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Officials release names of those killed in racist Buffalo massacre

By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

The victims of the racist massacre at a Buffalo, New York supermarket have been identified and their ages range from 32 to 86.

Avowed white racist Payton Gendron allegedly put together a 180-page manifesto that revealed his hatred for Black and Jewish people and the "replacement theory" ideology that Fox News often speaks of, notably hosts Tucker Carlson and Laura Ingraham.

Additionally, several Republican politicians have spouted the racist "theory," saying that Democrats' immigration policies would "replace" GOP voters with individuals of color.

New York Republican Congresswoman Elise Stefanik and Ohio GOP hopeful JD Vance recently have been outspoken in supporting "replacement theory."

Stefanik used the concept in her 2021 campaign ads saying, "radical Democrats are planning their most aggressive move yet: a permanent election insurrection."

Vance, a Donald Trump-endorsed candidate, recently ratcheted up the rhetoric.

"You're talking about a shift in the democratic makeup of this



country that would mean we never win, meaning Republicans would never win a national election in this country ever again," he claimed at a campaign event last month.

Vance's defeated opponent, Josh Mandel, also ran on "replacement theory."

"This is about changing the face of America, figuratively and literally," Mandel stated in a published interview

"They are trying to change our culture, change our demographics and change our electorate. This is all about power," he said.

So far, the only Republican politician of note to call out the racist rhetoric is Wyoming Congresswoman Liz Cheney.

"The House GOP leadership has enabled white nationalism, white supremacy, and anti-semitism,"

Cheney wrote on Twitter. "History has taught us that what begins with words ends in far worse. @GOP leaders must renounce and reject these views and those who hold them."

Meanwhile, among the victims in the Buffalo shooting was a former police officer, and 11 of the 13 killed or injured were Black.

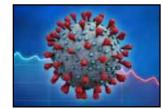
The names of the ten who died were:

Celestine Chaney, 65 Roberta Drury, 32 Andre Mackneil, 53 Katherine Massey, 72 Margus Morrison, 52 Heyward Patterson, 67 Aaron Salter, 55 Geraldine Talley, 62 Ruth Whitfield, 86 Pearl Young, 77



Racism lives, and racism kills

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Abortion rights activists swarm National Mall

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People In The News ...



Erica Loewe



Rep. Hank Johnson

NDG Quote of the Week: "Friendly reminder that you don't have to say the 'n word' to be racist. That's not the sole requirement. Asking people to prove racism is another tool the oppressor uses to marginalize and discredit us."

—Lizzo

Erica Loewe

As Karine Jean-Pierre prepares to make history as the first Black press secretary at the White House, President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris have continued to ensure that African Americans – particularly Black women, helm crucial posts.

Alongside Jean-Pierre, there's chief of staff to Kate Bedingfield, Khanya Brann, outgoing press secretary Jen Psaki's chief of staff, Amanda Finney, and senior regional communications director, Rykia Dorsey.



Then Loewe.

In Loewe's all-too-important job as director of African American media. she has ensured that the Black Press and other media of color have enjoyed unprecedented access to the White House and top administration and cabinet officials

"President Biden and Vice President Harris promised an administration that looks like America, and they have fulfilled that promise," Loewe said during a recent visit to the National Newspaper Publishers Association's (NNPA) headquarters at the Thurgood Marshall Center in Northwest, Washington,

There, Loewe sat for an interview with NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., for his PBS-TV show, "The Chavis Chronicles."

"Since day one, the Biden-Harris Administration has valued diversity, empowered Black voices, and taken a whole-ofgovernment approach to advance racial equity," she told Dr. Chavis during the episode scheduled to air later this year.

Loewe grew up in Miami

after her mother gave birth to her in South Carolina.

She attended the University of Florida and

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Rep. Hank Johnson

Four years after D.C. Democratic Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton publicly condemned federal agencies after a Government Accountability Office report revealed they spend very little of their advertising dollars with Black-owned media, another member of the Congressional Black Caucus has openly aired the concerns.

"The federal government spends billions of dollars a year in paid advertising. However, the federal government's process for allocating advertising dollars



fails to recognize and value the unique relationship that Black-owned media have with their audiences," Georgia Democratic Rep. Hank Johnson wrote in a letter to President Joe

Co-signed by Norton, Barbara Lee (D-Calif.), Val Demings (D-Fla.), and 34 other members of Congress, the letter pointed out that the standard process for spending federal advertising dollars consists of giving a prime contract to a large White-owned advertising agency with the stipulation that the agency includes a multicultural

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EM Amari White



PACIFIC OCEAN (May 9, 2022) – Electrician's Mate Fireman Amari White, from Dallas, serves cake in the galley aboard amphibious assault carrier USS Tripoli (LHA 7), May 9, 2022. Tripoli is underway conducting routine operations in U.S. 3rd Fleet. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Malcolm Kelley)

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Publisher's Office:

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

Sales Department:

marketing@northdallasgazette.com 972-509-9049

Editorial Department:

editor@northdallasgazette.com

Online:

www.NorthDallasGazette.com www.twitter.com/NDGEditor www.facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette www.pinterest.com/NDallasGazette www.instagram.com/NorthDallasGazette

STAFF

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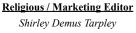
Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Special Projects to the Publisher

Euladia Gilbert

Production David Wilfong

NDG Obituary Dept. Vicky Richardson-Stewart VP of Operations



("Sister Tarpley")

NDG Columnist

Allen R. Gray

Contributing Writers

Jackie Hardy Lori Lee Jacquinette Murphy Dwain Price Terri Schlichenmeyer David Wilfong







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Racism Lives! Racism Kills!

By Dr. James Dixon, II Presiding Bishop Kingdom Builders Global Fellowship and Houston NAACP President

Our hearts are broken for the families of the thirteen people shot of which ten people were killed in the mass shooting in Buffalo, NY. According to his now public manifesto, entitled The Great Replacement," the killer, Payton Grendon was inspired by recent hate crime incidents such as, the mass murder at Emmanuel A.M.E. Church in South Carolina, a synagogue attacked in Pittsburg, the Walmart massacre in El Paso, Texas, and a white man who targeted Mosques in New Zealand killing fifty-one people. Our prayers are with you!

The alarm sounds again. This time it is Buffalo, New York. The evil system of American racism continues to produce soldiers of mass death, like the 18-year-old Hopefully, this is a resounding alarm to us, that in our cities, towns, states and nation, there is an unidentified rabid army of covert cowards who threaten our national security. These are homegrown terrorists. Many of these demented disciples feel justified by perverted interpretations of the Bible that is preached in many churches. For them, hating and killing Black people, and others whom they deem less than human, is a demonstration of what I call, 'Perverted Patriotism.'

The Bible is the sacred Book of Christians. Similarly, the U.S. flag is the sacred banner of the Republic- United State of America. Both of these sacred items have been desecrated by white supremacists who raise them high in the spirit of hateful and extremist violent ideology. How long will a deaf ear be turned to the rhetoric of hate and fear mongering

killer, Payton Gendron. that fuels the movement of human degradation and oppression? According to their own admission, they are committed to preserving a "white only" power structure, by the elimination of Blacks, by any means necessary.

> Parents, Faith ers, Elected leaders and Media influencers have a definite responsibility. Not only should you condemn racist shootings, but racist sayings, racist policies, and racist propaganda must be confronted and condemned. Every American faith leader, whether a preacher, minister, or teacher, especially our white clergy colleagues, should vigorously condemn every expression of bigotry, discrimination, and racist ideology. Perpetuating and protecting racist systems indoctrinate misguided psychopaths who eventually carry out these missions of deadly force. Those who are silent are complicit, and complicity is consent. Con

sent gives confirmation to this wickedness. Shouldn't your voice be God's voice?

It is urgent that people of faith lead a movement of love and mutual respect. Can't we see that our narrow political power agendas are incapable of producing a civil and safe society? Our collective aim and commitment should he creating what Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. called the "Beloved Community." The question is, do we have the courage to love ALL our neighbors as ourselves. Whether it is in a pulpit, behind a desk, wearing a badge, holding a gavel, or waving a flag, racist rhetoric crates a culture of hate and undermines democracy.

"Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world. Red and yellow, black, and white, they are precious in His sight. Jesus loves the little children of the world."

