in public demand. Credentials should include publisher, create policies, author, and public speaker.

**THE CHERRY HEART AWARD:**
A successful leader who leads from within. One who doesn’t need anything from their people but serves in meaningful ways that become their blueprint for success. Challenges themselves to find new solutions to problems facing the team.

Mayor, Congresswoman to chair health care conference, gala to educate, recognize, honor unspoken heros in health care

Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson and Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson will serve as the Honorary Chairs of the Scrub Ball Healthcare Conference and Gala. “This is a three-day event designed to educate, recognize, and honor unspoken employees in the healthcare industry,” organizers announced today. The conference will take place June 1-4, 2022, at the downtown Marriott Hotel in Dallas. Scrub Ball is being presented by the Cherry Foundation in collaboration with SIPS Consults and CS Assist.

“Our healthcare heroes have always been critical to our city and the healthcare industry,” said Mayor Johnson. “I am delighted to help honor them and to recognize their work through this year’s Scrub Ball. They are key members of our city’s health and communities.”

Congresswoman Johnson, who is retiring at the end of the year, was a nurse before pursuing her long-standing career in politics. “Over the past two years, health care workers have been at the forefront of our battle against the COVID-19 pandemic. We owe them a considerable debt of gratitude—and hosting this conference and gala is a great way to recognize them and address the issues they face daily.”

“We are excited that the Congresswoman and the Mayor are joining us. It points out the importance of Scrub Ball in the North Texas community,” said Karen Cherry, founder of the nonprofit foundation bearing her name. Cherry will also serve as one of the chairs with both individuals. The event will offer Continuing Education Units (CEU) to workers, seminars, workshops, scholarships, and an awards gala. Another feature will be a Healthcare Job and Industry Fair for those seeking employment and additional industry knowledge. Awards will be given out in five categories that acknowledges healthcare workers to employees of hospitals, nursing homes, and clinics. Those categories are:

**VIVIAN THOMAS HEART AWARD:**
A leader in the medical field that started at the lowest level and through hard work and determination worked their way up to becoming a major leader in healthcare. This person should have knowledge that has propelled them in public demand. Credentials should include publisher, create policies, author, and public speaker.

**THE CHERRY HEART AWARD:**
A successful leader who leads from within. One who doesn’t need anything from their people but serves in meaningful ways that become their blueprint for success. Challenges themselves to find new solutions to problems facing the team.

**Fieran N. Nash**

**See SCRUB, Page 5**
Obama’s White House visit stirs laughter, memories and new health care proposal

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

With the style, grace, and humor that personified his two terms in office, former President Barack Obama returned to the White House to help celebrate the Affordable Care Act and help announce plans to strengthen his signature law which many refer to as Obamacare.

“It’s good to be back at the White House,” Obama declared, much to the delight of an overflow crowd of reporters and onlookers in the East Room.

With President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris standing alongside him, Obama referred to the current commander-in-chief as “Vice President Biden.”

That brought laughter from all, including Biden, who would later jokingly declare, “My name is Joe Biden, and I’m Barack Obama’s vice president.”

Of course, Biden served as vice president under Obama from 2008 to 2017. Donald Trump took the reigns from January 2017 to January 2021.

“It feels like the good old days – being here with you brings back so many good memories,” Biden declared.

It marked the first time Obama had visited 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue since leaving office.

“Toung serious, Obama reflected on celebrating 12 years of the Affordable Care Act.

“It’s an example of why you run for office in the first place,” Obama asserted.

“We’re not supposed to do this just to occupy a seat or to hang on to power. We’re supposed to do this because it’s making a difference in the lives of the people who sent us here.”

Biden said the Affordable Care Act had been called a lot of things.

“But Obamacare is the most fitting,” he declared.

The President vowed to expand access to health care by proposing a change to Obamacare that would allow more eligibility for premium tax credits.

“One day’s proposed rule is finalized, starting next year, working families in America will get the help they need to afford full family coverage,” Biden said.

“With this change, it’s estimated that 200,000 presently uninsured Americans are going to gain coverage. Nearly one million Americans will see their coverage become more affordable.”

Under the President’s plan, families would receive tax credits if the cost of their coverage exceeds more than 10 percent of their incomes.

The U.S. Treasury Department said the change would allow 200,000 uninsured individuals to gain coverage while more than 1 million others would realize lower premium payments.

“Thanks to the landmark American Rescue Plan, ACA premiums are at an all-time low, while enrollment is at an all-time high,” the administration said in a Fact Sheet.

“Four out of five Americans can find quality coverage for under $10 a month, and families are saving an average of $2,400 on their annual premiums — $200 in savings every month back to families.”

The Fact Sheet continued:

“The Administration has lowered costs and increased enrollment to a record high of 14.5 million Americans—including nearly 6 million who newly gained coverage.

“With the addition of Missouri and Oklahoma, two states that expanded Medicaid last year, nearly 19 million low-income Americans are enrolled in the ACA’s Medicaid expansion coverage, adding up to a record nearly 80 million children, pregnant women, seniors, people with disabilities, and other low-income Americans covered by Medicaid.”

The administration said it’s seeking to fix the “family glitch” in the ACA law.

“You don’t have to access to affordable health insurance through their jobs may qualify for a premium tax credit to purchase affordable, high-quality coverage on the ACA’s health insurance marketplaces,” administration officials stated.

“Current regulations define employer-based health insurance as ‘affordable’ if the coverage solely for the employee, and not for family members, is affordable, making family members ineligible for a premium tax credit even though they need it to afford high-quality coverage through the

See OBAMA, Page 7

SCRUNG, from Page 4

tic, and respected in their position as leader.

UNSUNG HERO AWARD:

Chosen from their peers for teamwork, attitude, attendance, and willingness to help anyone. The person that repeatedly saves the day, steps up when needed. Emphasizes amazing customer service. Works to keep an open and working relationship with all department personnel.

CHERRY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS:

Scholarships valued at $8,200 will be offered to tow deserving people who have the desire and skills to enter the field of healthcare.

A 300-word scholarship essay must be presented and approved by committee.

Nominations are open with forms and instructions available online at www.scrubball.org. Registration is also limited and may be purchased online through its website.

“We want and hope to bring all of the different elements of what is important in the healthcare industry to one special time and place on an annual basis,” said Cherry. She said now that the events have been planned, they will be looking for sponsors to help spread the word and lift the spirits of those on the front line. “This will allow us to say to the many workers that they are really appreciated by all segments of the community.”

