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Vice President Kamala Harris Talks Voting Rights, Racism With Black Press Publishers

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

Vice President Kamala Harris held an exclusive discussion with publishers from the National Newspaper Publishers Association, which represents the Black Press of America, to discuss various issues from voting rights to Roe v. Wade and racism in the United States.

"The Black Press has been very special," Harris told the publishers in a 30-minute conversation moderated by NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.

"[The administration] doesn't expect special treatment, just fair treatment to cover the accomplishments because they are significant and will have, in many cases, a generational impact on families and communities," Harris remarked.

With a record number of women of color representing the administration in various capacities, Harris asserted that "when people hold office reflect those impacted, we can effect change."

"At the top, as vice president, I am humbled and honored to hold this position," she insisted.

"I'll say that I think this admin-



With a record number of women of color representing the administration in various capacities, Harris asserted that "when people hold office reflect those impacted, we can effect change." (Photo via NNPA)

istration and President Joe Biden have been exceptional. For example, I recently gave a speech in South Carolina, and it was in South Carolina that President Biden, then a candidate, said he was going to put a Black woman on the United States Supreme Court."

In April, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson earned Senate confirmation as the first Black woman to the nation's high court.

"This president, our administration, has appointed more Black women to the federal court than, I believe, any administration in the

history of this country," Harris demanded.

Also, she noted the appointment of former Congressional Black Caucus Chair Marcia Fudge as secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

"One of the big issues affecting our country right now is affordable housing, and one of the accomplishments of our administration is the work we've been doing on home appraisals and how Black families' homes get appraised for less than

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Don't revoke tariffs too quickly

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Healthcare, womens health top concerns

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Poor Peoples Campaign marches on

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People In The News ...



Isabella Casillas Guzman



Doncel Brown

NDG Quote of the Week: "I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality.... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word."
—Martin Luther King, Jr.

Isabella Casillas Guzman

(Black PR Wire) WASHINGTON – Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman, head of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) signed a Strategic Alliance Memorandum (SAM) – an authority unique to the SBA among federal agencies—with President Reuben A. Shelton III, Esq., on behalf of the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC)'s Council of Presidents, comprised of nine historically Black fraternities and sororities, sometimes referred to as the “Divine Nine.”

“This historic alliance



between the SBA and the NPHC—the first of its kind for a government agency—will bring SBA's valuable small business resources into reach for many small businesses and entrepreneurs, furthering the Biden-

Harris Administration's commitment to build equity and close historic wealth gaps that have held back America's Black entrepreneurs, small business owners and their families and communities for generations,” said Administrator Guzman. “Over the past 18 months, the SBA has made incredible progress reaching more of America's small businesses, delivering vital resources and support to entrepreneurs who have been historically underinvested in and overlooked—the same people and communities hit hardest by the COVID pandemic. Working alongside partners and allies within

the Divine Nine will provide even greater reach for the SBA to better provide the highly entrepreneurial Black community access to networks, financial literacy, technical training, and capital readiness so they can successfully realize their American Dreams of business ownership, create jobs, and advance our economy.”

Announced in the leadup to Juneteenth, this new strategic alliance advances the SBA's implementation of the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to building equity throughout the federal government and across America. Chris V. Rey, International President

of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. relishes in his brainchild effort. “Under the new alliance, a unique agreement for a federal government agency and the Divine Nine, the partnership will focus on increasing financial literacy within traditionally underserved, disadvantaged communities, expanding the Agency's outreach, and introducing Black entrepreneurs to the SBA's suite of tools and resources to start and grow their businesses including access to capital, government contracting opportunities and counseling.”

The SBA Has Deepened its Engagement and Support of African American,

Black and Historically Disadvantaged Small Business Owners.

In line with the Biden-Harris Administration's agenda outlined in the recently released SBA Equity Action Plan, the SBA has instituted several major changes to level the playing field for all small businesses, including making impactful reforms to the Community Advantage (CA) Pilot loan program that prioritizes equitable access to capital for low-income borrowers and those from underserved communities, releasing disaggregated data across industries and sectors by race and ethnicity.

Doncel Brown

(Black PR Wire) Music and clothing can help people connect and identify no matter the age or background. Generation Typo, understanding this concept, wanted to use fashion and clothing to help bridge the generational gap and give everyone a voice through their fashion and clothing line.

Generation Typo believes that everyone should have and will have a voice. Generation Typo is an apparel brand focused on creating dialog between generations, and recognizing those who are willing to share those conversations.



Rising fashion designer Doncel Brown launched his first fashion line in March 2021, and his second collection October 2021. The first line of clothing entitled “Intro Szn” made its first public debut at DC Fashion Week

in September and completely stole the show.

The next official “Runway Collection” will take the stage at the upcoming New York Fashion Week this September. Generation Typo is a clothing brand focused on creating a dialogue between generations and recognizing those willing to share those conversations. They will be focusing on fearlessly challenging the difference of opinions and values

between different generations.

Generation Typo provides apparel and items that spark these conversations, thereby building a community that allows everyone to have a voice. Generation Typo keeps shining, and is currently established as an apparel brand, as well as, symbol to showcase the acceptance of generational differences. From the Baby Boomer Generation to the newest Gen Z's, the previ-

ous generation often believes that the next is doing “it” wrong.

The “Red Typo”, line has been carefully crafted within the apparel, the red underline includes branding that we have all be conditioned to associate with an error or “Typo” Generation Typo utilizes this throughout the brand to highlight those projected typos or generational opinions. Doncel is an American Entrepreneur,

Investor, and Clothing Designer. Doncel was raised in Southern Arizona, moving to the DMV during his mid-way point of high school. Before finding success as Entrepreneur, Doncel excelled within the Tech Industry for his work in the business development sector.

He saw himself as one of the youngest within his positions at multiple Fortune 500 companies including Apple.

Bill Cosby

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

Somewhere even Tarana Burke must be shaking her head.

The civil trial against comedian Bill Cosby in Los Angeles has been the antithesis of what the Bronx-born #MeToo founder had in mind when in 2006, she established a movement to call attention to sexual harassment in the workplace.

Hijacked by Hollywood, the #MeToo movement has centered on celebrities.

It has become a tool for apparent schemes to extort millions from popular personalities instead of pushing for global workplace equal-



ity and peace for women.

Cosby, whom the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled a year ago that his two criminal trials were illegal and tossed out a 2018 conviction against the entertainer, now awaits a civil jury in the somewhat dubious case of Judith Huth.

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Revoking tariffs would not tame inflation

By Adam S. Hersh
Economic Policy Institute

With dwindling options on inflation and a mounting chorus of special interest business lobbies, the Biden-Harris administration is reportedly considering removing some Trump-era tariffs in an effort to moderate rising prices in the U.S. economy.

Tempting as such an action may seem, it is certain to have unnoticeable effects on overall prices—at best. And the action will ensure, moving forward, that our supply chains will be even more vulnerable to the kinds of disruption risks we are seeing play out right now. These tariffs offer a tangible policy response to a real-world economy rife with market failures that invalidate the predictions of canonical economic trade models used to argue against keeping the tariffs.

In the absence of a more comprehensive approach to U.S. industrial strategy, the tariffs are working to resuscitate America's industrial base and have done so with no meaningful adverse impacts on prices.

Two broad sets of tariffs implemented under U.S. trade law in 2018 are under review by the Biden-Harris administration. The first and biggest group retaliated against findings of intellectual property theft and forced technology transfer in U.S. companies doing business in China, following a United States Trade Representative (USTR) investigation under Sec. 301 authority. This led the Trump administration to negotiate a "Phase One" economic agreement with China.

The second set of tariffs invoked national security concerns under Sec. 232 of the trade act to bolster U.S. steel and aluminum industries, perennially at risk of financial insolvency amid long-running, state policy-driven global supply gluts.

Ever since these tariffs were enacted, business lobbies and orthodox economists have warned that tariffs would devastate the economy. One can debate what alternative policy outcomes were possible or preferable, but it is clear that tariffs didn't make the sky fall.

It should not be surprising that these tariffs, though affecting a wide swath of U.S. imports, had little effect on U.S. prices. First, Chinese policymakers responded to the tariffs by depreciating their exchange rate by 15% from February 2018 to late 2019, offsetting much of the price impact by making all Chinese exports to the United States that much cheaper in dollar terms.

Second, the tariff measures themselves are rather porous, allowing significant shares of imports to pass around these duties. The Department of Commerce has granted hundreds of thousands of exclusions to both the Section 301 and Section 232 tariffs where businesses could demonstrate adverse economic impacts from limited alternative domestic sources, and where deemed essential under the COVID-19 public health emergency. More importers bypassed the tariffs by transshipping products through countries with preferable access to U.S. markets, perhaps after performing some trivially minimal transformation to qualify as a different product under U.S. trade rules.

Finally, the tariffs are levied on a much smaller base than is implied by the volume of imports covered: the primary steel and aluminum and intermediate inputs of more processed parts and materials. These make up just a fraction of the overall cost of a final good supplied to consumers.