If Payton Grendon had learned this song, ten people would still be alive.

Why Schools Can No Longer Ignore Anti-Black Hate

By K. Hasan Hamilton Contributing Writer The San Diego Voice & Viewpoint

As we head into summer wrapping up the 2021-22 school year, our nation is faced with yet another anti-Black hate tragedy. This time, the gunman is an 18-year-old White male who drove nearly 3.5 hours to murder 10 people and injure 3 additional victims while racially traumatizing countless others. Among the deceased are retired Buffalo police lieutenant Mr. Aaron Salter who risked his life as a security guard to prevent further deaths from occur-

What we know is that last year, this 18-year-old, Payton Gendron, previously threatened to shoot up his predominantly White high school, where approximately 2.7% of the student body is Black and 3.2% are two or more races. Although he received a psychiatric evaluation, the former student was allowed to continue school and graduated without incident. Interestingly, Black students are continually suspended and expelled for willful defiance like not putting away their cell phones fast enough in class and other acts of "disruption." In contrast, non-Black students, in particular, receive passes for the most egregious acts that are verbal or physical in nature.

In 2016 alone, school hate crimes rose 25%. From racial slurs of the n-word to all-out assaults, Black students are saying that they no longer feel safe in school. Take into consideration that 35% of all racial bullying and harassment reports come from Black students who make up roughly 15% of public school enrollment. In other words, Black students make up the highest incidents of school-based racial bullying and harassment nationwide (CRDC, 2018)

School is a microcosm of society, so whether acts of anti-Black racism occur on or off campus grounds, they should always be taken seriously and acted upon by school administrators and staff. Just last month, right here in San Diego County's Lakeside community, a 16year old African American female was stabbed outside of her apartment complex by a White male neighbor and schoolmate. Both this 16-year-old and his 15-yearold girlfriend are believed to have ties with White 'supremacist' groups.

Lakeside, which neighbors Santee and its local high school, El Capitan, shares similar school demographics to gunman Payton Gendron's Susquehanna Valley High School in New York. Schools can no longer turn a color blind eye to what is happening to Black children and adolescents across the country, no matter how small the Black student population may be, as we see in these two tragic incidents. Anti-Black hate is real and we call on schools to protect our youth at every level, including from being harmed by their own peers when they are trying to learn like everyone else. Just imagine how differently the national headlines and local headlines would be if both Susquehanna Valley High School in New York and El Capitan High School in San Diego would have addressed anti-Black hate at schools head on. The time is now for us to take action at the local, state, and federal levels

Katrina Hamilton is the Co-Chair of Black Minds Matter Advocacy Group of San Diego (BMMAG-SD), and founder of United Shades of Black and Brown (USB²), an organization focused on eradicating anti-Black Racism in schools.

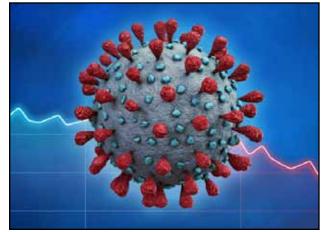
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Georgia, Tennessee small businesses eligible for up to \$2,000 to increase vaccine confidence among their employees and community

ATLANTA – Up to 200 minority-owned businesses in Georgia and Tennessee can receive up to \$2,000 for helping to increase CO-VID-19 vaccine confidence among their workers and in their communities.

Minority Owned Businesses (MBEs) participating the HealthWorks program must have at least two employees and assign one person from their organization to serve as a Small Business Health Ambassador (SBHA). The ambassador will complete an online training program about how to implement an effective COVID-19 resilience program in their company.



Morehouse/Meharry medical schools to increase COVID-19 vaccine rates through targeted, culturally competent outreach efforts in Georgia and Tennessee, funded by nearly \$9.7 Million Grant from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (Photo: iStockphoto/NNPA)

nership that unites the Group. The program aims broad expertise of More-Meharry Medical College, and ASHLIN Management nities, which often have

to reach individuals in the house School of Medicine, most vulnerable and medically underserved commuhigh levels of COVID-19 infections and lower than average vaccination rates. Community Outreach Workers involved in the program can work with participating businesses to conduct COVID-19 education sessions and arrange vaccination events.

MBEs that participate in the HealthWorks program will have an opportunity to enroll in training cohorts that begin June 6, 2022, and July 11, 2022. Businesses are eligible to receive \$1,000 for completing the online training and participating in digital regional collaboration hubs. MBEs can receive an additional \$1,000 for

providing proof of 100 vaccinations among their staff, family members, and community members during the engagement period. Interested businesses can sign up immediately at https://www.ashlininc. com/healthworks/

HealthWorks is funded by a grant from the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of its Community-Based Workforce for COVID-19 Vaccine Program. The program will be conducted statewide in Georgia, with particular emphasis on Fulton and Clayton Counties in metro Atlanta. In Tennessee, socially vulnerable populations that live in 95 counties across three Grand Divisions will be targeted.

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HealthWorks is a part-Wells Fargo Championship, Food Rescue US Partnership provides 9,000 meals to benefit greater DC Area

Through a partnership between the Wells Fargo Championship, Food Rescue US, and Levy Restaurants, more than 10,000 pounds of surplus food was rescued during the Wells Fargo Championship held at TPC Potomac at Avenal Farm in Potomac, Maryland from May 5 to May 8.

In addition to the excess food, more than 3,000 pounds of beverages serveware were rescued.

Food Rescue US, a national nonprofit organization, counts as a leader in reducing both hunger and food waste in America by connecting the vast amount of healthy, fresh surplus food with the critical hunger demand.

Through the use of its proprietary web-based app, Food Rescue US engages volunteers to transfer excess fresh food from grocers, restaurants, and other sources to social service agencies that feed individuals and families who are food insecure

By providing food that would otherwise be wasted and delivering it to the food



insecure, Food Rescue US officials said their actions keep wasted food from ending up in landfills where it decomposes, creating methane gas that warms the planet.

The championships moved to the D.C. area this year because of a prior commitment at the tournament's regular home in North Carolina.

During tournament week, officials reported more than 25 on-site volunteers collected, sorted, and delivered over 9,000 meals to five social service agencies across the DMV that serve their communities and support food insecure individuals and families.

"The Wells Fargo Championship brings together golf fans from all across the country for an exciting week of sport and leisure,' said Carol Shattuck, chief executive officer, Food Rescue US.

"Food is a major part of these events, and we are proud to partner with the Wells Fargo championship and Levy Restaurants to rescue their fresh surplus food and making sure it gets to those that need it most."

In the past 20 years, the tournament, on behalf of Champions for Education, has distributed over \$26 million and has raised awareness for numerous charitable foundations in the Charlotte area and in 2022 will do the same in the Washington DC area.

For more information about the Wells Fargo Championship, please visit www.wellsfargochampion-

For more information about Food Rescue, visit www.foodrescue.us.





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America's white supremacists and the murders of Black people

By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Senior National Correspondent

Buffalo, New York Mayor Byron Brown called the massacre at a Buffalo supermarket an unimaginable nightmare, while Erie County Sheriff John Garcia framed the onslaught as pure evil.

Put plainly, the deadly shooting by a white 18-year-old whose manifesto revealed his desire to cleanse the country of Black people is another example of America's lin-



Details of the shooter, Payton Gendron's 180-page manifesto, revealed troubling perceptions the self-avowed white supremacist possessed.

gering murderous racial hatred

It also shows how hateful rhetoric — spewed over conservative national news outlets and on social media and the dog whistles of rightwing politicians — has usurped some of the progress made in race relations since the Civil Rights Movement advances more than a half-century ago.

"Law enforcement is proceeding with its investigation, but what is clear is that we are seeing an epidemic of hate across our country that has been evidenced by acts of violence and intolerance. We must call it out and condemn it," Vice President Kamala Harris said.

"Racially-motivated hate crimes or acts of violent ex-

tremism are harms against all of us, and we must do everything we can to ensure that our communities are safe from such acts," she asserted.

Details of the shooter, Payton Gendron's 180page manifesto, revealed troubling perceptions the self-avowed white supremacist possessed.

He complained of the dwindling size of the White population and included his fears of ethnic and cultural replacement of White people.

Gendron described him-

self as a fascist, a White supremacist, and an anti-Semite.