WFMA, Urban One Radio, Stelia Media and the Texas Metro News are returning as media sponsors. Several levels that accommodate budgets for inclusion are available. Those interested in sponsorship opportunities are contact event consultants Ken Carter, 214-744-1431, kencarter:focuspr.com or Tiffany Wyatt, tywatt@corbettmitchell.com, 469-886-6080 or review the categories on its website, www.scrubball.org.

LEGAL NOTICE

These Texas Lottery Commission scratch ticket games will be closing soon:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Game #</th>
<th>Game Name / Odds</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>Official Close of Games</th>
<th>Estimated Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2344</td>
<td>Special Edition Crossword – Overall Odds are 1 in 3.95</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>4/22/22</td>
<td>9/09/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2392</td>
<td>Winter Words – Overall Odds are 1 in 4.02</td>
<td>$3</td>
<td>4/22/22</td>
<td>9/09/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2219</td>
<td>$250 Million Cash Party – Overall Odds are 1 in 3.45</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>4/22/22</td>
<td>9/09/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2312</td>
<td>Millionaire Grab – Overall Odds are 1 in 3.50</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>4/22/22</td>
<td>9/09/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2315</td>
<td>Veterans Cash – Overall Odds are 1 in 4.40</td>
<td>$2</td>
<td>5/10/22</td>
<td>11/14/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2325</td>
<td>Cowboys – Overall Odds are 1 in 3.70</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>5/10/22</td>
<td>11/14/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2334</td>
<td>Houston Texans – Overall Odds are 1 in 3.79</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>5/19/22</td>
<td>11/22/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2390</td>
<td>H6 $500 – Overall Odds are 1 in 4.50</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>5/10/22</td>
<td>11/14/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2392</td>
<td>25 Days of Winning – Overall Odds are 1 in 3.87</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>5/10/22</td>
<td>11/14/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2379</td>
<td>Red Hot $100,000 – Overall Odds are 1 in 4.71</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>5/19/22</td>
<td>11/22/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2394</td>
<td>Holiday Lucky Ties $100 – Overall Odds are 1 in 3.89</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>5/19/22</td>
<td>11/4/22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the 411 in the community, go to www.northdallasgazette.com

April 7-20, 2022 | North Dallas Gazette | 5
SANS+HBCU partners with the Black Press of America

SANS+HBCU is excited to announce a partnership with the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA). Now celebrating its 82nd year, the NNPA’s 200+ membership, the Black Press of America — celebrating 195 years since the publishing of Freedom’s Journal — is proud to work with SANS+HBCU to bring opportunities to HBCU students and institutions.

SANS Institute launched in 1989 as a cooperative for information security through leadership. It is SANS’ ongoing mission to empower cybersecurity professionals with the practical skills and knowledge they need to make our world a safer place.

We fuel this effort with high-quality training, certifications, scholarship academies, degree programs, cyber ranges, and resources to meet the needs of every cyber professional. Our data, research, and the top minds in cybersecurity, collectively ensure that individuals and organizations have the actionable education and support they need.

Our SANS+HBCU Committee was established December of 2020 amid a global pandemic and during a universal shift in social justice awareness. According to the United Negro College Fund (UNCF), HBCUs are responsible for 25% of all African American students with bachelor’s degrees in STEM fields despite making up only 3% of our nation’s universities and colleges.

Our mission is to create a bridge to diversify cybersecurity with innovative Black talent from Historically Black Colleges and Universities. SANS Institute’s goal is to be intentional about developing a pipeline of Black excellence into the cybersecurity field and we believe the best way to do so is by establishing a meaningful relationship with some of the best Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the country.

In our first year, the SANS+HBCU committee flourished and partnered with the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) and Norfolk State University (NSU) launching our cybersecurity academies. We have also hosted two successful Black History Month capture the flag cyber range events. We are excited to announce that because of the success of these partnerships, as well as increased interest from several HBCUs around the nation, SANS+HBCU has opened an all students invite to any HBCU student and Alum to be a part of our all-inclusive, all-immersive HBCU Academy.

In our first year, the SANS+HBCU committee flourished and partnered with the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) and Norfolk State University (NSU) launching our cyber academies. We have also hosted two successful Black History Month capture the flag cyber range events. We are excited to announce that because of the success of these partnerships, as well as increased interest from several HBCUs around the nation, SANS+HBCU has opened an all students invite to any HBCU student and Alum to be a part of our all-inclusive, all-immersive HBCU Academy.

Aerial view of North Carolina University’s campus. The university was one of at least seven bomb threats reported in early January at Historically Black Colleges and Universities around the country. (Photo via NNPA)

Biden administration focuses money on HBCUs after bomb threats

By Lauren Victoria Burke NNPA Contributor

Shifting funds from the Department of Education to assist Historically Black Colleges and Universities experiencing sporadic bomb threats, several top officials in the Biden Administration spoke out. Over the last two months repeated bomb threats have been made against several HBCUs including Morgan State, and Howard University.

On March 16, in a small auditorium at the Old Executive Office Building next door to The White House, Vice President Kamala Harris, Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona and Attorney General Merrick Garland spoke on the plan. The allocations, coming from existing money from the Department of Education budget, comes to about $150,000 per school.

HBCU has received a record amount of funding from the federal government over the last year into the billions. “At the Justice Department, we believe the time to address illegal threats is when they are made, not after tragedy strikes. We also know that the threat against HBCUs and their students has deep, historical roots…” In the over 150 years since the founding of the Department, the threats posed by hate-fueled criminal acts have taken on many different forms. But our task remains the same: to use our resources and our legal authorities to prevent and confront bias-motivated violence and threats of violence,” the Attorney said in front of education officials, reporters and supporters of HBCUs.

Black Press USA asked Congressional Black Caucus Chairwoman Joyce Beatty (D-OH) and Senior Advisor Cedric Richmond about the historic allocations.

SANS+HBCU has opened an all students invite to any HBCU student and Alum to be a part of our all-inclusive, all-immersive HBCU Academy. (Photo via NNPA)

COOPER, from Page 2

ence and opportunities for player development for aspiring PGA Professionals.

Currently 18 universities offer the bachelor’s degree program.

To learn more about the PGA of America’s PGM program, visit pga.org/membership/university-program.

Going through the program, Cooper became fully invested in pursuing a career in golf. It was his passion, and he wanted to stay involved in any way possible.

“The way I figured, I love golf, and if I’m a Member of the PGA, I’ll always have a job in golf,” Cooper says. “I knew I could make a lifelong career out of this, and that’s what I wanted to do.”