This suggests that removing the tariffs now—even ignoring impacts on already strained supply chains—

would have a similarly negligible impact on the surging inflation we are now experiencing. Figure B illustrates why: overall tariff and customs duties paid on U.S. imports amount to a trivial share of overall personal consumption expenditures.

In the nearly two years following the Sec. 232 and Sec. 301 tariffs, customs duties as a share of consumer expenditures increased from 0.3% to 0.4%, on average, relative to the period preceding tariffs. Even if one were to assume (implausibly) this was due to Sec. 301 and 232 tariffs and no other factors, they amounted to at most a 0.1% increase in prices.

But, of course, there were other economic factors at work and the increased tariff collection did not translate into higher inflation. In fact, Figure B shows that consumer prices decelerated from 2.0% to 1.8%, on average, annualized, after implementation of the tariffs and through the business cycle peak in the first quarter of 2020. Customs duties continued to ratchet up during the pandemic, minimally and mechanically, as people shifted from consuming services—less available in the pandemic—to goods, and imports surged with a stronger U.S. dollar, adding another 0.1% as a share of consumer spending. At best, removing these tariffs would result in a one-time price decrease of 0.2%—a drop in the bucket when you consider consumer prices have risen by more than three times as much, on average, every month since January 2021.

This is not to say that the tariffs had no impact—they did, particularly in helping U.S. steel and aluminum producers. The increase in the price of imported metal products makes it possible for U.S. producers to achieve economically viable financial margins and stabilize expectations of market conditions enough to

entice reinvestment in new production capacity.

Nonetheless, conditions of global chronic glut—especially given expected global growth slowdown from China's partial economic lockdown, the war in Ukraine, and ongoing pandemic-related supply chain disruptions—continue to threaten U.S. metals industries.

As for the Sec. 301 tariffs, the Phase One agreement with China has gone largely unfulfilled in terms of the bulk commodity purchases pledged by Chinese policymakers and the promise to continue negotiations on further prying open Chinese markets to U.S. foreign direct investment and intellectual property monopolies. Ironically, however, if Chinese policymakers had lived up to their end of the bargain, the United States would arguably be in a worse position today in regard to inflation and supply-chain vulnerabilities. The kinds of intellectual property protections and free reign for their foreign investment in China that U.S. business interests sought would make it easier for big corporations to move—or merely threaten to relocate—operations to China, and to book profits in offshore tax havens.

People often focus on trade's tendency to push down prices. But by exporting in bulk U.S. natural gas and agricultural products to China, Phase One would have made these commodities scarcer, and therefore prices paid by American businesses and households for electricity and food would be higher.

It is clear that the United States is in dire need of an economic strategy rethink. Until a more comprehensive policy approach to U.S. industrial development is heeded, policymakers should at least keep in place the parts of policy that are working to promote U.S. industry.

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Healthcare, reproductive rights make Top 4 concerns in new study

(PRNewswire) The Ad Council Research Institute (ACRI), the research arm of the Ad Council, recently revealed the findings of their new quarterly issue pulse study in partnership with Morning Consult, examining the most important social, economic and political issues of our current day. Revisiting what Americans

Results from the inaugural May 2022 survey found a distinct mix of issues like crime and healthcare, alongside social concerns like reproductive rights and the climate crisis were top of mind, in addition to detailed perspectives on race in America today.

"Americans are living in challenging times and it's critical to understand where their priorities lie in the moment," said Derrick Feldmann, lead researcher and managing director of ACRI and Ad Council Edge. "Our study reflects the increasingly fragile nature of an



Zach Vessels / Unsplash

American's attention. With so many issues to care about and so much information pulling a consumer's focus, this pulse check on what people care about and where they are taking action allows us and other purpose-driven marketers to better understand how to reach and empower the general public to make an impact in this ever-changing world."

While no single issue emerged as one that a majority – or even a plurality of Americans care most about – the top four issues Americans ranked as most important were: healthcare

affordability and/or reform (16%), crime/violence (16%), climate change (15%), and women's health & reproductive issues (14%). These top findings mirror what Americans read in the weeks leading up to when the survey was conducted (May, 20-25): a leaked opinion draft by the Supreme Court that foreshadowed an apparent strike down of Roe v. Wade, the Russian invasion of Ukraine continued, COVID-19 cases again began ticking upward, gun control debates abounded as the U.S. endured mass shooting after mass shoot-

ing, thousands in a historic New Mexico town were forced to evacuate amid oncoming wildfires and more.

Beneath the surface of the topline issues, the study revealed noticeable differences across age, gender and political affiliation. Contrary to general perceived notions, Boomers were more likely to prioritize climate change (34%) than Gen Z (17%) and Millennials (24%). Women's Health and Reproductive Rights divided genders (20% of women select as top issue vs. 8% of men) and party identification (19% Democrats vs. 6% Republicans). Crime was prioritized by Republicans (20%) and Boomers (35%) the most, but a plurality (43%) of respondents who say crime is a top issue, ranked it as the least important of their three.

However, when it comes to taking action, roughly a third (35%) of Americans

have not taken any steps in support of their top issues in the 30 days prior to taking the survey. Those who did were most likely to learn about a cause or social issue (20%) or sign a petition (17%).

"Decisions are undeniably better when informed with knowledge of what people think, why they think it, and its influence on their actions," said Kyle Dropp, co-founder and president of Morning Consult, who also serves on the Ad Council's Board of Directors. "There is no one-size-fits-all messaging for leaders today, so understanding consumers' pulse on today's issues is critical to their decision making."

In addition to monitoring which of forty issues Americans currently care about, the study will also take a deep dive into one specific issue of cultural importance to unveil current points of view. The inaugural study

probed respondents on their perspectives on race in America.

Most notably, a third of US adults (33%) believe they have been personally discriminated against or have been treated unfairly because of their race or ethnicity. Respondents of color are especially likely to say this is true, including 57% of Black and 47% of Hispanic adults. About a quarter (26%) of white respondents say they have been discriminated against because of their race or ethnicity. U.S. adults are also split (30% v. 30%) on whether being Black in America has an impact on people's ability to succeed. More Black adults say being Black has a positive impact (39%) than a negative impact (32%), while white adults are split 29% vs. 29%.

For more information about ACRI, visit www.adcouncil.org/ad-council-research-institute.

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white people," Harris said. "We have confronted that issue of biased appraisals," she added.

Harris said the administration understands the vital issue of voting rights, despite the Senate failing to pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and the suppression laws that Republican-led states have adopted.

She acknowledged how the large voter turnout in the 2020 election and the special Senate election in Georgia in January 2021 helped catapult Democrats to the White House and control both chambers of Congress.

"We need to pass legislation. But, short of that, we're going to have to keep uplifting states that are doing good work around the right to vote every election cycle," Harris offered.

"If we help people to understand when they turned

out in record numbers in 2020, what we were able to accomplish. We must remind people of what they get when they vote; that's the reality we face, but we must speak up and keep fighting."

The vice president noted that many states with voter suppression laws also have statutes restricting other rights.

"There's an overlap that I think we should be aware of," Harris insisted.

Additionally, Harris offered concern about racism within politics.

"I'm very concerned about elected officials around the country who won't put a name on white supremacists," Harris stated.

She said part of the solution lies in communities.

"One of the strongest tools is to build coalitions around communities that are targeted, to speak up and

be informed so that nobody would be made to stand alone," Harris said.

"We know we have more in common than what separates us, but part of this has to do with people spewing online and other places the things that are not facts."

Harris continued:

"I believe in many ways [students] are entering an increasingly unsettled world. The things we took for granted as being settled are not settled.

"Foreign policy, the concept of the sovereignty of a nation and its territorial integrity, the right to not be invaded by force ... and you see what's happened in Ukraine. For 70 years, Europe went without war, and now there is war.

"Domestically, 70 years ago, we thought voting rights was settled. Shelby v. Holder gutted the Voting Rights Act in 2013, and now we're seeing laws sprout up all over the country denying people the ability to receive

food and water if they are standing in line to vote. Unsettled is the woman's ability to decide about her own body.

"We're not asking anyone to change their beliefs; just

let everybody have what they believe and not have the government tell them what to do."

Harris concluded by sharing her planned celebration of Juneteenth.

She said she would open the Vice President's official residence, not to celebrities or politicians but to families and individuals from the various wards in the District of Columbia.

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The Poor Peoples Campaign: A declaration, announcement, beginning, moving forward commitment

By Menra Mapfumo

The Poor People's Campaign was established in 1968, by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King. Dr. King wanted the Poor People's Campaign to highlight the need for economic equality and social justice.

Dr. King wanted to help poor people by demanding the means for basic necessities. In 1967, Dr. King said the Poor People's Campaign would seek to "demand jobs, unemployment insurance, a fair minimum wage, and education for poor adults and children designed to improve their self-image and self-esteem."

In March 1968, Dr. King said the Poor People's Campaign would be "the beginning of a new co-operation, understanding, and a determination by poor people of all colors and backgrounds to assert and win their right to a decent life and respect for their culture and dignity."