His live-streamed shooting spree has left at least ten dead and several more wounded. But, unlike the multitude of unarmed Black people killed during encounters with law enforcement, the young White racist is alive to plead not guilty or "insanity" in court.

"While past violent white supremacist attacks seem to have factored into this heinous act, we must acknowledge that extremist rhetoric espoused by some media and political leaders on the right promoting theories that vilify or dehumanize segments of our society like 'the great replacement theory' is a factor too," wrote U.S. House Homeland Security Chairman Bennie Thompson in a statement.

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. speaking on behalf of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) emphasized, "We are outraged, angered, but

See MURDERS, Page 12

Abortion rights activists swarm National Mall, other locations

By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Senior National Correspondent

Thousands of demonstrators gathered in Washington, D.C., and in cities around the country to rally for abortion rights in the wake of the leaked U.S. Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe v. Wade.

The groups at the National Mall and other locations included men, women and children who chanted, sang, and voiced their displeasure over the high court's draft opinion, and abortion bans and restrictions that have cropped up in many Republican-led states.

"Far-right Republicans have hijacked Washington, DC, and we need to elect



leaders at the state level who will protect and defend abortion access," Democratic Attorneys General Association co-chairs Aaron Ford of Nevada, and Kathy Jennings of Delaware wrote in a statement.

"As Democratic Attorneys General, we will never back down when it comes to protecting abortion access.

We are on the front lines of this fight, and we are already doing the work to defend reproductive health care."

They continued:

"The importance of down

ballot races this year cannot be overstated. This fight lies squarely in the states, and we need to show up at the ballot box and vote for Democratic Attorneys General who will never let up on the work to safeguard people's right to abortion."

Carrying signs that read, "Bans off our bodies," "Abortion is health care," and "Women are not livestock," demonstrators indicated that protests would continue until the court changes course.

"I think that women should have the right to choose what to do with their bodies and their lives. And I don't think banning abortion will stop abortion. It just makes it unsafe and can cost a woman her life."

Caitlin Loehr told the Associated Press.

Loehr, 34, of Washington, wore a black T-shirt with an image of the late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's "dissent" collar on it and a necklace that spelled out "vote."

Kelley Robinson, executive director of the Planned Parenthood Action Fund, counted among the speakers at the National Mall.

She declared that abortion rights are under attack.

"We are here because these folks are trying to kick us out of the constitution and take away a constitutional right we've had for the last 50 years," Robinson said. "We are here to show them that we are the majority."

Officer involved in George Floyd murder accepts federal plea deal

Thomas Lane, one of the three former Minneapolis Police officers who stood by while Derek Chauvin killed George Floyd in 2020, has pleaded guilty to second-degree murder.

Lane expects to serve two years of a 3-year sentence based on a plea agreement announced by Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison.

"I am pleased Thomas Lane has accepted responsibility for his role in Floyd's



death," Ellison said.

"His acknowledgment that he did something wrong is an important step toward



healing the wounds of the Floyd family, our community, and the nation. While accountability is not justice,

this is a significant moment in this case and a necessary resolution on our continued journey to justice."

Lane, 39, faced at least a dozen years behind bars if a state jury were to convict him of unintentional murder in his upcoming trial.

Earlier this year, a federal jury convicted Lane and fellow former officers Tou Thao and J. Alexander Kueng of violating Floyd's civil rights.

The trio faced state charg-

es of aiding and abetting murder and aiding and abetting manslaughter for their actions.

Prosecutors – and video of the deadly incident – revealed that as Chauvin pressed his knee into Floyd's neck for more than nine minutes, Lane held Floyd's legs while Kueng also restrained Floyd

Thou stood and watched, prosecutors said.

A judge set Lane's sentencing for September 21.

"My client did not want to risk losing the murder case, so he decided to plead guilty to manslaughter with a 3-year sentence, be released in 2 years, and the murder case dismissed," Lane's attorney Earl Gray told reporters.

"The sentence will be concurrent with his federal sentence, and he will serve his time in a federal institution. He has a newborn baby and did not want to risk not being part of the child's life."

Education

It's been a year to brag about for our schools and students



Joyce ForemanDallas ISD
District 6

As the school year winds down, I have kudos galore to give to the teachers, students and staff of District Six.

Congratulations to Carter High School senior Kennedi Grant, who was awarded a full scholarship valued at more than \$250,000 by Texas Christian University, as part of the school's Community Scholars Program. The full-ride scholarship covers

room, board, tuition, books and a 17-week study abroad opportunity anywhere in the world where TCU has academic programs. Awesome accomplishment!

Big thumbs up to Career Institute South student Nah'Si Temple, who ranked highest in the architecture pathway at the SkillsUSA State Competition in Corpus Christi. Keep up the good work.

Shoutout to Jelani Rogers of David W. Carter High School, who signed a golf scholarship to attend Sam Houston State University. He is the first from his high school in over 30 years to win a golf scholarship.

And kudos to Carter High School scholars and athletes Reece Bell and Kyle Givens for being inducted into the National Honor Society. They are not just basketball players, they are great student athletes, and we're so proud of them! Thanks to their families and to Coach Lyndon Love for helping them succeed.

I would be remiss if I did not recognize our elementary school achievers, including the Weiss Elementary School esports students who showed their know-how in this spring's esports tournament for fourth and fifth graders in March. Weiss dominated in

the tournament, capturing both first and second place in the Smash Bros. competition. We see you, young gamers!

May is National Teachers Month

This is our chance to recognize excellent educators and the amazing work they do on behalf of their students. As we all know, teachers make all other professions possible. Dallas ISD has outstanding teachers, many of them in District 6, including Kristina Chandler, a fifth-grade math teacher at Jimmie Tyler Brashear Elementary School, named a finalist for Elementary Teacher of the Year. Ms. Chandler serves as Brashear's firstever fifth grade debate team coach and as an advisor to the students in the National Elementary Honor Society.

Students Show Out in TBAAL Performance

What an amazing show our students put on with The Black Academy of Arts and Letters! Students from four of our District 6 schools - T.W. Browne, Ronald E. McNair, Adelle Turner and Mark Twain and from Harold W. Lang in District 9, showed the musical and creative skills they sharpened in a 12week after-school program with TBAAL. Fifteen Dallas based-professional artists/teachers signed on to be a part of the venture, resulting in a splendid grand finale on April 29. I can't wait for TBAAL's summer performance!

Community Concerns

Thanks to everyone who joined me for a community meeting at McNair Elementary School to discuss Dallas ISD's plans to open a childcare facility at Redbird Mall. While I agree that childcare is a necessity for working families, I'm aligned with concerned neighbors who would like to see the proposed \$9 million subsidy invested in childcare centers already in the area. Stay tuned for further developments on this important issue.

EPA Administrator, Michael S. Regan, focused on clean air and water for communities of color

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Michael S. Regan remains on a journey to justice.

He said President Joe Biden's historic bipartisan infrastructure bill provides an opportunity to finally rid America of poisonous lead pipes and free communities of color of the toxins that have polluted their neighborhoods for centuries.

"I'm the first Black man ever to lead this agency, the first to graduate from a historically Black college (North Carolina A&T) leading this agency," said Regan, who made a special appearance on the National Newspaper Publishers Association's live daily morning news program, "Let It Be Known."

The program can be viewed on youtube.com/blackpressusatv, facebook. com/BlackPressUSA, and on Twitter @BlackPressUSA.

During a recent discussion with NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., Regan declared that the Biden-Harris administration is "passionate about the environment and public health."



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Michael Regan said that for every location he visits, he's sure to invite the national media to accurately report what's going on in communities across the nation.

The bipartisan infrastructure law invests \$3.5 billion in cleaning up superfund sites and addressing the nation's legacy of pollution, he stated.

Regan said the law delivers more than \$50 billion to EPA to improve America's drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure

Further, it provides \$15 billion to the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) for Lead Service Line Replacement, \$4 billion to the Drinking Water SRF for Emerging Contaminants, and \$5 billion to Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Grants to address emerging contaminants.

"There are still 6 to 10

million lead services lines in cities and towns across the country, many in communities of color and low-income neighborhoods," stated Regan, who also will appear later this year on PBS-TV's "The Chavis Chronicles," hosted by Dr. Chavis.