Earning Membership and becoming a PGA Teaching Professional is Cooper’s way of making a living through that passion.

And after countless hours of lessons and his experience in talking with new golfers, he believes the way to bring more people of color into the game, the industry and potentially PGA Membership, is by sparking their love for the game at the grassroots level.

Programs like PGA Jr. League and PGA Family Cup, he believes, are great ways to attract new audiences of young people and create that love at an early age. And along with non-traditional facilities like CitySwing, those experiences can focus on giving people a comfortable, welcoming experience that keeps them playing and finding their love.

Cooper also says promoting diverse golf influencers like NBA star Stephen Curry, a PGA Jr. League Ambassador, and influencer Roger Steele, the founder of progressive content agency HIP Media, can be ways to get people of color interested in golf, even if they’ve never considered it before.

The emphasis being that the more people see others who look like them playing the game, the more likely they’ll gravitate toward it. As Cooper sees it, there won’t be another “Tiger boom” that fuels an influx of diverse players. While it’s certainly possible that another African American golfer has massive influence, odds are they won’t dominate as Woods did, or captivate society enough to create the same phenomenon impact.

That means it’s up to people like Cooper to welcome people in the next wave. “If you don’t play golf, you’re not watching golf.” So I’m focused on the ground level, what I can do and embracing those people,” Cooper says.

“The more people of color that are playing golf, the more interested they’ll be in working in golf and joining the PGA [as Members]. It just has to be a big group effect.”

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a PGA Member, visit pga.org/membership.
Richardson Parks & Recreation launches community survey as part of master plan update

The City of Richardson Parks and Recreation Department has launched a community survey as part of the continuing process to update its Master Plan. Everyone interested in sharing their thoughts about parks and recreation programs and services is asked to participate.

Community surveys are one of the most important tools used in the master planning process since they can reach a diverse, wide audience. The more responses received; the more information planners will have as they lay the road map for the future of the department. The survey will be available online through May 8. In Richardson, the Parks Master Plan receives a major update every 10 years, with a minor update five years later. The plan last received a minor update in 2017. When complete, the 2022 Master Plan will serve as a framework that will help to guide parks and recreation development and programming/funding decisions for the next decade.

A link to the survey is available at www.cor.net/parksmasterplan with links also shared on the Department’s social media channels. People wishing to fill out a print survey can do so at the following locations:

- City Hall, 411 W. Arapaho Rd.
- Library, 900 Civic Center Dr.
- Gymnastics Center, 300 E. Arapaho Rd.
- Heights Recreation Center, 711 W. Arapaho Rd.
- Huffhines Recreation Center, 200 N. Plano Rd.
- Senior Center, 820 W. Arapaho Rd.
- Service Center, 1260 Columbia Dr.
- Tennis Center, 1601 Syracuse Dr.

HBCU, from Page 6

“If you look at our Administration, if you look at what we’re doing we’re making sure we empower our universities. They’ve done great with less for far too long,” Richmond said standing in the White House driveway.”

Members of the CBC received a briefing on the 

STUDY, from Page 4

theory, they made additional conclusions. Although the elevated rates of COVID-19 infection and mortality among people of color in the U.S. do not objectively reduce the risks of infection among white people, they may reduce perceptions of risk by serving as a source of downward comparison, the authors said.

“When people compare themselves to others who are less well off, they feel more satisfied with their current situation,” the authors asserted.

“When confronted with threatening health concerns, people often spontaneously engage in downward comparisons as a means of coping, which has been shown to reduce engagement in health-protective behaviors. “Therefore, bomb threats from Department of Justice officials in early March. In an era of divisive politics and a former President, Donald Trump, who negatively openly targeted Black members of Congress and cities with large Black populations such as Baltimore and Philadelphia, concerns for HBCUs have remained high.

“The threats made against our nations Historically Black Colleges and Universities are far from new, and I commend the Administration for finally allocating the necessary attention and resources to HBCUs as we work to end the string of threats and bring the perpetrators to justice,” said Rep. Frederica Wilson in a statement.

They noted that previous research had revealed that U.S. residents who are more knowledgeable about past racial injustices tend to be more aware of and concerned about systemic inequalities and racism in the present.

“These findings suggest that White U.S. residents who are more knowledgeable about the systemic and structural inequalities that led people of color to be harder hit by COVID-19 may also be more concerned about COVID-19 racial disparities,” the authors wrote.

“This line of thinking suggests that systemic knowledge of contributors to COVID-19 racial disparities would be associated with greater concern about COVID-19 and increased support for safety precautions.”

“Our administration is sending a very clear message that intimidation will not stand and we will not be intimidated. We will do everything in our power to protect all our communities from violence and from hate,” said Vice President Harris.

Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent journalist and the host of the podcast BURKFILE. She is a political analyst who appears regularly on #RolandMartinUnfiltered. She may be contacted at LBurke007@gmail.com and on twitter at @LVBurke.

DOBAMA, from Page 5

Marketplace.”

The officials added that for family members of an employee offered health coverage through an employer, the cost of that family coverage can sometimes be prohibitive and make health insurance out of reach.

The “family glitch” affects about 5 million people and has made it impossible for many families to use the premium tax credit to purchase an affordable, high-quality Marketplace plan, officials stated.

Biden’s proposal reportedly would require some time before taking effect. Thus the goal is for it to begin in January.

Administration officials said more than 14.5 million people purchased ACA marketplace plans this winter.

That number included 6 million who purchased health insurance for the first time.
Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., 54 years later

On the 54th anniversary of King’s death, observances took place around the nation, while those not attending specific events took to social media to commemorate the icon.

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

On April 4, 1968, an assassin’s bullet ended the dynamic life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the age of 39.

King stood on a balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee, a site that’s now a museum dedicated to the civil rights champion’s life.

James Earl Ray ultimately pleaded guilty to shooting King but later claimed he was a pawn in a more significant crime ring to kill the African American leader.

On the 54th anniversary of King’s death, observances took place around the nation, while those not attending specific events took to social media to commemorate the icon.

“We spend more time celebrating [King’s] birth than acknowledging where he was politically when he was killed — fighting alongside sanitation workers, opposing war, racism, and capitalism,” historian and author Barbara Ransby wrote on Twitter.

“April 4 reminds us of the power of the radical King,” Ransby noted.

Maya Wiley, the incoming president of The Leadership Conference, also provided remarks via social media.

“(On April 4), 1968, Martin Luther King was assassinated for believing we are equal, shouldn’t be poor, and have rights,” Wiley asserted.