On April 3, 1968, during the Memphis Sanitation workers strike, Dr. King told the workers, "We've got to give ourselves to this struggle until the end. Nothing would be more



Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II (standing behind podium) is continuing the efforts of the Poor People's Campaign Dr. King began. (Photo: Mark Mahoney / Dream In Color Photography)

tragic than to stop at this point in Memphis. We've got to see it through." His words further reinforced the mission of the Poor People's Campaign.

Dr. King's work is unfinished because on April 4, 1968, Dr. King was assassinated at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, TN.

Bishop William J. Barber, II is continuing the efforts of the Poor People's Campaign Dr. King began.

Dr. Barber is mobilizing for a Mass Poor People's & Low-Wage Workers' Assembly and Moral March on Washington and to the Polls June 18. Recently he

held mobilization marches for June 18 Los Angeles, the site of America's largest homeless population, and in Memphis, the site of Dr. King's martyrdom.

In both cities, marchers expressed how they felt about the Poor People's Campaign. They expressed how they felt about poverty and homelessness in America. Some told their own stories of living in poverty and being homeless.

Marchers expressed how they felt about the mass shooting in Buffalo and if they felt there is a relation between poverty and gun violence.

In Los Angeles, CA, Bishop William J. Barber, II said "The same people that are blocking laws that uplift the poor are the same ones that are spewing so much of this racist violence and rhetoric... claiming that the whole society is at threat because of Black and Brown people. This rhetoric that is being spewed... can get in the minds of people and it can radicalize them. The real question about the killer is not 'who is he?' but 'who radicalized him?'"

"Secondly, this business of death is too broad in this country and we accept

too much of it. A million people died from COVID. Poor people die five times higher in some ways... We keep having mass deaths and we talk about it for a day or two and then it goes away. Even before COVID, we had a quarter of a million people die from poverty, seven hundred people a day, and hardly a whisper being said about it. We had to decide we're not just going to be quiet and accept death anymore."

"Lastly, we have to see if this attack of what happened in Buffalo is connected to the season of violence that we're in. Go back to the University of Virginia when they were shouting 'Jews will not replace us.' This whole replacement theory that has its roots in some parts of Europe, in Nazism, as well as here in America, is violent in and of itself because it's always trying to point out who has to go in order for some people to live... It always means somebody has to be destroyed."

Bishop Barber expressed how he felt about the mobilization of the Poor People's Campaign on June 18th.

Bishop Barber said, "I

am feeling good about it. I have mixed feelings... Sometimes I get bothered that we still have to do it, but I am glad that I am alive to do it... There's something going on in this country... and people are responding from every state in this country... Most of all poor, low wealth people are leading the way and what I love about them is none of them are talking about this as a day. They're all talking about it as a declaration, as an announcement, as a beginning, as a moving forward, as a commitment."

Patrick Groman, a homeless man, and a chairman of the San Diego chapter of the California Homeless Union said, "Homeless is not a crime. We've been hearing... there's been a lot of crime, a lot of activity and the majority of all these crimes all over the place are blamed on the homeless. You can't just target one particular individual or all individuals... A lot of people don't realize that when you're homeless... you're dealing with a lot of different individuals. You're dealing with people who loss their jobs, dealing with

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Biden Task Force on Online Harassment and Abuse

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

According to a White House Fact Sheet, one in three women under the age of 35 in the United States report being sexually harassed online, and over half of LGBTQI+ individuals report being the target of severe online abuse.

Further, administration officials stated that individuals may also be disproportionately targeted because of their race, gender and gender identity, ethnicity, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, or at the intersection of various



White House officials said the President is responding to the need for government leadership to address online harms, which disproportionately affect women, girls, people of color, and LGBTQI+ individuals. (Photo via NNPA)

identifies.

On June 16, President Joe Biden announced the signing of a Presidential Memorandum establish-

ing the White House Task Force to Address Online Harassment and Abuse.

White House officials said the President is re-

sponding to the need for government leadership to address online harms, which disproportionately affect women, girls, people of color, and LGBTQI+ individuals.

Vice President Kamala Harris launched the Task Force by hosting a survivor and expert roundtable.

"The tragic events in Buffalo and Uvalde have underscored a fact known all too well by many Americans: the internet can fuel hate, misogyny, and abuse with spillover effects that threaten our communities and safety offline," administration officials wrote in the Fact Sheet.

They noted that when Biden initially wrote and championed the Violence Against Women Act in the 1990s, the internet hadn't become what the world knows it as today.

It has transformed the ability to connect, communicate, and access services and support, officials noted.

At the same time, social media and other forms of technology have increasingly been misused as tools of abuse, harassment, and exploitation, the officials emphasized.

The White House noted that the Task Force counts as an interagency effort to address online harassment

and abuse, specifically focused on technology-facilitated gender-based violence.

According to the Fact Sheet, in consultation with survivors, advocates, educators, experts from diverse fields, and the private sector, the Task Force will develop specific recommendations to improve prevention, response, and protection efforts through programs and policies in the United States and globally by:

- Improving coordination among executive departments, agencies, and

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Plano Mayor's Summer Interns pack more than 20,000 pounds of food

During a time when struggling North Texans need more help than ever, approximately 80 high school teens participating in the Plano Mayor's Summer Internship Program took a day off from their paid positions to serve at the North Texas Food Bank for Community Service Day, sponsored by NTT DATA, on June 17.

Plano Mayor Pro Tem Kayci Prince; Mona Charif, chief marketing officer at NTT DATA; Trisha Cunningham, president and CEO at North Texas Food Bank; and other City of Plano elected leaders and volunteers joined the teens as they sorted and packed



James Edward

produce and dry goods into boxes for distribution to North Texas families in need. By the end of their

shift, they completed 16.5 pallets, packed 824 boxes of food totaling 22,322 lbs. of food, which will provide

for 18,615 meals!

Stepping in for Mayor John Muns, Mayor Pro Tem Prince was excited to

spend time and talk with the interns about their summer. She expressed how impressed she was with them and touched on the importance of giving back.

"As we gather today for Community Service Day, we have the privilege of making a positive impact on the lives of others in our community," said Mayor Pro Tem Prince. "Plano has a strong sense of community, and it's selfless people like you that make our city shine."

Mayor Pro Tem Prince also thanked the companies and nonprofits who devoutly support the program, many who have been a part of the program since its in-

augural year such as founding sponsor Capital One and Community Service Day sponsor NTT DATA.

"We appreciate how the Plano Mayor's Summer Internship Program teaches young people about business and the power of taking initiative," said Mona Charif, Chief Marketing Officer for NTT DATA Services. "We are proud to sponsor the program's Community Service Day because it demonstrates the importance of social responsibility for individuals and businesses alike."

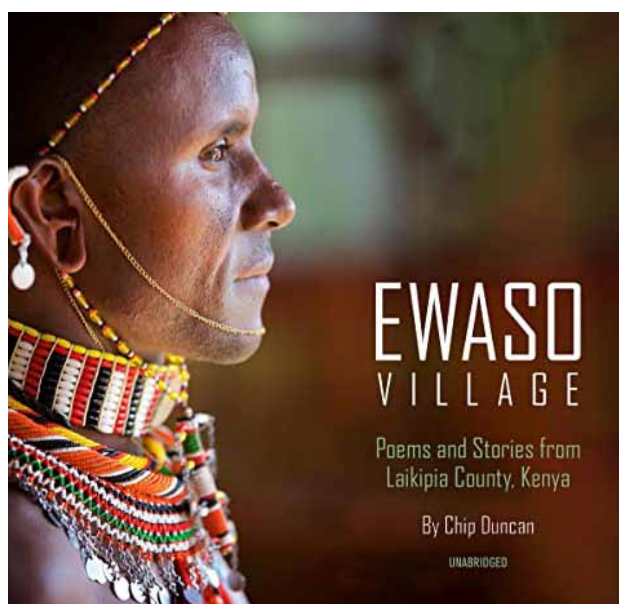
The interns are looking forward to their celebratory luncheon on July 22 at the Plano Event Center.

Ewaso Vilage: Poems, Stories, and Photography from Laikipia County, Kenya

Acclaimed filmmaker, photojournalist, writer, poet, and humanitarian Chip Duncan takes readers on a tour of Laikipia County, Kenya, in his new release, "Ewaso Village: Poems and Stories."

The SelectBooks, Inc., offering provides a birds-eye view of Ewaso Village in a unique publication that incorporates stunning full-color images – the product of Duncan's experience as a veteran photojournalist – and his poignant literary sensibilities as a poet and memoirist.

"All of this is focused on a community in southern Kenya, Ewaso Village, which has become an important place of spiritual connection for the author over the years of his travels," according to



a news release.

The book's publishers noted that the Maasai people of East Africa comprise one of the most intriguing and resourceful cultures on

Earth.

"For more than a thousand years, the Maasai and their Samburu neighbors have survived and thrived as pastoralists on the savan-

nah near Mt. Kenya and the Maasai Mara borderlands of Kenya and Tanzania," the publishers wrote.