Because of the investments in the infrastructure law, millions of American families will no longer have to fear the harmful health effects caused by lead and other pollutants in their water, Regan asserted.

He recounted a visit to Lowndes County, Alabama, where he found disturbing facts about water in communities of color.

Regan said he witnessed homes with malfunctioning septic systems that discharged untreated sewage into backyards.

"Where little children play," he added.

"There also was straight piping into lagoons and to have to see children walk around delicately so that they don't sink or get bogged down into their own front yards. This is not the America that we all know it should be."

He continued:

"This is unacceptable. Safe drinking water, safe sewer systems, you know, this is a basic right. These individuals deserve what every American deserves: clean water and a safe environment"

On a visit to Wilkins Elementary School in Jackson, Mississippi, Regan recounted another difficult-to-stomach experience for young children of color.

City officials declared a citywide mandate to boil water as Regan arrived because of the discovery of toxic chemicals.

Regan said he had scheduled time to speak with second and third graders and found port-a-potties stationed outside the school.

"It looked like a worksite, and many of the kids had already been sent home because they couldn't prepare food because of the water," Regan remarked.

"This is on the heels of a pandemic. But the kids who remained behind were so excited because they got to see someone who looked like them in my position and someone who cared."

Regan said in each location he visits, he's sure to invite the national media

to accurately report what's going on in communities across the nation.

"The bipartisan infrastructure provides resources for our communities. There are matching grants and forgivable loans, which means more of our communities have an opportunity to compete for these grants," he stated.

"We are also making \$50 million available for technical assistance to help our communities to become more competitive. I've written a letter to every governor in the country outlining the criteria by which we believe those resources should be spent."

Regan continued:

"I've traveled and met with mayors because a lot of this action starts at the ground level."

Regan said he developed a passion for public service as a young person.

His father graduated from North Carolina A&T and served in Vietnam, working as an agricultural extension agent and with the national guard.

For 40 years, Regan's mother worked as a nurse.

"I grew up with the desire to contribute to society

because of what I saw in my home," he exclaimed.

Regan studied environmental science and earth science

Notably, he said Biden's proposed 2023 budget request for EPA provides \$11.9 billion to advance key priorities, including tackling the climate crisis, delivering environmental justice, protecting air quality, upgrading the nation's aging water infrastructure, and rebuilding core functions at the Agency.

Regan said EPA continues to prioritize addressing climate change with the focus and resources the crisis demands

"At EPA, we know both climate mitigation and adaptation are essential components of the strategy to reduce the threats and impact of climate change," Regan said.

"We will invest in programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including an additional \$100 million for air quality grants to states and tribes to reduce greenhouse gas emissions on a local and regional scale."

Regan further acknowl-

See EPA, Page 13

Animal Connection Experience offered at Irving's Fritz Park

Parents looking to give their children a fun and educational excursion might consider the animal experience being offered by the City of Irving at one of its municipal parks.

The animal experience features petting zoo animals, pony rides, exotic animal displays, gifts and snack shop, a duck pond and children's activity area.

The event will be held May 19 through July 30. It will be open Wednesdays through Sundays at Fritz Park (312 E. Vilbig St.).



The hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$5, or \$4 for Irving resi-

dents with ID. Children 2 and younger are free.

For more information, visit CityofIrving.org/FritzPark.

LOEWE, from Page 2

later interned at the White House for President Barack Obama.

A prolific volunteer, Loewe has worked as press secretary and deputy communications director for U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Calif.) and as deputy communications director for Congressman James Clyburn (D-S.C.).

"Jim Clyburn is one of my favorite bosses, and he's been very clear that I need to tell people that I'm from Charleston even though I grew up in Miami," Loewe stated.

"He's a great man, and I've learned a lot from him," she remarked.

Her early influence came from her parents, particularly her mother and grandparents.

Loewe's father worked in the nonprofit sector and helped her to gain a focus on economic empowerment and business development.

Her mother worked for a city commissioner, allowing Loewe to spend time at City Hall.

"I have always been around people who lead and serve, to some extent," she said.

"My parents split up, but I lived with my mom and grandparents in a house full of love and laughter," she said

While working in the

Obama White House, Loewe lived with her family and worked under the director of African American outreach

Now, as director of African American media, she said her life had come full circle.

"I'm back at the White House, and my mother lives with me," she said.

Loewe said her mother battles Alzheimer's disease, but "somewhere inside, she's there, proud of me"

Loewe said she has enjoyed returning to the White House and tries to stay out of the crosshairs of secret service.

"We have fun. They take their jobs very seriously and we do as well," Loewe said.

The fulfilling part of her job is allowing access to Black media and the American public, Loewe offered.

"There's nothing like being able to grant access to the White House for the very first time," Loewe declared. "It's a building people have seen on television and thought they may never get inside. But, our job is to provide access to people."

She exclaimed that the Biden-Harris administration had provided access never before experienced by the American public.

The administration also

has remained the most inclusive in American history

"Never has there been an administration that has uplifted and supported Black women as much as President Biden and Vice President Harris," Loewe asserted.

"It's just a fact. Numbers don't lie. The Honorable [Kamala] Harris is a Black woman who has lived experiences... She attended Howard University, and she's a member of the Divine Nine, the Black Church, and an advocate for Black maternal health and accurate home appraisals for Black people."

Loewe continued:

"There are more Black people in first time positions in the President's cabinet. You have the war in Ukraine and Gen. Lloyd Austin, the first Black to head the Department of Defense and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Linda Thomas-Greenfield. Two Black people you see every day making sure that we're providing aid to Ukraine."

She noted the Environmental Protection Agency's Michael Regan as the first Black person to lead there, and HUD Secretary Marcia Fudge, as examples of other Black appointees in the administration.

"These are not symbolic positions," Loewe concluded.



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City Men Cook returns to a live event for its 23rd annual Father's Day Culinary Celebration

1016 Media. City Men Cook is the official event name for A Taste of the South Charities, Inc.'s Father's Day event, also known as the largest Sunday Dinner in North Texas will make its return to a live event on Sunday, June 19, 2022 at the African American Museum from 3-6 p.m. with as star-studded line-up of celebrity hosts, tasters and honored cooks delivering tasty dishes, live entertainment and youth friendly exercises. The annual culinary event, deemed as one of the largest urban Father's Day celebrations in the country, is moving forward with a new funfilled line-up and additional community initiatives to celebrate Juneteenth as a legal federal holiday commemorating the delayed emancipation of enslaved citizens of African descent.



City Men Cook is sched-

uled for Father's Day, Sunday, June 19, 2022, from

3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. CST,

at the African American

Museum inside the histori-

cal Fair Park in Dallas, at

3436 Grand Avenue, Dal-

las, TX 75215.

and oldest of 14, I was raised by a single mom, a grandmother and an aunt. They made sure that all of my siblings and myself experienced a great celebration of the men in our family and they cooked & served great food, "says "Being the firstborn son Terry Allen, Manager of

City Men Cook and founder of A Taste of the South, Inc. "The men who cook meals for the charities our event supports are proud to do something they love to give back and connect to their communities and show men in a very positive light."

"We are overjoyed to return City Men Cook, to a live presence while maintaining our traditions of food and cultural celebrations," Allen added. "Our mission is clear and what remains most important is that we continue our commitment to fathers and father figures in our families and communities through this showcase of men, mentors and leaders. I could not think of a better day to do so than on Father's Day and with our long term Host National Talk show icon KiKi Shepard and our legacy host, Wendi Scofield," said Allen.

To commemorate this live return, City Men Cook has launched two bring back the audience initia-

• City Men Cook has asked past, returning and future cooks to place a

cooking challenge to each other on the website. Houston Chef Jerome Harrison known for his famous peach delight, has kicked off the challenge directing his boast to City Men Cook veteran and fan favorite. Steve Wesley famous for his Wes Wings. All cooks can go to the website www. citymencook.com or directly to https://canwetalkcmc--2.capsule.video/ prizes and cash will be awarded to the best challenge.

• City Men Cook has asked past, returning and future Dallas Ft.Worth based singers to add their vocals to our own Tevin Campbell inspired "Can We Talk" challenge on the website. Our new MC Kwame Hall has taken the lead call-to-action to kick off the "Can We Talk"

See COOK, Page 9





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 Autority'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 NTTA's response to questions about its past performance. Check it out, subscribe to our Youtube channel and stay informed.