“Today, we’re told to fear learning about race or gender identity, to permit voter suppression, and that a highly qualified Black woman isn’t Supreme Court material. We have work to do.”

One day before King’s assassination, the civil rights leader gave his last speech where he proclaimed that he’d been to the mountain-top.

In a sad prophecy, King prepared his followers for his demise.

“It really doesn’t matter what happens now,” he insisted.

“We’ve got some difficult days ahead,” he continued before doubling down.

“But it doesn’t matter with me now. Because I’ve been to the mountaintop. And I don’t mind. Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place.

“But I’m not concerned about that now. I just want to do God’s will. And He’s allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I’ve looked over. And I’ve seen the promised land.

“This most recent commitment hearing appeared headed on a spiral toward earlier confirmation sessions when Republican Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, who three times had voted to confirm Jackson to other seats, spared more venom.

“I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight that we, as a people, will get to the promised land. And I’m happy tonight. I’m not worried about anything. I’m not fearing any man.”

Rev. Jesse Jackson, who attended King’s last speech and stood nearby at the Lorraine Motel when the assassin cut down his colleague, participated in an event at Mt. Olive CME Church in Memphis to help commemorate the 54th anniversary of that dark day.

“It’s sad for me. I was with him when the shot was fired,” Jackson remarked.

“I can replay it back of my mind. It hurts still. I think about the progress we’ve made since that time.”

Jackson joined Bishop Henry Williamson Sr. and others in Memphis to observe the anniversary.

“The 54th-anniversary celebration of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is one of the most important dates in Tennessee and across the nation to observe,” Williamson stated.

As part of the observance, Williamson, Jackson, and others visited the National Civil Rights Museum, which stands at the Lorraine Motel, and the historic Collins Chapel Connectional Hospital, the only hospital in Memphis that allowed Black people during segregation.

“Dr. King called for nonviolence to bring about change against unjust and immoral laws in situations of segregation and discrimination. We need that in today’s world,” Williamson said.

Illinois Democratic Sen. Tammy Duckworth agreed.

“We will never forget Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for all he did to change the course of our nation’s future for the better,” Duckworth stated. “Today, it falls upon all of us to continue his legacy.”

Judge Jackson’s historic confirmation assured after three GOP senators say ‘yes’

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Dick Durbin, a Democrat from Illinois, said out loud on Monday what many may have thought about the Supreme Court nomination hearings where Republicans verbally lynch’d Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson.

“Judge Jackson is a better person than me,” Durbin announced.

As the committee advanced Jackson’s nomination and, with three Republicans announcing their support for the judge, it’s all but assured that a Black woman will sit for the first time on the highest court in the land.


“My support rests on Judge Jackson’s qualifications, which no one questions; her demonstrated judicial independence; her demeanor and temperament; and the important perspective she would bring to the court as a replacement for Justice [Stephen] Breyer,” Murkowski said.

“She will bring to the Supreme Court a range of experience from the courtroom that few can match given her background in litigation.”

On Twitter, Romney announced that Jackson is a “well-qualified jurist and a person of honor” who “more than meets the standard of excellence and integrity.”

The most recent committee hearing appeared headed on a spiral toward earlier confirmation sessions when Republican Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, who three times had voted to confirm Jackson to other seats, spared more venom.

 “[Jackson] is embraced by the most radical people

“We All Must Go Home To Glory”

Question: Why saddle family members with the cost of your burial / cremation?

Homegoings should reflect on your life and legacy. It Is Smart To Call ... COMBINED BENEFIT SOLUTIONS

- Pre-Need Insurance (Burial / Cremation)
- No Physical Examination Required
- Pre-Need Funeral Policies Start At $9.95 Per Month
- Peace Of Mind Knowing Your Loved Ones Are Not Burdened With This Obligation

Vickie Richardson-Steward
President / Licensed Agent

Call Today For a No-Obligation Quote 214-238-6855
Website: www.cbsolutionsplus.com
Film Review: ‘Cheaper by the Dozen’ has some good moments

By Dwight Brown
NNPA Film Critic

(*1/2) It’s kinda like a movie. Kinda like a sitcom. Not really either. But its sweet emotions and modern sensibilities eventually make it endearing.

It looks like the goal of the relaunch of Cheaper by the Dozen, a classic 1950 and 2003 white bread Disney family comedy, was to make it more topical and multi-grain. Certainly, the casting attests to that ambition. Zoey (Gabrielle Union, TV’s L.A.’s Finest) and Paul Baker (Zach Braff, TV’s Scrubs) own Bakers’ Breakfast, a diner that serves the first meal of the day all-day long. Both are divorced and bring their mixed bag of offspring into their new life.

Zoey has a teen basketball-loving daughter, Deja (Journee Brown), and young son DJ (Andre Robinson) from her ex-husband Dom (Timon Kyle Durrett), a rich successful basketball player. Paul brings his daughters, Ella (Kylie Rogers), Harley (Caylee Blosenski), who caroens around in a wheelchair, and adopted son and delinquent teen, Seth (Luke Prael), who is helped by Paul’s dizzy ex-wife Kate (Erika Chris tensen). Money is another problem, and that’s solved as the couple expands their business. Its success brings them gobs of money, tosses them into an upper socioeconomic group and suburban neighborhood. Issues of culture clash and changing family values threaten their happiness.

The screenplay, by Kenya Barris (Black-ish) & Jennifer Rice-Genzuk Henry (Black-ish) doesn’t aim higher than it must. It sets the eclectic characters up way too much in the beginning, with frontloaded, excessive, backstory exposition. As the film progresses, the narrative gives family members life dramas to resolve. Funny, quick wit dialogue in rapid delivery makes them comic and appealing. The script raises some of the social, racial and class issues blended, multiracial families confront. Though, it noticebly steers clear of the LGBTQ conversations kids have these days. Is that to protect the Disney PG brand? A fear of being too real? Debate among yourselves.

The rhythm of the laughs and schtick are so TV sitcomish audiences may wonder why this is a 1h 47m streaming movie and not a series. Certainly, it’s not up to theatrical release standards. In Netflix’s hands, the material would be broken up into hour episodes, extended over a season and delve into today’s problems with more depth. Hopefully in a way that wouldn’t confound children or anger adults but still get the job done. Imagine if Deja’s hoop dreams, DJ’s sojourn into Goth culture, Harley’s experiences as a physically challenged teen, Seth’s juvenile delinquent behavior and Haresh’s encounters with bullying played out until they were well-developed with appropriate character arcs. Kids, tweens and teens might get hooked. And parents too. What’s on view is relevant, but too safe at a time when families are looking for enlightened guidance as they navigate an ever-changing world.