"Chip Duncan exuberantly combines prose, poetry, and photography to celebrate the stories, songs, rituals, and dreams of people who live in this magical place called Ewaso Village."

Further, those who speak of Ewaso Village with admiration include Wisconsin Poet Laureate and Rubinger Fellow, Dasha Kelly Hamilton, who described it as "eloquent and frank, braiding culture and commentary, justice and joy, imagery and intimate impact. The collection of these pieces traveled me, not as a vapid tourist, but as a human."

"Enriched with hauntingly beautiful photographs

and poetic stories, Ewaso Village provides a richly detailed portrait of a nomadic society known for their centuries-old rituals and dazzling ornamentation, but a culture mostly hidden from outsiders," National Geographic filmmaker and author Kevin McCarey stated.

"In this thoroughly engaging book, Duncan captures the heart and soul of the Maasai – an African tribal people grappling with the challenges of political strife and climate change."

A lifelong Midwesterner and native of western Iowa, Duncan has produced more than fifty non-fiction films for international broadcast and distribution.

His work as a photographer and filmmaker has taken him to ice fields, war

zones, slums, shipyards, museums, palaces, vineyards, beaches, deserts, rainforests, savannahs, and farmlands.

Duncan's previous books include the short story collection Half A Reason to Die (SelectBooks, NYC, 2017), photographic collections Inspiring Change (Thunder House Press, Milwaukee, 2019) and Enough to Go Around (SelectBooks, NYC, 2009).

Duncan also speaks publicly on the impact of climate change as part of The Three Tenors of Climate Change.

Ewaso Village is Duncan's first book featuring his poetry, and the first in a trilogy featuring indigenous cultures from around the world.

TRIAL, from Page 2

Huth claims Cosby sexually assaulted her at the Playboy Mansion nearly a half-century ago. She said the one-time America's Favorite Dad gave her and a friend the opportunity of coming on the set of the famous 1975 movie "Let's Do It Again."

In an earlier deposition, Huth first claimed that Cosby assaulted her in 1974 when he was filming "Uptown Saturday Night."

Since allegations first surfaced against Cosby, leading

to his first criminal trial in 2017, Huth had claimed the assault happened in 1974.

In prior depositions, Huth vowed that she was 15 when Cosby molested her but changed her story on the witness stand to say she was 16.

Cosby's attorney, Jennifer Bonjean, grilled Huth on her medical records, which said the 64-year-old was previously diagnosed with major depressive disorder before 2014.

Huth and a friend testified

they remembered the timing because they were playing the video game "Donkey Kong."

However, as Bonjean highlighted, the video game didn't debut until 1981.

Still, a civil jury appears to have found in favor of Huth, telling the judge that they had reached a verdict on 8 of 9 counts, with the only issue being how to calculate damages.

Because of a previous commitment and the failure to complete deliberations, one of the jurors was re-

placed by an alternate which recently forced the panel to restart discussions.

Huth and her attorney, Gloria Allred, are seeking millions of dollars in damages.

A website solicited more women to make accusations against Cosby, promising millions more payouts.

In the early stages of Cosby's legal woes, Allred infamously called on women to come forward and demanded Cosby put up \$100 million. That large sum led to more than 50 women accus-

ing Cosby of sexual assault.

Cosby's spokesman Andrew Wyatt called it a bounty and a shakedown. He said Allred's tactics and Huth's repeated misstatements should alarm everyone, including the #MeToo Movement.

Wyatt, who refers to Allred as "AwfulRed," has noted the attorney has made a name for herself by going after African Americans.

"That Judge Craig Karlan would allow Gloria AwfulRed to utilize the commemoration of Juneteenth

... was a slap in the face to Black America and the judge allowing Gloria AwfulRed to exploit the memory of those enslaved at the hands of their oppressor... Shame on Judge Karlan for giving [her] centerstage to advance her racism against Black people, and it showed that this civil trial isn't about justice, but an obsession to destroy Mr. Cosby."

Allred did not respond to requests for comment.

Burke also hasn't responded to numerous requests.

We pledge to
and support

LISTEN TO BLACK WOMEN REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE is the **HUMAN RIGHT** to control our bodies, our sexuality, our gender, our work and our reproduction. That **RIGHT** can only be achieved when **ALL** women and girls have the complete economic, social and political **POWER** and resources to make healthy **DECISIONS** about our **BODIES**, our **FAMILIES** and our **COMMUNITIES** in all areas of our lives.

Right now, we are faced with an attack on our **HUMAN RIGHTS** as global **CITIZENS** by a conservative, activist U.S. Supreme Court.

Our **FREEDOM** depends on **DISMANTLING** systemic racism, misogyny, anti-blackness and white supremacy.

Historically, we have **WON** battles for our human and civil rights when we **LISTEN TO AND TRUST BLACK WOMEN**:

71%

of Black women support **ABORTION** services.

85%

believe whether she has "private or government-funded health coverage, **EVERY** woman should have **HEALTH COVERAGE** for the full range of pregnancy-related care, including **ABORTION**.

91%

believe a woman's ability to **CONTROL** whether or when she has children is an important part of **FINANCIAL STABILITY** for herself and her **FAMILY**.

Therefore, **WE** the undersigned **PLEDGE**

To do everything in our **POWER** to ensure all Black women and birthing people have the freedom, resources and power they need to assert **AGENCY** over their **BODIES** and to ensure that their **FAMILIES** can **THRIVE**.

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Michelle D Bernard
Selena McLaurin
LaTosha Brown
Deena Pierott
Taisha Brown
Pamela Sparrow
Linda Goler Blount
Sheila Eldridge
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Chanda Robinson
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Terri Wisdom
Marcela Howell
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Dallas Mayor Pro Tem West and Atkins, Two High School Scholars Win Big at Juneteenth Tennis Exhibition

Dallas Mayor Pro Tem Chad West and KGGR Talk Show Host W.J. Atkins won the Celebrity Doubles match at this year's Juneteenth Tennis Exhibition.

The second annual exhibition was held at Kiest Tennis Center on Saturday, June 18 in Dallas.

West and Atkins bested State Representative Yvonne Davis (Dist. 111) and Lemuel Price, her Chief of Staff in a 6 - 1 set.

West stated that it was a lot of fun, and that they won in spite of the rising June heat. Atkins said he was elated to play and glad his game wasn't off too much. Morning temperatures got as high as early 90s.

"I really look forward to next year's event," West said.

Runner-up Davis said she enjoyed playing before the cheering crowd, yet, "We just couldn't pull it off (a win)." Price said, "We'll be ready next time."

Other winners included Rev. James I. Minor and General Berry, Jr. who won the "New vs. Old School"



Gisselle Araujo and Christian Magadon (Courtesy photos)

Doubles match. They beat Gisselle Araujo and Christian Magadon, 6 - 4.

However, Araujo and Magadon were the clear winners of the Summer Tennis Scholarships. Their certificates awarded them tutoring at the center from Tennis Pro Craig Cole.

Araujo and Magadon currently attend Samuel High and play for Coach Stacy Spencer.

"This event was such a joy to hold, especially for the high school tennis play-

ers in southern Dallas," said Berry, chair of Camp Wisdom UMC's fundraiser, which benefits its community Youth Programs.

"We thank all of our talented high school tennis players," Berry said. He especially thanked West and Atkins, Davis and Price for their participation to benefit the community Camp Wisdom serves.

"We had such fun watching them having fun playing tennis," he said. "I'm sure it was a great break

for Chad and Yvonne and Lemuel from their normal, tedious, legislative duties."

"I look forward to our tennis exhibition next year."



From left, State Representative Yvonne Davis, General Berry, Jr. and Lemuel Price. (Courtesy photo)



Lemuel Price, Chad West, W.J. Atkins and Yvonne Davis. (Courtesy photo)

POOR, from Page 5

[veterans], dealing with people with mental illness. There is not enough help and support out there."

Irma Hall Wood spoke on what brought her to the Poor People's Campaign rally in Los Angeles, CA.

Wood said, "My brothers are hurting, including myself. God looks up on each one of us as a whole. All of us are his children and he doesn't want us to suffer. Why suffer when there are millions of dollars? There are more millionaires these days than ever before. Why are we suffering? We can't pay our rent, we can't have health insurance; Accessible quality health insurance..."

Marcher and Memphis, TN resident, Jayonee Webster spoke on poverty.

Webster said, "Most of

the city of Memphis is living on poverty wages and we really need to change those conditions. I grew up in poverty."

Webster also spoke on if

she felt she was continuing the work of Dr. King.

Webster said, "Absolutely. The Civil Rights Movement never ended and here we are today as an expression of that. An expression of lots of different movements coming together."



Photo via NNPA

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Insider's Guide To Addison Kaboom Town on July 3

How to Celebrate American Independence at one of the Country's Top Fireworks Shows

For more than three decades, Addison Kaboom Town!, has thrilled fans with its unparalleled 30-minute fireworks show choreographed to a patriotic soundtrack that is radio simulcast to hundreds of thousands of fans across the 4.4-square-mile town. The 2022 show is sure to thrill – as it's even larger than ever before! Because of the immense popularity of the annual event, event organizers hope to share tips to make every visit a fabulous celebration of American Independence!