Fair Park Fourth makes a triumphant return to Fair Park On July 4

Fair Park Fourth will return to Fair Park on Monday, July 4, from 4:30 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. for another year of community, fun, and fireworks.

"Fair Park Fourth has been our staple event bringing the Dallas community together for years to celebrate America's independence," said Peter Sullivan General Manager at Fair Park. "It was a difficult call to cancel the event over the last two years due to the pandemic, but we are excited about its return this

July."

Free and open to the public, Fair Park Fourth will feature hands-on activities for kids local market vendors, live music from the United States Air Force Band, entertainment, food trucks, and other concession offerings. In addition to the fun-filled activations for all, Fair Park Fourth will light the sky with a spectacular firework show. Guests can experience the show from inside the iconic Cotton Bowl Stadium or across Fair Park

In addition to Fair Park Fourth activities, guests can visit some of Fair Park's Cultural Institutions and Attractions, including the African American Museum, Children's Aquarium, and Texas Discovery Gardens.

Fair Park First, OVG360, and Biederman Redevelopment Ventures will provide additional details, including a full lineup of activities and performances closer to the event date.

For more information, visit www.fairparkdallas.



Film Review: The Bad Guys is a Good Film for Everyone

By Nsenga K. Burton NNPA Culture and Entertainment Editor

Summer brings beaches, bikinis, barbecues, and blockbusters at the movies. While folks are planning outings to see Top Gun, Jurassic Park Dominion, Thor: Love and Thunder and DC League of Super Pets, they might want to make room for The Bad Guys, an animated film about a group of animal outlaws who execute a legendary heist. Although this film is not a summer blockbuster (it was released in April), it is fun and imaginative and has as much entertainment value for parents as it has for kids.

Based on a New York Times best-selling book series, the motley crew of criminals go on a mission to pull-off their biggest heist ever. When the heist goes awry, the crew must



pull-off the biggest scam of their lifetime – becoming good guys. Played out against the backdrop of New York City, the crew must figure out who they are and who they want to be and in the spirit of Oceans 11, look good while doing it.

The Dreamworks action comedy has some heavy hitters voicing the team. Academy Award winner Sam Rockwell plays Mr. Wolf, a flashy pickpocket who is the leader of the pack. His lifetime best friend and safe cracker Mr. Snake (Marc Maron), mas-

ter-of-disguise Mr. Shark (Craig Robinson), hot-head enforcer Mr. Piranha (Anthony Ramos) and expert hacker Ms. Tarantula a.k.a. Webs (Awkwafina) round out the crew too bad to be good.

The names are reminiscent of a classic Quentin Tarantino film as is the action that takes viewers all over the island of Manhattan with complex car chases, daring escapes, slick heists and the "hot guy" (Mr. Wolf) dancing around a romance with Diane Foxington (Zazie Beetz), the Governor of California

a localized culinary boot camp and is part of President Barack Obama's My Brother's Keeper (MBK) network of organizations aimed at mentoring youth. City Men Cook is offering fathers and sons an opportunity to bond through hands-on exploration of the culinary arts to food prep, mentoring and initiating dialogue and collaboration inside the family structure. For more information, go to citymencook.com.

with a secret past of her own.

Coupled with a duplicitous diabolical villain Professor Marmalade (Richard Ayoade) and overzealous police chief Misty Luggins (Alex Borstein), The Good Guys is an animated film that teaches integrity and important life lessons without sounding preachy. What's even better about this film are the Easter Eggs (intertextual references) strewn throughout the film referencing iconic heist and action-comedy films like this one. There's nothing better than a children's film

that speaks to adult audiences without ruining it for either group.

The Bad Guys is a film for everyone. So, grab the kids for an afternoon of fun at the movies. Thank me later

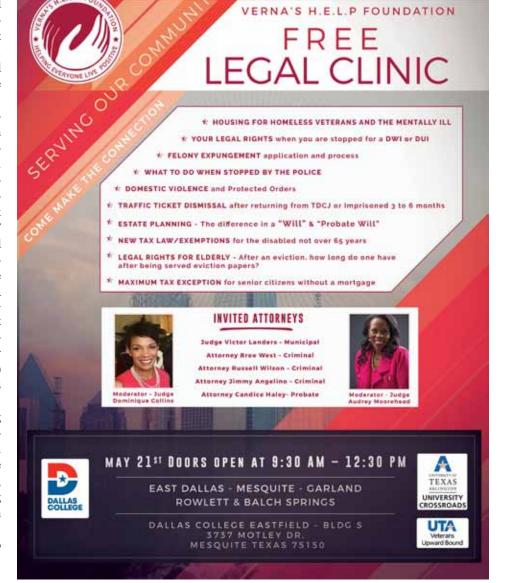
See BAD GUYS, Page 11

COOK, from Page 8

Challenge and our own singers Jay Jacksn and Sherna Armstrong have stepped up to start the challenge. All DFW artists can go to the website www. citymencook.com or directly to https://canwetalk-cmc.capsule.video/

City Men Cook (A Taste of the South Charities, Inc.) is a Dallas-based 501(c)(3) organization, with a mission to showcase thought

leadership for men and their relationships to their families thereby reinventing how Father's Day is celebrated. Now entering its 17th year, its premiere event, City Men Cook, has become a tradition as the largest and longest-running national Father's Day celebration of its kind in North Texas City Men Cook's mentoring program is a virtual mentoring program and



NDG Book Review: 'His Name Is George Floyd' provides answers

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The pavement was hard. At that time of day, it still held the last of the sun's warmth but that didn't make it comfortable. Pebbles embedded in blacktop can bloody skin in a minute; bits of broken glass can scratch a cheek lying on the concrete. Street-side is never a good place to be, and in the new book, "His Name is George Floyd" by Robert Samuels and Toluse Olorunnipa, it gets worse.

Everyone who knew George Floyd knew that he loved them. He said so, in texts and in person, every time he saw them. That's HIS NAME IS

the kind of man he was.

Born in North Carolina in 1973, Floyd was a joyous child surrounded by female relatives who doted on him, and missed him badly when his mother took her children and followed a man to Houston. There, the family lived in a neighborhood that was mostly Black and all poor, and Floyd gained two younger half-brothers.

The authors say that Floyd wasn't the best student at Jack Yates Senior High School in Houston, but he wasn't the worst. Teachers and students liked him; coaches liked him because he could really play basketball and football. He was gentle; they had to notch up his fierceness in both games but since he was more than six feet tall and a couple hundred pounds, there was promise. Which was just enough.

Much to his heartbreak, Floyd couldn't pass the TAAS test given to assess the proficiency of all high school seniors in Texas. No pass, no diploma, but though he wasn't able to attend his graduation ceremony, he did land a basketball scholarship to South Florida Community College. Alas, bad grades followed him there and he soon returned to Houston frustrated and broke, and he began selling drugs.

That didn't go well, either: Floyd was arrested, convicted, and sent to pris-

More than four years later, with a felony on his record, Floyd decided to move to Minneapolis. It

was a chance for a fresh start...

While it may seem that "His Name is George Floyd" might be too painful to read, even now, two years after his death, that's not so. Not entirely.

There are huge pockets of sunny joy in this book, at a childhood enjoyed, dreams reached for, and people beloved. Those sides of Floyd, parts that were missed by many news outlets, are shared but authors Robert Samuels and Toluse Olorunnipa don't let him become larger than life; Floyd had flaws, and we're allowed to see them.

Then again, there are

times when George Floyd becomes almost a side-note here.

That's when Samuels and Olorunnipa turn away to focus on what else happened that boiling-hot summer of 2020, including the BLM protests, politics, and other incidences of police overreach; we also get a good overview of Derek Chauvin, his background, and his trial.

Readers who want to somehow memorialize Floyd will appreciate this book for its candor, good research, and its storytelling. You'll also want "His Name is George Floyd" for its concrete answers

Sew Much Soul Conference celebrates African American quilting tradition

(Black PR Wire) Hyattsville, MD - The Sew Much Soul Conference: Quilting Edition returns this weekend, May 20th to 22nd featuring diverse quilters, fabric and textile artists, and creatives in the quilting and

by Sew Creative Lounge, this free online conference offers more than ten quilting classes. Attendees will learn a variety of quilting techniques including appliqué, improv and machine

will also have a discussion about the storytelling and meaning of quilting in the African American community. In partnership with Brother International Corporation, attendees are

sewing industry. Hosted quilting. The conference eligible to win a Brother sewing machine and product discounts. Sew Creative Lounge will also give away a quilting book signed by fabric artist Bisa Butler, known for her vibrant, quilted portraits celebrating

Black life.