Director Gail Lerner (Black-ish) is not all that adventurous. Lots of scenes are obvious sets, especially home interiors. Her filmmaking doesn’t take real advantage of the great outdoors and the kind of freedom and range exterior shots allow. For the first 45 minutes the quick-paced short scenes (editor Troy Takaki, Sweet Home Alabama) lack pizazz. Verve finally emerges at a basketball game half-time show. The very competitive dads, Paul and Dom, have a dance off. It’s a welcomed burst of energy, Lerner milks the scene well and Braff clowns around like a comedy star. More of these moments were needed.

Speaking of cast, the entire ensemble brings more to the party than the film-makers. Braff is an expert at mugging for the camera. Union plays the mom with the right amount of nurturing and the wife with just enough backbone and grit. Brown, Robinson, Prael, Blosenski, Simhadri and both sets of twins stand out. The actors make up for a lot of what the film lacks. They pull you into their emotional states until they give you a warm, fuzzy feeling. All romp around on sets (production designer Desma Murphy) that look too artificial with antics captured by harsh lighting cinematographer Mitchell Amundsen) that contributes to that plastic TVish look. The musical score (John Paesano) is both soulfully contemporary and generic all at the same time.

Objectively, the film dares to take on pressing issues and hits some nice emotional peaks. Pitifully it is not as brave as it could have been. If Cheaper by the Dozen had owned up to what it really is, a potential series with opportunities to dig deep, it might have had more impact.

On Disney+ now.

Visit NNPA News Wire Film Critic Dwight Brown at DwightBrownFilm.com and BlackPressUSA.com.
Dallas Symphony Orchestra announces the 2022 Lynn Harrell Concerto Competition for young musicians in the region

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra (DSO) announces the twenty-first annual Lynn Harrell Concerto Competition to be held on Saturday, April 16, 2022, at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center. The eight finalists will compete for a first-place scholarship award of $5,000 and a performance with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra at the annual Teen Scene Concert on June 10, 2022. The second place winner will receive a $3,500 scholarship, the third place winner will receive a $2,000 scholarship, and an honorable mention will receive $500 scholarship. Admission is free and open to the public.

The 2022 finalists with their competition repertoire are:
- Jacob Choi, viola – Bartók: Viola Concerto
- Victoria Han, piano – Schumann: Piano Concerto in A minor
- Lindsey Kim, violin – Sibelius: Violin Concerto
- Steven Lu, violin – Concerto for Double Bass
- Austin Topper, cello – Tchaikovsky: Rococo Variations
- Ella Tran, piano – Rachmaninoff: Piano Concerto No. 3
- Danielle Yoon, cello – Dvořák: Cello Concerto

Finalists at the Dallas Symphony’s 2022 Lynn Harrell Concerto Competition were selected through recorded submissions that were screened by a committee of DSO musicians, staff and music faculty from area universities. The winners will be determined by a panel of judges that include Eunice Keem, Associate Concertmaster, Marcella Poppen Chair; Jolyon Pegis, Associate Principal Cello, Joe Hubach Chair; and Gyeon Yoon, Violin.

Established in 2001 by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, the Lynn Harrell Concerto Competition is open to students ages 8-18 who are residents of or attend school in Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Louisiana. The purpose of the competition is to identify and encourage the highest level of musical talent in the South Central United States. Past winners have gone on to study music at such prominent institutions as the Cleveland Institute of Music, the Eastman School of Music, The Juilliard School and the Peabody Institute in Baltimore.

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra gratefully acknowledges Rita Sue & Alan Gold and Iskoe & Anthony Stern for their endowed gifts in support of the Lynn Harrell Concerto Competition.

Further support for the 2022 Lynn Harrell Competition was provided by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra League, Rebecca Vanyo, Roberta Corbett and Tom Corbett (in memoriam).

Jacob Choi is from Denton, Texas, where he began his classical studies at eight. Currently studying under Ronald Houston, Jacob was recently invited to play the viola on NPR’s “From The Top” radio program (Show 411) and was awarded the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation’s Young Artist Award of $7500. He also was the Gold Medalist in the 2019 Dallas New Praise Festival, First Place in Senior Division for the 2019 JDR Viola Concerto Competition, won Honorable Mention in the Senior Strings Division of the 2019 Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Competition, and Second Place in the 2020 Texas Association for Symphony Orchestras (TASO) Youth Orchestra Competition.

Lindsey Kim is a junior attending Allen High School in Texas. She started learning the piano and violin at the age of 6 from family friends. The lessons were more of play-and-learn sessions. As she became more interested in the violin and music, she started taking formal lessons under Young-In Cho, followed by Lucas and Jina Aleman until the present. Under Lucas and Jina Aleman’s guidance, she has honed in on learning and mastering techniques and artistry which have enabled her to earn multiple achievements: first place in Texas All State Symphony Orchestra (2020), first place in the TMEA All Region 25 middle and high school for five consecutive years since 2017.

Austin Topper is a 17-year-old senior at Plano West Senior High in Plano, Texas. Austin began piano at age 5 and took his first cello lessons at age 8. Teachers include Eugene Osadchy, Ko Iwasaki, and Andres Diaz. Austin has performed in the #1 Texas All-State Orchestra as the only 9th grader on cello. He was the youngest semi-finalist in the Fort Worth Symphony Young Artist Concerto Competition and a finalist in the Vernell Gregg Concerto Competition junior division (2019/20). Austin performed a Vivaldi Concerto with Brookhaven College Chamber Orchestra and during Summer of 2019 attended a workshop with the Bavarian Radio Orchestra.

Tim O’Neal drops 15-footer on 18 to win APGA tour at PGA Golf Club

PORT ST. LUCIE, FL. – Veteran pro golfer Tim O’Neal calmly dropped a 15-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole to capture the APGA Tour at PGA Golf Club title by a single stroke Sunday, chalking up his second win of the season and taking over the top spot in the Lexus Cup Point Standings.

O’Neal’s nine-under 135 edged a strong, eight-under, 136 performance by Michael Bradham of Conway, Texas. O’Neal, the 49-year-old from Savannah, Georgia, triumphed at the APGA Tour’s regular-season opener at TPC Harding Park in February and lost in a playoff at the APGA Tour Farmers Insurance Invitational in January.

In addition to APGA Tour competition and U.S. Open qualifying, O’Neal will play as a sponsor exemption in the Korn Ferry Tour’s Simmons Bank Open May 5-8 in Tennessee.