HAVE A PLAN

The city-produced watch event at Addison Circle Park is a part of the tradition for some fans of Addison Kaboom Town! In order to control crowds at the park, a free ticketing system is being used this year. Free tickets to Addison Kaboom Town will be available beginning June 22 at 10 a.m. here: <https://addisonkaboomtown.com/tickets/>

When general admission tickets to Addison Circle Park sell out, guaranteed park tickets will still be available to those who book an Addison Kaboom Town hotel package. Packages start below \$90, and include your room, six tickets to the park and a commemorative blanket.

FIND YOUR VIBE

Those seeking a more customized viewing experience can select one of the many Kaboom Town Watch Parties at Addison restaurants and businesses. With more than 200 restaurants, the Town of Addison boasts more restaurants per capita than any other city in the United States. A list of watch parties can be found here and the site is being updated daily until the event. Many of those parties will require or recommend reservations, so be sure to make your plans early.



Mio Ito / Unsplash

Parties run the gamut from casual patio parties to luxe dinners, and everything in between. So whether you want to karaoke before Kabooming or relax for a live concert, Addison has something for everyone.

Beyond the watch parties, fireworks fans find every available park and parking lot in which to picnic and enjoy the Addison Airport Airshow and fireworks. If your plan includes one of these sites, arrive early to make sure you find the best viewing.

The Air Show will begin with the Red River Skydivers and continues with some of the country's top aerobatic pilots and a cadre of historic warbirds from the Cavanaugh Flight Museum before closing out with a pyrotechnic night flight!

KNOW YOUR TECH

While Addison Kaboom Town! fans leave the pyrotechnic science to the professionals who design and fire the show, there is lots of other tech you should know about.

Make sure you have radio access to enjoy the fabulous simulcast of the fireworks on Star 102.1 FM. If you don't have a radio, you can use the iHeart app to hear it from your phone.

Speaking of phones – be prepared with a portable

power bank. Because there are so many people live-streaming both the flyover and the fireworks, cell service can become challenging. If you can, find local wi-fi sources to broaden your reach.

And if you want to sound like a pyrotechnic engineer, the folks at the American Pyrotechnics Association have compiled a whole glossary of fireworks terms and types, so you can create your own voice-over of the amazing Addison Kaboom Town! show.

PACK YOUR KIT

If you're celebrating at Addison Circle Park, make sure you know all the rules about what you can – and cannot – bring into the park. Most importantly, coolers in the park are limited to the small, personal size, and you cannot bring alcohol, although beer and wine will be available for sale. No pop-up tents or shade structures can be brought into the park. All bags at the park will be screened upon entry.

The event takes place Wednesday, July 3, 2022, 5-11 p.m. at Addison Circle Park, 4970 Addison Circle Drive, Addison, Texas 75001

• 5 p.m. – Addison Circle Park gates open; Razzma-jazz Dixieland Band performs

• 6 p.m. – The Walton Stout Band performs

• 7:30 p.m. – Addison Airport Airshow begins

• 8 p.m. – Presentation of the Colors and National Anthem

• 8:30 p.m. Jordan Kahn Orchestra performs

• 9:30 p.m. – Fireworks

show

• 10 p.m. Jordan Kahn Orchestra performs

WHERE

Memorable views can be found from anywhere in Addison, but special watch parties hosted by many of Addison's more than 180+ restaurants and 22 hotels offer spectators a unique viewing experience. A complete list of watch parties will be available on the website closer to the event.

TRAFFIC NOTES

The popularity of the Addison Kaboom Town!® fireworks show may cause some traffic delays, specifically following the fireworks show. Book your hotel rooms now! Addison hotels quickly fill up for this annual event. Spectators are encouraged to spend the night in Addison at any of our hotels, or remain at their favorite restaurant till

traffic subsides.

EVENT NOTES

Concessions are available in the park. Guests are encouraged to leave coolers and bags at home to expedite entry into the park. Those choosing to bring coolers must limit the size to small, personal coolers. Absolutely no alcohol can be brought into or out of Addison Circle Park. Beer and wine will be available for sale within the park.

COST

FREE -- Tickets are required to attend the party in Addison Circle Park. Tickets will be available online to the general public at 10 a.m. June 22. Book an Addison Kaboom Town! hotel package and enjoy quality accommodations, a complimentary blanket and guaranteed admission for up to 6.

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NDG Book Review: 'Black Panther' is one work that is sure to please

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

After school and Saturday mornings were devoted to fighting crime.

There you were, seven, eight, nine years old, hard-bodied, brave, and fireproof – at least, in your mind. Along with your ancestors and others with superpowers, you were invincible. And in “Black Panther” by Don McGregor, Rich Buckler, Billy Graham, Stan Lee, and Jack Kirby, you’ll see that it all started with a “dark line.”

In the years between the middle of the Depression and the middle of World War II, over “seven hundred super-powered do-gooders



debuted” in comic books, nation-wide. After the war was over, comic books continued to be popular but the super-hero genre faded to just a small group their publisher called the Justice League of America.

This spurred rival publisher Marvin Goodman to

“sit up and take notice.” He decided that his comic book company needed its own superhero team and he partnered with several talents to create the Marvel Universe. In the early 1960s, Marvel Comics’ Fantastic Four were joined by several other superheroes “in the same story-world,” each with a unique talent; in 1966, the Black Panther became one of them.

The character appeared at exactly the right time. Say the authors, the origins of the Black Panther reflected what was going on in the U.S. socially, politically, and in Civil Rights. The introduction of the Black Panther arrived between Jim

Crow and the founding of the Black Panther Party for Self Defense. America, say the authors, “was confronting the deep historical consequences” of what it had done to its Black citizens and T’Challa was his own man. He didn’t need White superheroes to save the day for him.

There were a few ragged edges to the character – at first, there were “hints” that the Black Panther might spin into a comic book villain – but readers of the early story ultimately rested easier. The Fantastic Four and the Black Panther were always in good hands, both

in Wakanda and elsewhere...

Imagine, says Nnedi Okorafor in her foreword, being a small child of immigrants from Nigeria, trying to visit a comic book store back when older white males were its usual customers. She fled the store then, empty-handed, and returned to comic books when she was an adult and found a character that looked like her. The earliest incarnation of that character and his comic book story are found inside “Black Panther.”

Fans can rejoice: the latter takes up the bulk of this book, chronologically and in full-color, just like the

original comic books offered. But patience: before you get there, read the overview of comics in general, Marvel Comics, specifically; Okorafor’s foreword; and a volume introduction to this character. Turn to the back for an essay on the Black Panther, and plot synopses with creator’s notes. It’s the whole deal.

The bonus, for fans of both movie and comic book, is that you can read this paperback release of the hard-cover book without worry. Show hard love to this version of “Black Panther” and share it, knowing you’re someone else’s hero.

The Amon Carter Museum of American Art Celebrates *Sargent, Whistler, and Venetian Glass* During Annual Party on the Porch

The Amon Carter Museum of American Art (the Carter) is excited to announce its annual music and arts festival, Party on the Porch (POP), celebrating the closing weekend of Sargent, Whistler, and Venetian Glass: American Artists and the Magic of Murano. This free event will be held on Saturday, September 10 from 6 to 10 p.m. with art-making activities, extended gallery hours, and live music by Grammy-nominated country music artist Brent Cobb.

Throughout the evening, a variety of free creative experiences will be offered. Build your own Venice-themed cityscape with blocks and other building materials; make your own colorful, mixed-media mosaic inspired by works in our special exhibition Sargent, Whistler, and Venetian Glass; create your own glowing, wearable artwork; bring to life a work of art at our hands-on sensory stations; and participate in talks and tours throughout the galleries. Experience the last weekend of two exhibitions: Sargent, Whistler, and Venetian Glass: American Artists and the Magic of Murano, an exhibition organized by the Smithsonian American Art Museum that examines American tour-

ism, art making, and art collecting in Venice; and Black Every Day: Photographs from the Carter Collection, featuring artworks that spotlight and celebrate more than 100 years of Black American life. Both exhibitions are on view through September 11.

“The Carter is thrilled to host our annual free, fun, art and music festival, Party on the Porch, as well as celebrate the exhibition Sargent, Whistler, and Venetian Glass,” said Andrew J. Walker, the Museum’s Executive Director. “Our evening of Venice, art-making activities, and live music by the talented Brent Cobb will be a night you won’t want to miss.”

Brent Cobb is a Grammy-nominated country music singer-songwriter. Born and raised in Georgia, Brent returned to his home state a few years ago after establishing a career as one of Nashville’s most creative and compelling songwriters. Cobb follows in the footsteps of his country music heroes with his new gospel album, *And Now, Let’s Turn to Page...*

Local food trucks will be on-site offering a variety of food and drink options for purchase. Visit cartermuseum.org/POP22 for a current list of food trucks.