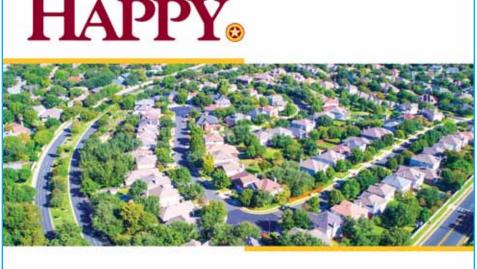
"Through the Sew Much Soul conference, we are recognizing and honoring the African American influence in the art of quilting," stated Cecily Habimana, co-founder and co-owner of

Sew Creative Lounge. "We are teaching the next generation of quilters, artists and creatives and keeping our cultural traditions alive."

"Brother is proud to be a

See SEW, Page 13





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OP-ED: Black Businesses Leaders Undervalued in America

By Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., President and CEO, National Newspaper Publishers Association

When is the last time that you read a national news story in the so-called mainstream media about a successful Black business in America that has achieved unprecedented excellence and profit in today's marketplace? I know it has been a long time.

On the other hand, when was the last time that you read or heard in the media about allegations of corruption, financial failure and excessive greed by the owners of some Black businesses?

In my opinion it, has been an all too frequent and reoccurring false narrative that continues to be cast in the media to undermine and devalue Black business leaders across the nation.

Late last year, I called attention to a barrage of unfair attacks being leveled in the media against CORE Services Group, Inc., a Black-run nonprofit that has for years provided food, shelter, and other services to New York City's growing homeless population. I was particularly offended that the attacks appeared to be waged through anonymous leaks by city bureaucrats in the previous mayoral administration who seemed bent on destroying the nonprofit organization and its founder, Jack Brown, a successful



The challenges that Black businesses are facing is a national concern from the east coast to the west coast, and from the north to the south. (Photo: iStockphoto/NNPA)

Black businessman.

Now, seven months later. the case has moved to court, where CORE has begun to fight back – and where city officials cannot hide behind a veil of anonymity. In a series of legal filings, CORE has presented evidence that appears to rebut the allegations by NYC's Department of Homeless Services (DHS) against CORE and its leaders, while raising questions about the city's motives under the previous mayor, Bill de Blasio, according to published re-

Central to the city's case, for example, are claims that CORE officials concocted a scheme to enrich themselves by hiring several for-profit companies that CORE itself owned to provide food, security, and maintenance at CORE-run shelters. An outside observer without the benefit of all

the facts might be tempted to conclude that CORE was engaged in some kind of self-dealing. But upon further examination, this hardly seems to be the case. Far from it, in fact.

As CORE has reportedly noted in court documents and elsewhere, the for-profit companies wholly owned subsidiaries of the non-profit — are part of a model of integrated services that CORE established to run its shelters efficiently - and without the uncertainty its leaders say they regularly faced from outside vendors that all too often provided inferior services or threatened to cut off services because the city was slow to reimburse CORE for its expenses.

More than that, according to documents filed with the court, CORE told DHS about the formation of the for-profit companies even

before the companies began providing services at CORE's DHS-funded shelters. In other words, CORE operated the for-profit companies for years with the city's knowledge and consent.

But none of this explains why city officials have targeted CORE for this kind of attack, particularly after years of consistently providing support to the city's neediest residents, a disproportionate number of whom are Black and Latino. Yet to hear CORE tell it, city officials began raising questions about the organization under the previous mayor, Bill de Blasio, only after CORE officials began demanding that the city pay a backlog of unpaid bills that totaled \$35 million.

"The sequence of events says it all: de Blasio used CORE to deflect from his own failures addressing

homelessness in New York City," Wendy Weingart, CORE Vice President/General Counsel, told the news outlet Inside Sources. "The failure to pay nonprofits that continued to operate during the worst of the pandemic is indefensible. Simply put, the de Blasio administration took advantage of CORE through administrative delays and did not pay CORE for several programs it operated at the behest of the city for over a year."

As a result, many Black leaders are speaking out on behalf of CORE and urging the city's new mayor, Eric Adams, to correct this injustice.

In a recent Op Ed in Black Enterprise, the renowned freedom-fighting Attorney Benjamin Crump argued that Mr. Brown and his organization have been singled out for attack despite the essential role the nonprofit has played in helping legions of homeless individuals in a city with a notoriously overburdened social service system.

"Jack Brown's plight is yet another sad example of the impediments Black Americans still face when we strive for excellence," he said. "Mr. Brown is being pilloried for his commitment to caring for the homeless New Yorkers, a group which unfortunately includes a disproportionate number of Black and Brown people. CORE came every time DHS called. But

sadly, as Congresswoman Chisholm once said, 'Racism is so universal in this country, so widespread, and deep-seated, that it is invisible because it is so normal."

Now that there is a new administration in New York City, I believe that the Honorable Mayor Eric Adams will have the opportunity to rectify the situation with Jack Brown and CORE. The city's homeless deserve to receive the best care possible as the city rebounds from the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Mayor Adams has already expressed a priority in ensuring the future sustainability of local and citywide businesses that are owned by African Americans and other people of

Yet, what Jack Brown, as a Black business leader, was facing and continues to face in New York City is not isolated to that one city. The challenges that Black businesses are facing is a national concern from the east coast to the west coast, and from the north to the south. There appears to be a systematic attempt throughout the country to undervalue the strategic importance of supporting Black businesses. This is apparent at the municipal, county, state, and regional levels in nearly every state. The eventual fate of businessmen like Jack Brown

See LEADERS, Page 12

JOHNSON, from Page 2

agency as a subcontractor.

"However, the prime contractor controls how much money goes to the subcontractor and how that subcontractor spends that money," Johnson wrote.

"This routinely results in a smaller fraction of federal dollars going to the subcontractors. And, when the subcontractor does get to spend money, it is usually directed to spend that money with Black-targeted media and not with Blackowned media."

He asserted that "successful Black businesses hire and promote Black Americans at a much higher rate than other businesses. They are, consequently, the key to building successful Black communities."

In 2018, Norton commissioned a GAO report that revealed that the federal government spent more than \$5 billion on advertising over five years. Still, Black-owned businesses

received only \$51 million, or 1.02 percent of those funds

"I will work with minority publishers to press [my colleagues] in Congress to demand greater spending on minority-owned outlets to reach minority audiences that most traditional outlets do not," Norton stated during a 2018 news conference with members of the National Newspaper Publishers Association on Capitol Hill.

"The GAO report showed, as we expected,

that the federal government has a long way to go to ensure equal opportunities for minority-owned news outlets," Norton continued.

"As the nation's largest advertiser, the federal government has an obligation to provide advertising opportunities to news outlets and media companies owned or published by people of color."

In April, dozens of federal agencies launched plans for more equity to open federal programs to more people and reduce racial disparities caused by government decisions.

"Advancing equity is not a one-year project. It's a generational commitment," Biden stated. "These plans are an important step forward, reflecting the Biden Harris administration's work to make the promise of America real for every American, and I mean every American."

In the Johnson-led letter, members of Congress have issued a request for Biden Administration to investigate and report back complex data on "the process by which they grant advertising contracts, and how they oversee those contracts after they are granted."

"The federal government spends billions of dollars a year in paid advertising. However, the federal government's process for allocating advertising dollars fails to recognize and value the unique relationship that Black-owned media have with their audiences," Johnson wrote.

Biden launches \$45 billion 'Internet for All' initiative

U.S. Commerce Secretary Gina M. Raimondo visited Durham, N.C., last week to announce the launch of the Biden-Harris Administration's Internet for All initiative, which will invest \$45 billion to provide affordable, reliable, high-speed internet for everyone in America by the end of the decade. The initiative will be administered and implemented by the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).