He will turn 50 years-old on August 3 and is hoping to be invited as a sponsor exemption to play on the PGA TOUR Champions circuit before the end of the year.

“With the putts on 18 today, I thought that the odds would be in my favor, because I was missing puts throughout the day,” stated O’Neal.
CFPB: $88 billion medical debt burdens 43 million consumers
By Charlene Crowell

A new report from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) finds that the nation’s healthcare system is supported by an infrastructure of billing, payments, collections, and credit reporting that is fraught with commonplace mistakes.

At the same time, patients encounter difficulty in getting these errors corrected or resolved. And yet again, the worst burden of medical debt is borne by the poor, the elderly, and people of color.

As of June 2021, according to CFPB, the $88 billion medical debt documented on consumer credit reports is likely an understatement, and in actuality could be closer to $141 billion. Even so, it stands as the most common collection item appearing on credit reports, affecting 43 million people and comprising 58 percent of accounts in arrears.

Half of the financial burden of past due medical debt is held by Blacks (28 percent) and Latinos (22 percent). By comparison, only 10 percent of Asians and 17 percent of whites have medical debt. Regionally, the highest number of consumers caught in this financial web live either in the Southeast or the Southwest — where statewide Medicaid expansion is seldom available.

Similar and independent findings from the National Institutes of Health found that racial minorities’ access to health care is compounded by several factors, from quality of care to lower levels of health insurance and heavy reliance on emergency care instead of regular preventive care. For many Black Americans already burdened with lower incomes and with less family wealth, medical debt deepens that financial load 2.6 times higher than that for whites.

Regardless of locale, lengthy and multiple credit reporting delinquencies bring measurable harms to consumers in other important ways.

“Medical debt collections on an individual’s credit report can impact their ability to buy or rent a home, raise the price they pay for a car or for insurance, and make it more difficult to find a job,” states CFPB’s report. “This impact is particularly pronounced when lenders, insurers, landlords, and others rely on outdated credit scoring models that fail to take into account that medical collections are less predictive than nonmedical collections of future credit performance.”

While many consumers expect quality health care to come at a premium price, CFPB’s report also addresses excessively high medical charges.

“Multiple studies have found that markups are higher at hospitals with more Black and Hispanic patients,” states the report. “Higher markups do not correlate with better care; one 2016 study published in Surgery found that the risk of postoperative complications and death increased as price-to-cost markup ratio increased. The same study found that investor-owned for-profit hospitals charged the highest markups.”

Beyond higher-than-expected medical fees are the bills that arrive weeks if not months following medical care from parties unknown. Federal agencies refer to these charges as “surprise billings” that haunt insured and uninsured patients alike. Nearly one in five patients who go to an emergency room, have an accident or a hospitalization, have a medical charge for a service they did not receive or did not agree to. Nearly half of these medical charges are higher than expected. And they are most frequently for-profit hospitals.

The high markups of these hospitals have led to overcharging for patients who may not be able to pay.

For example, the CFPB report notes that in 2016, a study published in JAMA Internal Medicine found that hospital charges for patients without insurance were 50 percent higher than for patients with insurance. The study also found that patients with Medicare or Medicaid (government insurance) had charges that were 75 percent lower than for patients with private insurance.

Additionally, the report notes that hospitals that engage in “defensive medicine” — ordering tests or procedures that are not medically necessary in order to avoid blame for medical errors — charge more than hospitals that use evidence-based medicine.

In a study published in JAMA Internal Medicine, the CFPB notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary. The study also found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

The CFPB report also notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

In a study published in JAMA Internal Medicine, the CFPB notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

The CFPB report also notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

In a study published in JAMA Internal Medicine, the CFPB notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

The CFPB report also notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

In a study published in JAMA Internal Medicine, the CFPB notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

The CFPB report also notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

In a study published in JAMA Internal Medicine, the CFPB notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

The CFPB report also notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

In a study published in JAMA Internal Medicine, the CFPB notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

The CFPB report also notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

In a study published in JAMA Internal Medicine, the CFPB notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

The CFPB report also notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

In a study published in JAMA Internal Medicine, the CFPB notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

The CFPB report also notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

In a study published in JAMA Internal Medicine, the CFPB notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

The CFPB report also notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

In a study published in JAMA Internal Medicine, the CFPB notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

The CFPB report also notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

In a study published in JAMA Internal Medicine, the CFPB notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

The CFPB report also notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

In a study published in JAMA Internal Medicine, the CFPB notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.

The CFPB report also notes that hospitals that charge more also have higher markups. The study found that hospital charges for procedures that are not necessary were 50 percent higher than for procedures that are necessary.
Biden proposes eliminating ‘Family Glitch’ in Affordable Care Act

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

President Joe Biden said he wants to expand access to health care, and he’s doing so by proposing a change to the Affordable Care Act to allow more people eligibility for premium tax credits.

Under the President’s plan, families would receive tax credits if the cost of their coverage exceeds more than 10 percent of their incomes.

The U.S. Treasury Department said the change would allow 200,000 uninsured individuals to gain coverage while more than 1 million others would realize lower premium payments.

“Thanks to the landmark American Rescue Plan, ACA premiums are at an all-time low while enrollment is at an all-time high,” the administration said in a Fact Sheet ahead of a formal announcement at the White House with former President Barack Obama.

“Four out of five Americans can find quality coverage for under $10 a month, and families are saving an average of $2,400 on their annual premiums — $200 in savings every month in my 30 years working on census issues,” Arturo Vargas, CEO of the National Association of Latino Elected Officials Education Fund, said during a news conference.

“I can’t even find the right word. I’m just upset about the extent of the undercount that has been confirmed by the post-employment survey,” Vargas said.

“This is a major step backward on this.”

Data Analyst

MSEE, CE, Eng Mgt, or related.
1 year of exp. in analyzing raw data, building data systems, and developing analytical tools. Exp. to include SQL Server, Python (Scikit-Learn, tkinter), Java, data visualization and data mining.

Job Loc: 405 State Highway
121 Bypass, Suite A250, Lewisville, TX 75067

Send resume to: EEPlus Inc.
405 State Highway
121 Bypass, Suite A250, Lewisville, TX 75067

Cellco Partnership and its Controlled Affiliates Doing Business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to collocate wireless communications antennas at a top height of 109.5-foot on an existing building at the approx. vicinity of 2102 Elm Street, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas 75201. Lat: [32-46-54.946], Long: [-96-47-38.252]. 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, Alexis, a.humphrey@trileaf.com, 2550 S IH 35, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78704 – 512.519.9388.
American National Bank & Trust earns highest level of approval and status for their SBA lending program

Wichita Falls, TX (March 2022) — American National Bank & Trust (AMNAT) has received the highest level of authorization and status for their SBA Lending Program, the Preferred Lender (PLP) status.