Carter members will enjoy access to a VIP area with free drinks and lite bites. Pan Ector is back by popular demand with their Fort Worth-themed T-shirts that are screen printed on-site.

Free tickets are available online beginning June 23. All ages require a free ticket to enter the event, including infants and toddlers. Exclusive early tickets are available for Carter members beginning June 16. Visit cartermuseum.org/POP22 to reserve your tickets in advance. Free parking is available at the HSC surface lots (north of the Museum). Additional paid parking is also available at the Eastern Heritage Garage on Gendy Street and other parking lots at the Will Rogers Memorial Center. For more information about POP parking and accessibility, call 817.738.1933 or email info@cartermuseum.org. Visit the Museum’s website and follow Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for updates. Will Rogers Road will be closed between Lancaster Avenue and Camp Bowie Boulevard Friday, September 9 at 9 p.m. through noon on Sunday, September 11. Please do not bring your pets. Coolers, picnic baskets, glass, and outside alcohol are not permitted.

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With Tributes Pouring in From Politicians and Entertainers, the NNPA Conference Highlights 195 Years of the Black Press

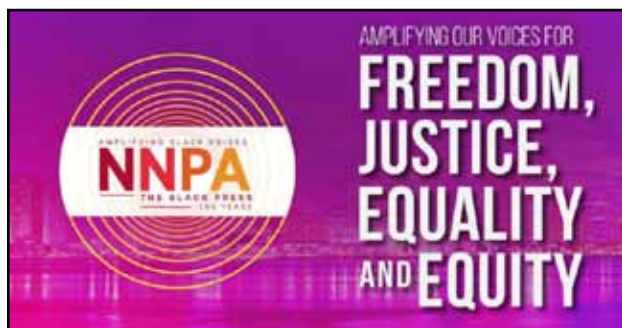
By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) kicks off its annual conference in New Orleans this week with a slate of panels aimed at informing and inspiring Black America and increasing voter registration rolls among individuals of color.

The NNPA is a trade association representing the more than 230 African American newspapers and media companies that comprise the Black Press of America.

In celebration of the 195th anniversary of the Black Press of America, the overall theme of the four-day conference is “Amplifying Our Voices for Freedom, Justice, Equality, and Equity.”

“I’m looking forward to seeing everyone, including the hotel staff,” stated Cheryl Smith, an NNPA board member and publisher of



Texas Metro News, the Garland Journal, and I Messenger Media.

On June 22 at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside, the conference begins with board meetings hosted by the NNPA and the NNPA Fund.

A Chairman’s Reception formally starts the conference with greetings and acknowledgments from NNPA Chair Karen Carter Richards, NNPA President Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., NNPA Convention Planning Committee Chair Terry Jones, New Orleans Tribune Publisher Beverly McKenna, Louisiana Weekly Publisher Renette Hall, and a proclamation from New

Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell.

The reception also will feature acknowledgments from convention partners, sponsors, and other guests.

Video and in-person tributes will include Vice President Kamala Harris, Congressional Black Caucus Chair Joyce Beatty, Universal Hip Hop Museum Executive Director Rocky Bucano, White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre, California Rep. Barbara Lee, and Destiny’s Child singer Kelly Rowland.

Among the expected highlights are panel discussions like “Amplifying Voices of Generation Z and Millenni-

als Through the Black Press of America,” moderated by Mark Thompson, the host of “Make It Plain.”

The panel plans to explore how young African Americans view the importance of the future of the Black Press. Featured panelists include Houston Forward Times On-Air Personality Jonita “Go JJ Go” Buchanan, Media Personality DaNeshia Bell, Videographer Joshua McMillian, The Bridge Publisher Lafayette Barnes, and New Orleans Data Weekly Journalist Melony Mainor.

Dr. Chavis will moderate “The Path to Inclusion is Electric: How GM Is Building an All-Inclusive Workforce to Build an All-Electric Future.”

Melinda Hightower, the managing director, and head of multicultural strategic client segments at UBS Bank, will host the session, “The Black Press on Equity and Wealth Building for Black America.”

Rosetta Miller-Perry, the

publisher of the Tennessee Tribune, will join Baltimore Times Editor Paris Brown, Inglewood Today Publisher Ken Miller, and Washington Informer Reporter James Wright for the session.

Attorney Barbara Arnwine, the founder and president of Transformative Justice Coalition (TJC), and Daryl Jones, TJC’s chairman of the board, will host “Black America Get Out the Vote and the Black Press.”

Northern Kentucky University Professor Dr. David Childs will lead Defender Network Managing Editor ReShonda Tate-Billingsley, and Defender Network Social Justice Journalist Aswad Walker in a discussion about “The Black Press and the Antidote to Racism in America.”

The NNPA Fund will present its 2022 Messenger Awards during a dinner on Thursday, June 23.

Dr. John Warren, the San Diego Voice & Viewpoint publisher, plans to provide the invocation, while Mis-

issippi Link Publisher Jackie Hampton will announce scholarship recipients.

NNPA Fund Chair and Wave Communications President & CEO Pluria Marshall Jr. and Fund Treasurer and Times Weekly Publisher Jayme Cain Casimere will present the Messenger Awards to NNPA journalists and publishers.

On Friday, June 24, the NNPA will host its 2022 Lifetime Achievement and Legacy Award Gala. This year’s honorees include Westside Gazette Publisher Bobby Henry, Congresswoman Maxine Waters, Jackson State University Football Coach Deion “Prime” Sanders and recording superstar and actress Stephanie Mills.

With hits like “Home,” “Never Knew Love Like This Before,” and “I Feel Good All Over,” Mills will speak about the importance of the Black Press in her life and perform a medley of her songs.

Caterpillar to Relocate Global Headquarters to Dallas-Fort Worth Area

Caterpillar Inc. (NYSE: CAT) today announced it will move its global headquarters to the company’s existing office in Irving, Texas, from its current location in Deerfield, Illinois.

“We believe it’s in the best strategic interest of the company to make this move, which supports Caterpillar’s strategy for profitable growth as we help our customers build

a better, more sustainable world,” said Chairman and CEO Jim Umpleby.

Caterpillar has had a presence in Texas since the 1960s across several areas of the company. Il-

linois remains the largest concentration of Caterpillar employees anywhere in the world.

The company will begin transitioning its headquarters to Irving in 2022.

With 2021 sales and revenues of \$51.0 billion, Caterpillar Inc. is the world’s leading manufacturer of construction and mining equipment, off-highway

diesel and natural gas engines, industrial gas turbines and diesel-electric locomotives. Caterpillar does business on every continent.

BIDEN, from Page 5

offices to maximize the Federal Government’s effectiveness in preventing and addressing technology-facilitated gender-based violence in the United States and globally, including by developing policy solutions to enhance accountability for those who perpetrate online harms;

- Enhancing and expanding data collection and research across the Federal Government to measure the costs, prevalence, exposure to, and impact of technology-facilitated gender-based violence, including by studying the mental health

effects of harassment and abuse perpetrated through social media, particularly affecting adolescents;

- Increasing access to survivor-centered services, information, and support for victims, and increasing training and technical assistance for Federal, State, Tribal, local, and territorial governments, as well as for global organizations and entities in the fields of criminal justice, health and mental health services, education, and victim services;
- Developing programs and policies to address the disproportionate impact of

online harassment, abuse, and disinformation campaigns targeting women and LGBTQI+ individuals who are public and political figures, government and civic leaders, activists, and journalists in the United States and globally;

- Examining existing Federal laws, regulations, and policies to evaluate the adequacy of the current legal framework to address technology-facilitated gender-based violence and provide recommendations for strengthening it; and
- Identifying additional opportunities to improve efforts to prevent and address technology-facilitat-

ed gender-based violence in United States foreign policy and foreign assistance, including through the Global Partnership for Action on Gender-Based Online Harassment and Abuse.

“President Biden and Vice President Harris have long been committed to standing with survivors of gender-based violence wherever it occurs – including online,” administration officials stated.

“Through this Task Force, they will lead a strategic vision for countering online forms of violence, harassment and abuse.”

