



North Dallas Gazette

"Most respected Voice of the Minority Community"

Visit us online at www.northdallasgazette.com

Inflation or Politics: Who's behind the price hikes?

By Lori Lee
NDG Contributor

Who is really to blame for inflation? Republicans blame Biden. Biden blames Putin, and economists aren't sure whether to blame constricted supply or excessive demand. Some accuse the American Rescue Plan for our dilemma. Many are playing the blame game when it comes to inflation. Who should we trust?

Truthfully, the current imbalance cannot be explained so simplistically, and it did not just happen overnight. A series of events have led up to this, beginning in the Spring of 2020, when businesses were closing their doors, and people were living in fear. The economy was in crisis. Government stimulus efforts, beginning in 2020, kept many afloat, but since a majority of our products came from China, reduced production and shipping bottlenecks led created drastic shortages, as demand pushed against constrained supplies.

Without the American Rescue Plan, Moody's Analytics predicts the American economy would have approached double-digit inflation. Some Americans most certainly would not have survived with it.



Yasmine Khalfalli / Unsplash

Countries in other parts of the world, like Germany, Britain, and Japan, are experiencing similar spikes in inflation post pandemic. Bloomberg reports, a huge factor is the cost of gasoline, noting when gas prices go up, everything that involves shipping costs more. Recent spikes in crude oil are partially attributable to the war in Ukraine, they explain, after much of the world cut off oil purchases from Russia--a major supplier of oil to European nations.

Despite that gas and shipping costs are cooling off, corporations would like the public to believe that spiraling inflation is due to conditions beyond their control. Corporations have been extremely

profitable, however, recently hitting a 70-year high and far surpassing elevated input costs like shipping, explains Dr. Rakim Nagood, Chief Economist and Managing Director of Policy and Research for the Ground Work Collaborative. Any added costs are being passed on to consumers. In fact, the Roosevelt Institute reports corporations are recently charging 72% over input costs compared to just 52% pre-pandemic.

The ability of corporations to keep prices high depends upon their market share, explains Nagood. In a market economy, where competition is limited, those with

See PRICES, Page 13



Blacks, hate crimes and money

- See Page 3



Mental Health and mothers' mortality rate

- See Page 4



Misgivings of a looming downturn

- See Page 5



Biden-Harris on mental health in schools

- See Page 6



Does anyone care about Black men, boys?

- See Page 8



'Nope' hits a few snags in storytelling

- See Page 9



Inflation is slamming Black America

- See Page 12



Sister Tarpley: The concept of time

- See Page 15

Inside...

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| People in the News | 2 |
| Op/Ed | 3 |
| Health | 4 |
| Community | 5 |
| Education | 6 |
| Northside | 7 |
| Entertainment | 9-10 |
| Marketplace | 11-12 |
| Career / Notices | 13 |
| Religion | 14-15 |
| NDG Book Review | 16 |



Scan to go to:
The NDGLive
YouTube
Channel
(and "Like" us)

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

For the latest news and events in DFW, follow us online:
www.northdallasgazette.com

People In The News ...



Sec. Marcia Fudge



Beyonce

NDG Quote of the Week: "Every time you state what you want or believe, you're the first to hear it. It's a message to both you and others about what you think is possible. Don't put a ceiling on yourself."
— Oprah Winfrey

Sec. Marcia Fudge

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced that it will provide \$2.8 billion in competitive funding to homeless services organizations across the country for supportive services and housing programs for people experiencing homelessness.

According to a news release, the funding opportunity reflects the Biden-Harris Administration's continued commitment to equity and evidence-based solutions to address homelessness.



It also reinforces the Administration's commitment to boost housing supply and lower costs by supporting local engagement to increase the supply of affordable housing.

"Every person deserves to live with dignity and security in safe, stable, and affordable home," HUD Secretary Marcia Fudge stated.

"Coupled with the historic resources in President Biden's American Rescue Plan, the Continuum of Care Program grants made available by HUD today will help more Americans experiencing homelessness move into homes and access critical supportive services like health care, education, and job training."

Fudge noted that HUD and the Administration continue to prioritize equity in homelessness efforts

and the humane treatment of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, and the funding announced would help communities do just that.

The Fiscal Year 2022 competitive funding will be awarded through HUD's Continuum of Care Program, the largest source of federal grant funding for homeless services and housing programs serving people experiencing homelessness.