The bank currently has branches in Wichita Falls, Iowa Park, Archer City, Chillicothe, Quanah, Flower Mound, downtown Fort Worth, Denton, and a Loan Production Office in North Dallas.

Hunter named to advisory board at Orchestra Partners

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Orchestra Partners announces the appointment of Kim Hunter to the Independent Corporate Advisory Board, effective immediately. Hunter brings strategic integrated marketing communications expertise, deep prior experience in growing professional services firms, as well as an entrepreneurial mindset with proven experience with innovation. Following the appointment of Mr. Hunter, the Board will comprise five directors. He will be serving a three-year term, which is subject to shareholder approval.

Hunter has extensive corporate board experience as he currently serves on Cal-Private Bank’s Community Advisory Board, a wholly owned subsidiary of Private Bancorp of America, Inc. In addition, he served closely two decades as corporate director for SCAN Health Plan, a Medicare Advantage health plan with $2 billion in annual revenue. As corporate director, Hunter served on all five committees: Audit & Compliance, Compensation, Finance, Quality & Customer Experience, and chaired Corporate Governance for seven years after serving on the committee for 14 years.

Hunter is a member of the board of the chapter of the National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD) – Pacific Southwest chapter, where he serves as Chair of the Nominating & Governance committee. He is also a member of the Private Directors Association (PDA), the only national association dedicated to improving private companies’ growth and sustainability through governance that adds value.

“Mr. Hunter brings 40 years of experience in advertising, marketing, corporate and agency experience, and strategic thinking, diverse experience in sustaining growth over long periods of time is exactly what we selected him for our board. His perspective and insights will be invaluable to us as we expand our business and continue to transform the urban experience. Lastly, Kim’s experience in commercial real estate and development as well as travel and tourism will undoubtedly bring value to our strategic vision. We are delighted to welcome Kim to the Orchestra Partners Board,” said Hunter Renfroe, principal of Orchestra Partners.

We are delighted to welcome Kim to the Orchestra Partners Board,” said Hunter Renfroe, principal of Orchestra Partners. “Kim’s strategic thinking, diverse industry expertise, and experience in sustaining growth over long periods of time is exactly what we selected him for our board. His perspective and insights will be invaluable to us as we expand our business and continue to transform the urban experience. Lastly, Kim’s experience in commercial real estate and development as well as travel and tourism will undoubtedly bring value to our strategic vision.

“Mr. Hunter brings 40 years of corporate and agency experience in advertising, marketing, and public relations. During his career, Hunter has founded three privately held enterprises: Lagrant Communications, The Lagrant Foundation, and Lagrant Foundation, Inc., which is subject to shareholder approval.

This new status will allow AMNAT to increase its marketing efforts and staff size as well as the opportunities to grow its small business loan portfolio.

Green continues and says, “Our existing SBA staff has over 40 years of SBA experience and is ready to help our small business applicants navigate through the SBA process. Our team enjoys what we do and has been successful in helping our small businesses obtain the necessary financing to achieve their goals.”

As an independent, locally-owned bank headquartered in Wichita Falls, American National Bank & Trust ranks as the largest, independently owned financial institution in the area with more than $740 million in assets and more than 200 highly talented individuals dedicated to providing exceptional customer service.

Chartered in 1976, the bank currently has branches in Wichita Falls, Iowa Park, Archer City, Chillicothe, Quanah, Flower Mound, downtown Fort Worth, Denton, and a Loan Production Office in North Dallas.

For the 411 in the community, go to www.northdallasisgazette.com
April is a month traditionally filled with spiritual peace and transitional kindness for people and their planet. Beyond April Fool’s Day, there is Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Passover, Easter Sunday and Earth Day. But this year, neither Christians nor hardly anyone else in Eastern Europe can embrace it. Russia’s invasion has left people horrified the world over.

If author and scholar Dr. Pieter Noomen were still alive, he might have a lot to say about that. Fortunately, he left us a treasure trove of writings on myriad topics, and the wisdom of his beliefs continues to ring the bells of compassion and peace. Those words are available free, to anyone at any time, on his website, www.wordsforall.org.

Dr. Noomen’s writings speak largely about his belief system and often refer to messages he said he received from a higher power, but his words can resonate with all, regardless of faith.

“Harmony, peace, sound relationships and health brighten human living. It’s wise to go for them in your short life span, although they will be challenged,” he wrote. “Harmony is one hundred percent supported by wisdom. It crowns any finding peace and happiness in a world of pain

April is a month traditionally filled with spiritual peace and transitional kindness for people and their planet. Beyond April Fool’s Day, there is Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Passover, Easter Sunday and Earth Day. But this year, neither Christians nor hardly anyone else in Eastern Europe can embrace it. Russia’s invasion has left people horrified the world over.

If author and scholar Dr. Pieter Noomen were still alive, he might have a lot to say about that. Fortunately, he left us a treasure trove of writings on myriad topics, and the wisdom of his beliefs continues to ring the bells of compassion and peace. Those words are available free, to anyone at any time, on his website, www.wordsforall.org.

Dr. Noomen’s writings speak largely about his belief system and often refer to messages he said he received from a higher power, but his words can resonate with all, regardless of faith.

“Harmony, peace, sound relationships and health brighten human living. It’s wise to go for them in your short life span, although they will be challenged,” he wrote. “Harmony is one hundred percent supported by wisdom. It crowns any
Celebrating influential women

Dr. Marian Croak: Inventor of (VOIP) Technology behind Skype, Video Conferencing, and Text-To-Give Messaging

Marian R. Croak is Senior Vice President of Applications and Services Infrastructure. Named to that role in 2012, she is responsible for a team of more than 2,000 developers, engineers and program managers who manage over 500 programs impacting AT&T’s enterprise, consumer, and mobility services and create the tools developers inside and outside AT&T are using to build new apps and services. Her team is tightly integrated with the AT&T Foundry innovation centers in Palo Alto, Calif., Plano, Texas, and Ra’anana, Israel.

Activist was a driving force in the creation of the country’s premier civil rights organizations. After graduating as valedictorian from North Carolina’s Shaw University in 1927, Baker moved to New York City during the depression. She was a founding member of the Young Negroes’ Movement, whose members pooled funds to buy products and services at reduced cost.