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Record inflation shrinks housing affordability, worsens racial wealth gaps

Many consumers pay more for rent than others do for mortgages

By Charlene Crowell

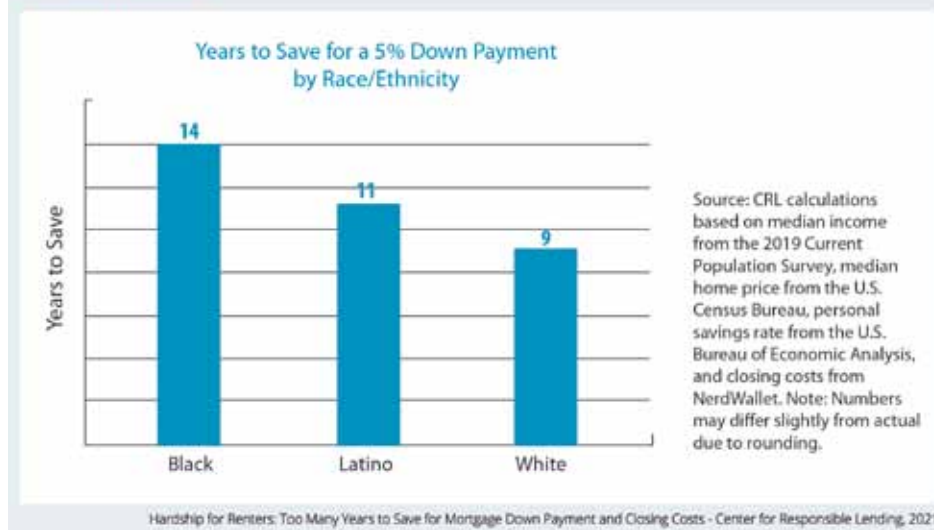
This summer, temperatures are not the only thing rising above normal. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the nation's consumer price index (CPI) at the end of May was the largest since December 1981, more than 40 years ago. This key economic measure tracks the change in prices paid by consumers for goods and services for about 93 percent of the total U.S. population.

The most recent report released on June 10, showed double-digit CPI increases for fuel, food, utilities, and both new and used vehicles.

Even before this data release, many consumers already adjusted their lives to compensate as best they could for \$5 dollar per gallon gas prices, keeping family cars longer, and taking fewer family outings to free up funds for still-rising food prices.

But how much longer can housing remain affordable when prices for both homes and rents are rising even higher?

Figure 1: White Households Can Get on the Homeownership Path 5 Years Earlier than Black Households



Homeownership, historically a reliable building block to family wealth, is more of a challenge today for first-time homebuyers. As of 2022's first quarter, the median price of an existing single-family home grew to \$368,200, according to the National Association of Realtors (NAR), 15.7 percent higher than a year ago.

Families able to afford a 20 percent down payment on this median-priced home can look forward to

a monthly mortgage of approximately \$1,383, which is \$319 more – 30 percent higher – than a year ago, according to NAR.

For Black America, however, a history replete with systemic discrimination in education, employment, lending and housing imposes additional harsh realities that have yet to be effectively addressed.

From 2013 to 2019, after adjusting for inflation, the median household income of Black households in-

creased by just \$800, compared with about \$3,000 for white households and \$3,700 for Latinx households, according to research by the National Equity Atlas that analyzed the nation's 100 largest metro areas. Additionally, during these same years, the

number of neighborhoods affordable to Black households dropped by 14 percent.

"Shrinking neighborhood affordability and the dearth of affordable neighborhoods that provide the necessary conditions for health, well-being, and economic success in many large metros are reinforcing longstanding patterns of racial segregation and creating new ones," concludes this report.

Other new research from Freddie Mac sought to identify the causes of soaring home prices and where affordable homes might still be found. What drove home price growth and can it continue?, Freddie Mac's new report found four factors driving escalating home costs:

- Record low mortgage rates in 2020 and 2021 generated a race to beat future

rate increases;

- Home inventories were limited due to underbuilding on one hand, and below average distressed sales on the other;

- The number of first-time homebuyers grew due to in part due to favorable age demographics; and

- Many consumers left high-cost cities for cheaper ones that already had a housing shortage. Where affordable homes can be found brings to mind an old adage in real estate, 'location, location, location'.

Where affordable homes can be found brings to mind an old adage in real estate, 'location, location, location'.

"As of February of 2022, migration out of the largest 25 cities remains three times higher than the rate pre-pandemic," states the

See RENT, Page 13

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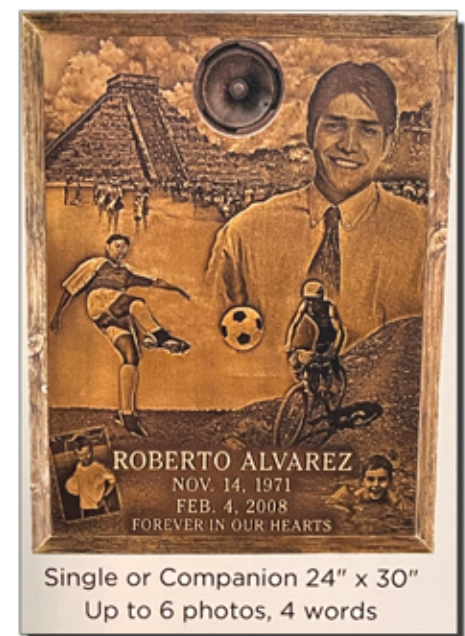
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Economist Matthew Gardner Suggests Real Estate is Returning to Normal at HomeVestors Summit

Matthew Gardner, chief economist for Windermere Real Estate, spoke at the HomeVestors Mid-Year Summit about his outlook on the real estate market. His remarks suggested the market is returning to normal and not the dreaded downturn many have predicted. Dispelling any suggestions of a bubble, he sees real estate returning to pre-pandemic levels, which were still strong. Given the shortage of inventory, Gardner says a drop is unlikely and that instead real estate will go back to more normal growth.

Rising rates have likely

pulled sales forward, and new construction increases slowed price pressures and demand for existing homes. He shared with the gathered "We Buy Ugly Houses®" franchisees that price growth is set to moderate, and the move to the suburbs driven by "work from home" culture will continue, which will help maintain first-time buyer demand. The question remains as to what first-time buyers can afford.

CEO of HomeVestors, David Hicks, added: "The part of the market that we work in, under the median, has an even greater lack of inventory. More than

80 percent of houses franchises purchase are smaller and were built before 1980, which means that by reintroducing the houses our franchisees buy and rehab nationwide we are helping create a valuable supply for first-time buyers."

The session was offered to HomeVestors' independently owned and operated franchisees who represent the largest professional

house buying franchise in the U.S. With more than 125,000 houses bought since 1996, We Buy Ugly Houses not only experiences market shifts first-hand, but also often helps steer those shifts through the buying and selling franchises do in over 176 markets.

America's #1 Home Buyer, HomeVestors prides itself on buying homes that

traditional buyers generally do not consider, which are improved and reintroduced

as valuable real estate assets, helping maintain an affordable housing supply.

RENT, from Page 12

Freddie Mac report. "The most significant increase in migration has been to mid-sized metro areas with populations between 500,000 to 1 million, followed by smaller mid-sized metros and smaller metro areas."

The irony is that today, many consumers are paying more for fair market rent (FMR) than many monthly mortgages that lead to home equity and wealth.

The down payment – rather than the monthly mortgage note – is the primary barrier to homeownership for many renters. With a rising cost of living, few – if any – dollars remain at the end of a month for many families. And even if a family has managed to save a few hundred dollars or more, home down payments on the private market are tens of thousands of dollars.

Some home lenders may offer adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) as an alternative to cash-strapped buyers. But the key word in these loans is 'adjustable'. When loan interest resets occur, borrowers should plan for higher interest rates. It would also be prudent to remember that

the foreclosure crisis of the early 2000s was fueled by high-cost mortgage loans that left millions of Black and Latino homeowners either without a home, or remaining in one with a loan balance larger than its market value

If this nation really wants to address its affordable housing crisis, then it is time to give Black America a level playing field with access to affordable and sustainable mortgages. It is equally important to diversify new construction housing -- whether for rent or for purchase -- are for higher-income consumers, leaving moderate and low-income families with severely shrinking housing options.

Every family of every income needs a home. Effective housing reforms would offer both access and affordability – not an either-or.

Charlene Crowell is a senior fellow with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.



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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:

- Presides at meetings and acts as Chairman/Chairwoman of the Executive Committee.
 - Appoints all committees not directly elected by the Chapter.
 - Between meetings of the Executive Committee and subject to the approval thereof, exercises executive authority on behalf of the Chapter.
 - The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.
 - Shall work with other members of the Executive Committee to develop a program agenda for a defined fiscal year.
 - 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.
 - 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.

Let us hear from YOU!!!

**If there are any news, events or anything else we need to know about, give us an e-mail at:
editor@northdallasgazette.com**

What the World Needs Today Are Fathers

By James L. Snyder

There is much talk today about what's wrong with our society. That list is pretty long, but the most important cause of problems in our culture today is the lack of fathers. So many children grow up without a father in the home. How tragic.

I was fortunate enough to know my father. My father passed away a little over 12 years ago. I remember many things he taught me or at least tried to teach me. One of the most significant things was when I became a teenager, he said, "Son, just because you get a girl pregnant doesn't mean you're a father."

I didn't quite understand what he was talking about

at the time. Years later, I understood what he was talking about.

My father taught me a lot, and most of the things had to do with money. He was very close to his money. Often, he would tell me, "Son, don't pay somebody to do something you can do yourself."

I understand that, but I also understand that, at times, it backfired on him. There were times when he was trying to fix something and made such a mess that he had to hire somebody to fix it, which cost him about three times as much as if we would've hired the person in the first place. He never talked too much about that, but I noticed it several times and probably more times than I noticed.

About a year before he died, he gave me his ring. He told me this ring was worth thousands of dollars and wanted me to have it. I was rather happy, but I'm the kind of person that does not like to wear money out in public.