"In the 21st century, you simply cannot participate in the economy if you don't have access to reliable, affordable high-speed internet," said Secretary Raimondo. "Thanks to President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Americans across the country will no longer be held back by a lack of high-speed internet access.



We are going to ensure every American will have access to technologies that allow them to attend class, start a small business, visit with their doctor, and participate in the modern economy."

The programs will build internet infrastructure, teach digital skills, and provide necessary technology to ensure that everyone in America – including communities of color, rural communities, and older

Americans – has the access and skills they need to fully participate in today's society.

"The resources in President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will allow us to bring broadband infrastructure to every corner of our country, make service affordable for everyone, and ensure users have the devices and digital skills they need," said Deputy Secretary of Commerce Don Graves. "But in

order to succeed, we need a whole-of-government and whole-of-nation approach – everyone who has a stake in our connected future should get involved now."

"Generations before us brought electricity to rural America and built the interstate highways," said Alan Davidson, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information. "Our generation's task is to connect all Americans online. Thanks to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, today NTIA is launching major new programs to promote Internet access and adoption so that everyone in America has a chance to thrive in the modern economy."

The Internet for All programs launched today with three Notices of Funding Opportunity:

- Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program (\$42.5 billion);
- Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program (\$1 billion); and,
- State Digital Equity Act programs (\$1.5 billion).

To participate in the BEAD Program, states and other eligible entities must submit a letter of intent and a planning funds budget, which will unlock \$5 million in planning funds and allow states to begin creating their five-year action plan. Each state

will have direct support from dedicated NTIA staff through every step of the process. Each participating state is guaranteed a minimum \$100 million allocation, with additional funding determinations made based on the forthcoming coverage maps from the Federal Communications Commission.

The Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program will award grants on a technology-neutral, competitive basis to eligible entities for the construction, improvement, or acquisition of middle-mile infrastructure. Today's launch of the State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program kicks off a series of Digital Equity Act steps that will invest \$1.5 billion to heighten adoption and use, like digital literacy training, for those who need it most, including communities of color, rural communities, and older Americans.

MURDERS, from Page 5

we will not be silent again in the wake of more racist murders of Black people in America this time in Buffalo, New York.

"The patterns and rising tide of these White supremacists' attacks and murders of our people will not go without the unified and amplified voice of the Black Press of America to demand justice and an end to White supremacy in America."

Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) National Deputy Director Edward Ahmed Mitchell added that the organization condemns both the white supremacist terrorist attack targeting Black men and women in Buffalo and the racist rhetoric that has sparked such violence.

"The constant repetition of white supremacist conspiracy theories on social media and even mainstream media outlets has led to horrific violence in places as distant as Christchurch, El Paso, Oslo, and Charleston," Mitchell asserted.

"Those who promote racism, white supremacy, antisemitism, Islamophobia, and other forms of bigotry must be held accountable for the violence they inspire."

Mitchell added that CAIR has often spoken out against those who promote the "great replacement" and other racist conspiracy theories.

Mayor Brown told reporters that Gendron surveilled both the community and the grocery store as part of the attack's planning.

Brown said the teen surveilled the area for several days and targeted a busy place in an area predomi-

nantly populated by Black people.

His manifesto noted that "Zip code 14208 in Buffalo has the highest Black percentage that is close enough to where I live."

According to the U.S. Census, the zip code is 78 percent Black and among the top 2 percent of zip codes nationwide with the highest concentration of Blacks as a percentage of the population.

It has the highest concentration of Blacks as a percentage of the population of any zip code in upstate New York.

"Well, this manifesto tells everything to us. And that is what's so bone chilling about it is that there is the ability for people to write and subscribe to such philosophies filled with hate," New York Gov. Kathy Hochul said.

"The White supremacist acts of terrorism that are

being fermented on social media and to know that what this one individual did has been shared with the rest of the world as well as the live-streaming of this military-style execution that occurred in the streets of my hometown."

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SBA economic injury disaster loans available to Texas small businesses

SACRAMENTO, Calif. - Small nonfarm businesses in 22 Texas counties are now eligible to apply for low-interest federal disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration, announced Director Tanya N. Garfield of SBA's Disaster Field Operations Center-West. These loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by drought in the following primary counties that began March 15, 2022.

Primary counties: Aransas, Calhoun, Chambers, Galveston, Jackson, Matagorda, Nueces, Refugio and Victoria;

Neighboring counties: Bee, Brazoria, Colorado, DeWitt, Goliad, Harris, Jefferson, Jim Wells, Kleberg, Lavaca, Liberty, San Patricio and Wharton.

"SBA eligibility covers both the economic impacts on businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers that have suffered agricultural production losses caused by the disaster and businesses directly impacted by the disaster," Garfield said.

Small nonfarm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations of any size may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disaster not occurred.

"Eligibility for these loans is based on the finan-

cial impact of the disaster only and not on any actual property damage. These loans have an interest rate of 2.94 percent for businesses and 1.875 percent for private nonprofit organizations, a maximum term of 30 years, and are available to small businesses and most private nonprofits without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship," Garfield

By law, SBA makes

Economic Injury Disaster Loans available when the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. The Secretary declared this disaster on May 6, 2022.

Businesses primarily engaged in farming or ranching are not eligible for SBA disaster assistance. Agricultural enterprises should contact the Farm Services Agency about the U.S. Department of Agriculture assistance made available

by the Secretary's declaration. However, nurseries are eligible for SBA disaster assistance in drought disasters.

Applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information and download applications at https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more in-

formation on SBA disaster assistance. For people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services. Completed applications should be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The deadline to apply for economic injury is Jan. 6, 2023.



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SEW, from Page 8

supporter of the Sew Much Soul Conference: Quilting Edition. We understand the importance of elevating Black American voices to connect, engage, and collaborate to advance more inclusive and diverse perspectives within the sewing industry," stated Jim Price, Senior Director of Marketing, Home Appliance Division, Brother International Corporation.

EPA, from Page 6

edged that the communities hardest hit by pollution and climate change are most often communities of color, indigenous communities, rural communities, and poor communities.

"For generations, many of these vulnerable communities have been overburdened with higher instances of polluted air, water, and land," Regan said.

"This inequity of environmental protection is not just an environmental justice issue but also a civil rights concern. Neither an individual's skin color nor the wealth of their zip code should determine whether they have clean air to breathe, safe water to drink, or healthy environments in which their children can play.

"I am not afraid to enforce the laws on the books to make sure our children are breathing clean air."

BAD GUYS, from Page 9

The Bad Guys is playing at a theater near you. For couch squatters, The Bad Guy is currently streaming on Vudu, Google Play, Amazon Prime and You-Tube.

This article was written by Nsenga K. Burton, Ph.D., entertainment, and culture editor for NNPA/Black Press USA News-wire. She is also founder & editor-in-chief of The Burton Wire, and award-winning news blog covering the African Diaspora. Follow Nsenga on Twitter @Ntellectual or Instagram @TheBurtonWire.

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NAN Chapter President

The National Action Network is looking for a President for its upcoming Dallas chapter. This is a volunteer position that requires an activist heart and an interest in civil rights.

The President:

- a. Presides at meetings and acts as Chairman/Chairwoman of the Executive Committee.
- b. Appoints all committees not directly elected by the Chapter.
- c. Between meetings of the Executive Committee and subject to the approval thereof, exercises executive authority on behalf of the Chapter.
- d. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.
- e. Shall work with other members of the Executive Committee to develop a program agenda for a defined fiscal year.
- f. Acknowledges he/she is the primary force within the Chapter in establishing a working relationship and communication with the National and Regional Office(s); ensures that these offices receive all reports, including quarterly reports, and reports of elections.
- g. Is familiar with pertinent governing documents including: The NAN by-laws and Chapter rules.

Interested parties should contact Robert D. Bush, president of the Las Vegas Chapter, at (702) 626-0158.

Church Happenings www.NorthDallasGazette.com

Everybody is concerned about details in various aspects of life. I like overseeing the details of my life to make sure I'm going in the right direction. I'm not always going in the right direction, as you can imagine

However, everybody's idea of detail management is not always the same.

Like me, some people are interested in the overall details. Others, like The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, are concerned about all the details, and can't go deep enough to manipulate the details as best they can.

If you walked into my wife's craft room, you would see how important details are to her. If you would then walk into my office, you would see how flimsy I regard the depths of details.