In 1957 Baker and several Southern Black ministers and activists established the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, a major force in organizing the civil rights movement.

Henrietta Mahim Bradberry was born in Franklin, Kentucky in 1903. This Black innovator was a housewife and inventor who held two patents. The first, for a bed rack attachment that allowed for the airing-out of clothes. Then Henrietta converted the rack into a new way for torpedoes to be shot from submarines!

Black American woman aviator, had a postage stamp issued in her honor in 1995.

Ethel L. Payne was the first Black woman to receive accreditation as a White House correspondent.

Susan Knox’s fluting iron made pressing the embellishments easier. The trademark featured the inventor’s picture and appeared on each iron. Ruffles, fluted collars, and pleats were very popular in Victorian-era clothing.

Evelyn Ashford, winner of four Olympic gold medals in 1984, 1988, and 1982. After graduating as valedictorian from North Carolina’s Shaw University in 1927, Baker moved to New York City during the depression. She was a founding member of the Young Negroes’ Movement, whose members pooled funds to buy products and services at reduced cost.

In 1957 Baker and several Southern Black ministers and activists established the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, a major force in organizing the civil rights movement.

Henrietta Mahim Bradberry was born in Franklin, Kentucky in 1903. This Black innovator was a housewife and inventor who held two patents. The first, for a bed rack attachment that allowed for the airing-out of clothes. Then Henrietta converted the rack into a new way for torpedoes to be shot from submarines!

Bessie Coleman, the first

“For Sale at Discount”

Laurel Land Memorial Park - Dallas

1- Double Deck Lawn Crypt with Concrete Liner Vault
Section: Court of Freedom, Crypt 48, Row J (A,B)

1- Memorial (Double Name) Marker:
16 X 24 Companion
Bronze Plate
20 X 28 Along with Granite Base

Laurel Land Memorial Park – Dallas Cost:
1-Double Deck Crypt Cost - $8295.00
1-Memorial (Double Name) Marker –
$2579.00
Total: $10,874.00

To Make Offer Contact:
Harry “Rick” Jordan 972.665.0170
(If no answer, leave message - will respond ASAP!)

We Buy Ugly Houses

- Pretty Houses
- Ugly Houses
- Divorce
- Inheritance
- Problem Tenants
- Need Repairs
- Vacant House
- Fire Damage
- Estate Sale
- Behind on payments

We Buy Houses ... Fast!

Sister Tarpley
NDG
Religion Editor

PEACE, from Page 14

lifestyle. It serves as a compass for staying on course and for perfecting what is perfect.”

But Dr. Noomen wasn’t naïve about how today’s world can choose not to cooperate. “It is your choice to keep your thoughts clean, holding them to reality’s facts. You may stay tuned to your intuition … Contamination, confusion or static on the lines do remain annoying,” he wrote.

“Nothing on earth is made well or totally harmonious. Living there is not easy.”

He also said that “creating harmony isn’t dependent on the environment or others cooperating. It operates from within. No one can stop an honest desire for wholesomeness.”

Born in the Netherlands, Pieter Noomen worked as a psychotherapist and staff member at a Los Angeles church. He completed doctoral studies in theology and pastoral psychology at the Free University of Amsterdam and became senior minister of three Protestant churches.

An example from Dr. Noomen’s Wisdoms of the Week from his website, as we hold out hope that better days lie ahead:

“Disasters happen. The media report them. Even if we’re not directly affected, the pain involved can shake us badly, at least for a while. It always reminds us of our own vulnerability. So next to sending out mental messages of compassion and love to the victims, we can check inside ourselves our own resources for dealing with bad situations. Being consciously connected with (eternal) life itself is being as prepared as we possibly can get here on earth.”

Church Happenings
Your children never miss a thing.
Nothing escapes their notice. They watch below and overhead, spotting objects you’ve passed by a dozen times but never truly saw. From birth and beyond, they’re like sponges, observant and watchful and, as in the new book, “The Trayvon Generation” by Elizabeth Alexander, you wish for them better things to see.

Though it’s been a four-hundred-year struggle, the number-one problem of this century, says Alexander, is still “the color line.” Generations have done “the race work,” but it remains an issue and she “both lament[s]” and is “enraged that... our young people still have to wrestle with” it.

She grew up “in troves of blackness,” but Alexander’s children were raised in a neighborhood where someone sent out a watch message about two Black boys riding around on bikes. As the mother of those boys, now men, she knows the worry, the dreams about worrying, and the fear of not being able to keep them safe.

As a Black mother, it’s impossible to “fully protect our children,” she believes.

Part of the problem is that we don’t always see white supremacy when it’s hidden right in front of us. Alexander points at artwork and paintings that hang in esteemed places, but that feature uncomfortable or even outrageous backgrounds that often go unnoticed, or that... our young people rest from.

That’s what makes this book so must-readable, so thoughtful and compelling. It’s what makes it something you’ll want to share with your older teenager and your friends, for discussion. Find “The Trayvon Generation,” and you won’t miss a thing.

PGAZA, from Page 10

O’Neal, who played in the first-ever APGA Tour event back in 2010.

“I shot a clean 66 yesterday, but it was buggy today. So, I’m not where I want to be yet, but things are trending in the right direction. Just trying to get better every day.”

After an opening round 66, O’Neal was tied for the lead with Seth Arthur of Metropolis, Illinois heading into Sunday’s final round.

He posted a one-under front nine with four birdies but couldn’t pull away because of a double bogey 5 on the sixth hole.

He registered a birdie on 10 and then seven consecutive pars until the winning putt on 18.

Bradham was in contention throughout with a first-day 69 followed by a 67 to take the lead in the club-house at eight-under 136.

His eagle on the par-five, 514-yard fifth hole was the highlight of the front nine and he posted consecutive birdies on 14 and 15. A bogey on 17 opened the door for O’Neal’s winning stroke on the final hole.

In case you’ve missed it, the North Dallas Gazette has begun producing videos. Our latest series, “Close Up” takes a deep dive into issues affecting the local DFW community. Episodes I and II are up now, with Jackie Hardy taking a look at criticisms surrounding the North Texas Tollway Authority’s compliance with its stated goals of inclusion for Minority and Women in Business Enterprise firms. The first episode is a conversation with two accomplished professionals in the field, and the second features the NTIA’s response to questions about its past performance. Check it out, subscribe to our YouTube channel and stay informed.

Check us out on Youtube!

Scan to go to: The NDGLive

YouTube Channel (and "Like" us)

By "liking" us, you will be entered into an upcoming promotional contest for tickets to area entertainment events!