After my father passed away, I took the ring and had it appraised. If this ring is worth thousands of dollars, I was not going to wear it; I would rather have the money and put it in the bank.

After appraising the ring, the person said that at most, it was worth \$100. That was far short of my father's evaluation. Why he believed it was worth thousands of dollars is beyond me. Maybe he was just trying to impress me. I still

wear that ring and think of my father.

My parents would come down to Florida as snowbirds every year and stayed not far from where I lived. For the last week of my father's life, I was with him, and most of the time, he was in a coma state. He was in bed and unresponsive.

Then, much to everybody's surprise, he woke up one day as though nothing was wrong with him. He had energy, got up and dressed, and friends came to visit him.

One of the things my father did was talk to me, "Son, I don't want to stay here in Florida. I want to get ready and go back to Pennsylvania. Can you drive me back tomorrow?"

We had a long discussion

about this, and I cheerfully said, "Oh, dad, of course, I'd be happy to drive you home tomorrow."

One of his friends overheard our conversation. Towards the end of the day, he took me out to the garage and had a rather straightforward conversation with me.

"Do you know how serious your father is? Do you know that he could never last that trip home?"

He then proceeded to tell me that as a son, I needed to be more considerate of my father's health. I should never jeopardize his health, and I should never agree take him home. That was too dangerous, according to my father's friend.

When he was done ranting about all this and quieted down, I explained what

was going on.

"I know how sick my father is," I said as seriously as possible. "I know that my father will not last more than a couple of days, and I do not want my last conversation with my father to be a vicious argument. Whatever he wants now, I am willing to go along with."

My father's friend looked at me and said, "I'm so sorry. I never thought of it like that." Pausing for a few moments, he said, "You are absolutely right to make your father happy in the last moments of his life. You are a good son."

We conversed for a few more moments, and then he went in to say goodbye to my father and went home.

See **FATHERS**, Page 15

Dallas Symphony Orchestra announces its 2022/23 season

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra announces tickets for the 2022/23 concert season go on sale this Friday, June 24 at 10 a.m., at www.dallassymphony.org. This will include all Texas Instruments Classical Series, Dallas Symphony Pops, Presented by Capital One, Holiday and Dallas Symphony Presents Concerts, and the Gould Family Organ Recital Series.

The on-sale will also include three newly-added concerts in the 2022/23 concert season. The world-renowned Canadian Brass will bring Canadian Brass: Making Spirits Bright for 50 Years and Counting! to the Meyerson on December 5, 2022. Canadian Brass is one of the most popular brass ensembles today.

On December 13, 2022, the DSO will present Soulful Messiah, a reinterpretation of Handel's Messiah. This performance will mark the 30th anniversary of the landmark album, Handel's Messiah: A Soulful Celebration, which won the Grammy in 1992 for Best Contemporary Soul Album.

The Unicorn's Birthday, a Sensory-Friendly Concert Celebration, premieres at the Meyerson Symphony Center on Saturday, June 3, 2023. The Dallas Sym-

phony Orchestra has commissioned Grammy-nominated and multi-platinum award-winning composer, Bob Singleton, to create a brand new sensory-friendly concert.

Season highlights from this year's Texas Instruments Classical Series include Fabio Luisi (Louise W. & Edmund J. Kahn Music Director) leading the DSO in programs of varied repertoire. He will conduct concerts featuring Strauss's Don Quixote (September 29 & October 2, 2022), Verdi's Requiem (November 10 + 12-13, 2022), Orff's Carmina Burana and Catulli Carmina (May 11-14, 2023) and more. The season will also the world premiere of Architecta by composer-in-residence Angélica Negrán as well as Katherine Balch's Cello Concerto.

As a part of the Dallas Symphony Pops Series, Presented by Capital One, and Dallas Symphony Presents series the DSO will perform an array of concerts including the popular movies-in-concert. Movies will begin with with E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial In Concert (September 2-4, 2022) and continue with Harry Potter & the Chamber of Secrets In Concert (October 28-30, 2022)

and finally, Home Alone In Concert (December 16-18, 2022.) Principal Pops Conductor Jeff Tyzik (Dot & Paul Mason Principal Pops Conductor Podium) will take the podium for Kings of Soul (March 10-12, 2023), Decades: Back to the '80s (April 14-16, 2023) and Nothin' But the Blues (June 23-25, 2023.) Vocalist Aida Cuevas, the Queen of Mariachi and one of the most important artists in Mexican music, will visit the Meyerson in a program conducted by Enrico Lopez-Yañez (September 9-11, 2022.) Lopez-Yañez will return later in the season to conduct Troupe Vertigo (May 19-21, 2023.) Vocalists Capathia Jenkins and Ryan Shaw will visit the DSO for Aretha: A Tribute, conducted by John McLaughlin Williams (Oct. 14-16, 2022), and Damon Gupton will lead the DSO in The Music of John Williams (Feb. 17-19, 2023).

The 2021/22 Gould Family Organ Recital Series welcomes renowned organists Cherry Rhodes and Christian Schmitt to the Meyerson.

Tickets for this season's holiday concerts, a beloved holiday tradition in Dallas, will also be available. Assistant Conductor Maurice

Cohn (Marena & Roger Gault Chair) will kick off the festive season with selections from Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker (November 25-27, 2022). The DSO is thrilled to welcome audiences back to the Meyerson this holiday season for Dallas Symphony's Christ-

mas Pops (December 2-11, 2022) and Dallas Symphony Family Christmas Pops (December 3 & 10, 2022) Home Alone In Concert (December 16 - 18), Canadian Brass (December 5, 2022) and Soulful Messiah (TBD). Audiences can ring in 2023 with the an-

nual New Year's Eve Concert led by Principal Guest Conductor Gemma New (Dolores G. & Lawrence S. Barzune, M.D. Chair).

Tickets may be purchased online at www.dallassymphony.org or by calling Guest Services at 214. TIX.4DSO.

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The Force of Faith



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An Experienced Champion: Did you know that the "Force of Faith" has the power to rejuvenate your physical body? It's true. You can see that in the life of Sarah. Most people don't understand the full extent of what God did in her life.

All they know is that He enabled her to have a child in her old age. But if you'll look closer, you will see that there was more to it than that. When Sarah laid hold of the promise of God by faith, it restored her physically to such an extent that when King Abimelech saw her, he wanted her for



his wife.

At 90 years old, she was so beautiful that a king wanted her in his harem. After she gave birth to Isaac, the Bible says, she nursed him till he was weaned. Then she kept right on living until that boy was raised!

I'm not telling you that you can have a baby at 90 years old like Sarah did.

She had a specific promise from God about that. But I am telling you that if you will believe God for renewed strength and health He will provide it for you.

In fact, Psalm 103 says that is one of His benefits. It says that God will fill your mouth with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagles.

God's desire for you is

that you are a powerful, experienced champion of the Word with your strength renewed by faith.

The Perfect Gift is: "A Hug!" -- I believe that a hug relieves tension; it will improve your blood flow; it reduces stress, and it is non-polluting. a hug helps self-esteem; it generates good will, and there are no batteries that are required.

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A hug will make you smile; and it helps you feel good. A hug will help you savor the moment; and it will help brighten your day.

A hug will help you to understand; it will make your heart glow; and it will help you to have more ups than downs.

A hug will help you move forward when others have tried to push you back; it will help you get up when you have fallen down; and it will help you see that your greatest disappointments and tragedies can be overcome. Give or receive one today.

Things To Ponder -- Live each day as though you may never see tomorrow; give the advantage, but never ask for it; be kind to all, but kinder to the less fortunate.

Respect all honest employment; remember always that your life is made easier and better by the service of others; and never forget to be grateful.

Be tolerant and never arrogant; treat all people with

equal courtesy; be true to God in all things; make as much as you can of your strength, God will help with the rest. And, make the most of every opportunity; and meet disappointment without resentment.

Be friendly and helpful whenever possible; do without display of temper or bitterness in all that fair conduct demands and keep your money free from cunning or the shame of a hard bargain; govern your actions so that you may fear neither reproach or misunderstanding, nor words of malice or envy; and maintain, at whatever temporary cost, your own self-respect.

(Editor's Note: This column originally ran in July 2015.)

FATHERS, from Page 14

The rest of that night, my father and I talked about how we would travel back home to Pennsylvania tomorrow. Whatever he said, I enthusiastically agreed, and we had a wonderful conversation.

The next day my father went back into that coma, and the following day he passed away.

I was so glad I had that conversation with my father before he passed away. A good son is a result of a good father. Although my father was not perfect, I learned a lot of life lessons from him and I'm only now beginning to appreciate all that he taught me.

Thinking about this I was reminded of a very special

verse of Scripture. "The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice, And he who sires [gives birth] a wise son will be glad in him" (Proverbs 23:24).

My goal in life is to be a reflection of my father to my children and grandchildren and all the people around me.

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, 1471 Pine

Road, Ocala, FL 34472. He lives with his wife in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

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