I don't have to have everything in proper order to be happy with what I'm doing. My idea is, if I can't find what I need, I probably don't need it. And so, I go on with the project.

My wife and I enjoy watching movies together. We prefer recording the movie and watch it later, because we can skip through all those lousy commercials that are so annoying.

I know commercials are important for the media industry. I know television stations need commercials so they can provide the

It's All in the Script

service that we enjoy. I understand all of that, yet I'm still not too fond of commercials.

I may not like commercials, but my wife takes commercials with a doomsday hatred. That's why I take great pleasure in recording a movie and watching it by skipping over the commercials.

Whether it be a movie or a particular program we always like to record it so that we can enjoy the actual story without distraction.

When we're watching a program or a movie, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is very caught up with the details of the story. I just like watching something for its entertain-

ment value

But not so with my wife. Every aspect of that program is greatly detailed by her. She knows every aspect of each character and knows who committed the crime from the very beginning, which baffles me.

Every once in a while, a character will do something and my wife will say, "Why in the world did they do that? Don't they know better?"

Being the husband that I am, I cannot keep myself from responding to a query. I usually say something like, "Well, my dear, it's in the script, and they read the script."

She usually looks at me with one of "her looks,"

and I usually regret saying what I just said.

No matter what the program is, there will always be some point where she will question the integrity of the character. "Why," she usually says, "did that person do that?"

I had to chuckle because there are some things in life that I have no control over. One thing I don't have control over is sarcastically responding to something my wife says.

After all these years of marital bliss, I should have learned how to keep my mouth shut at certain times. Yes, there are times to speak out, but more often than not, there are times to shut up. I'm still trying to

learn the difference.

While watching a program, I enjoy the overall story, whereas my wife is more concerned about each detail of every character in that story. How she does it is beyond my guess machine. I like to follow the story stage by stage, whereas my wife asks a question at each stage of the story.

I must confess that some of the programs are a little amateurish regarding details. Some of the details aren't in real harmony with what the story is all about. But, of course, that never bothers me because I know it's in the script.

We watched one of our

See SCRIPT, Page 15

Open Doors' CEO David Curry appointed to US Commission on International Religious Freedom

WASHINGTON — Open Doors' CEO Dr. David Curry has been appointed to the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), alongside former U.S. Congressman Frank R. Wolf and Uyghur attorney Nury Turkel, who was reappointed. USCIRF is an independent, bipartisan federal government entity established by the U.S. Congress to monitor, ana-

"In too many countries today, exercising the fundamental right to practice one's faith comes at a terrible price," said Curry. "People everywhere should have freedom to worship and live out their religious

lyze and report on religious

freedom abroad.

convictions peacefully without fear of governments, extremists or cultural pressure. I'm honored to serve on this bipartisan commission."

Curry added, "I'd also like to congratulate Congressman Frank Wolf, whose outspoken advocacy on religious freedom over many decades is unparalleled, as well as Nury Turkel, whose courageous efforts have shined a spotlight on the genocide being perpetrated against the Uyghur community in China. I look forward to working with them, my fellow Commissioners and the staff of the Commission to advance religious freedom and to further elevate the voices of those who are persecuted for their faith."

USCIRF Commissioners are appointed by the President and/or leadership of both political parties in the Senate and House of Representatives, and make foreign policy recommendations to the President, the Secretary of State and Congress intended to deter religious persecution and promote freedom of religion and belief.

Former Ambassadorat-Large for International Religious Freedom and Open Doors USA Senior Fellow, Sam Brownback, said, "These appointments could not come at a better time. Religious freedom is a right that belongs to everyone, everywhere, all the time, and it's a right that is constantly under attack. USCIRF plays a key role in reporting to Congress and the Administration on violations of religious freedom around the world, and in making policy recommendations to address these violations. I look forward to supporting Dr. Curry, Congressman Wolf, Nury Turkel and the other Commissioners in any way I can as they conduct their important work."

As CEO of Open Doors, Curry has traveled extensively in regions where Christian freedom is imperiled in order to help those who have been marginalized due to their faith, and to assist and bring attention to communities that have been targets of Christian persecution. Please direct media inquiries to: opendoors@iconmediagroup.com.

LEADERS, from Page 11

III will be the future fate of our advance and progress in America.

The vital key to advancing the economic status of African American communities and families is the support and the promotion of the success of Black-founded, managed, and owned businesses. We

will not stand silent about this matter. Our businesses deserved to be respected, engaged, and empowered. No one should attempt to devalue what is invaluable to the future of our communities. It is time to vote. It is time to support our Black businessmen and women—

especially those devoted to serving the underserved.

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr. is the President and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) and Executive Producer/Host of The Chavs Chronicles on PBS TV stations weekly throughout the United States; and can be reached at dr.bchavis@nnpa.org.

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Know Your Armor



Sister Tarplev NDG Religion Editor

"David fastened on his sword over the tunic and tried walking around, because he was not used to them. 'I cannot go in these,' he said to Saul, 'because I am not used to them.' So he took them off.'

(1 Samuel 17:39).

David, the young shepherd boy, heard the challenge from the Philistines to send someone to fight Goliath. No one volunteered to fight except Da-



vid. King Saul reluctantly agreed and offered David his armor

David put on the weighty equipment, but quickly concluded he could not fight in this heavy armor. He gave it back to king Saul

God equips each of us in such a way that is unique to our strengths and abilities. David knew who he was and who he wasn't. David was trained as a shepherd to use another weapon. For David, it was a slingshot. David showed great maturity in realizing he could not be effective with Saul's

What are the gifts and talents God has given to you? Have you ever tried to accomplish a task with tools you were not trained to use? God allows each of us to develop skills that are unique to our life. He will not call you to use someone else's tools.

However, this is only half of the equation. These talents must be mixed with faith. Talent alone is not enough. Faith alone is not enough. It is only when the two are combined that God's power is released and manifested in the phys-

God Fellowship, 1471 Pine Road, Ocala, FL 34472. He lives with his wife in Silver Springs Shores. Call him

whatafellowship.com.

ical realm.

Sometimes we admire the talents of others and seek to emulate them. The temptation arises to be someone we are not. This is a mistake. Let God live His life through the unique

Mix your unique gifts with faith today; you will be surprised at the power of God that will be manifested

Ask God to help you to be sensitive to other people's needs and feelings. Ask Him to help you to love them and encourage them through special

touches, like remembering special occasions through phone calls, prayers, notes, cards, visits, even small gifts at times.

Ask God to help you to always make other people feel special and valued, for we are all His creation and deserve to be valued. Pray that through your words and actions, that God will be glorified and lifted up, and that people will be drawn unto God in the precious name of Jesus.

(Editor's Note: This column originally ran May 23,

SCRIPT, from Page 14

favorite programs this past week when something happened that I didn't see coming, my wife said, "Why in the world would they do something like that? That is the most ridiculous thing that anybody could do."

Then she turned her head and looked at me and very seriously said, "And don't you dare tell me that it's in the script."

I couldn't help but laugh for the rest of the program. Although she didn't think it was too funny, I enjoyed that statement for the rest of the program.

Not too long ago, I did something, I can't remember exactly what it was, but it was something that drew my wife's attention, who queried me by saying, "Why are you doing that?"

I knew she was serious, but is very hard for me to be serious at times like this.

I looked at her with a very thoughtful look on my face and said, "Well, my dear, it's in my script."

Although she did not think that was funny, I did, and for the rest of that day, I kept repeating, "It's in my script."

I heard her mumbling, "I wonder who wrote his script?"

Later on that day I was reminded of a verse of Scripture. "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations" (Jeremiah 1:5).

God has already written the script of my life and as I yield to him I begin to discover what that is. The greatest tragedy of human life is rebelling against God's script for me.

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of

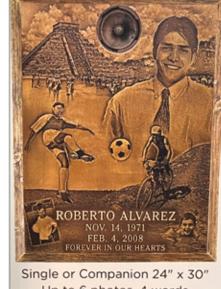
Inspiring Body of Christ ≡∞≪ Pastor Rickie G. Rush Dullas, TX 75457 at 352-687-4240 or e-mail *074.874.8484(TBOC* jamessnyder2@att.net. The WIBOCCIFICIRCIFION church web site is www.

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