Nearly 400 Continuum of Care communities apply for the NOFO each year. HUD funds approximately 7,000 homeless services

projects annually through the Continuum of Care Program.

As with prior NOFOs, Continuums of Care will have the opportunity to renew existing projects, apply for new projects, and to reallocate resources from lower performing projects to better serve people experiencing homelessness, HUD officials stated.

However, this year's NOFO includes some new opportunities.

In Fiscal Year 2022, access to the CoC Program has been further expanded for Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing

entities who are now invited to form CoCs and be designated as Collaborative Applicants.

Additionally, the NOFO contains explicit funding for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and youth.

The NOFO will provide at least \$52 million for new rapid re-housing, supportive services, and other activities critical to assist survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Approximately \$80 mil-

See FUDGE, Page 7

Beyonce

Beyoncé's new album, "Renaissance," has taken the world by storm as expected.

With a healthy helping of Chicago house music and classic 1970s disco, the New York Times called Renaissance a "tour of some of the genre's most well-known touchstones as well as more underground sounds."

"It is consciously steeped in dance-music history, cannily embracing decades of samples and sounds: the 1970s disco of Donna Summer and Chic, Jamaican dancehall, internet-speed hyper pop," Michaelan-



Jan Keys / Wikimedia

gelo Matos penned for the Times.

"She chose collaborators, references, and even specific keyboard sounds that pay homage to club-land memories while making her own 21st-century statement,"

Matos wrote.

The new tracks include songs like "Cozy," "Cuff It," "Energy," and "Break My Soul."

The album immediately soared to the top of Apple Music in 100 countries.

Sixteen of the top 21 songs on Apple Music are from Renaissance, and the debut enjoyed more than 43 million streams on Spotify — a new record.

"For at least the past decade, Beyoncé Giselle Knowles-Carter has been the world's greatest living entertainer," Rolling Stone wrote.

"Beyoncé really made this album for the club,"

journalist Vincent Desmond tweeted. "No matter how much you love 'Renaissance,' you are going to love this at least five times more if you hear the album or any of its songs in the club. It goes so crazy."

As noted by Pitchfork, Renaissance was announced as "Act I" of an upcoming saga, and the album's liner notes con-

firmed that Beyoncé would follow it up with at least two more "acts."

"She has said that all the music was made during a creative burst at the peak of COVID and that it was inspired by her children, her husband, and her team," Journalist Dylan Green wrote.

"But what could these multiple parts entail? One

theory: The music is the driving force behind Renaissance more than a specific narrative arc; if Act I is a culmination of various forms of Black music and their effects on pop across the 20th and early 21st centuries, it's possible that Act II and Act III might look at the way it moves in the present and forward into the future."

PO2 Kortney Wilkerson

PEARL HARBOR — A 2010 Desoto High School graduate and Dallas, Texas, native is serving in the U.S. Navy as part of the world's largest international maritime warfare exercise, Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC).

Petty Officer 2nd Class Kortney Wilkerson is a retail specialist aboard USS Chafee, currently operating out of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

A Navy retail specialist manages barber shops, tailor shops, ships' uniform stores, laundries and dry cleaning plants. They also see to the day-to-day necessities needed by every sailor and officer.

Today, Wilkerson uses



skills and values similar to those learned in Dallas.

"I learned to always be a leader and not a follower," said Wilkerson. "My dad served in the Navy and he taught me to help others, to never leave anyone behind and be a mentor to all."

As the world's largest international maritime ex-

ercise, RIMPAC provides a unique training opportunity that helps participants foster and sustain cooperative relationships that are critical to ensuring safety at sea and security on the world's oceans. RIMPAC 2022 is the 28th exercise in the series that began in 1971.

The theme of RIMPAC 2022 is Capable, Adaptive, Partners. The participating nations and forces exercise a wide range of capabilities and demonstrate the inherent flexibility of maritime forces. These capabilities range from disaster relief and maritime security operations to sea control and complex warfighting. The relevant, realistic training

See WILKERSON Page 6

COLLIN COUNTY
BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Open House

AUGUST 11, 2022
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
6600 Chase Oaks Blvd
Plano, TX 75023

Register at: <https://ccbcc.link/openhouse>



P.O. Box 763866 - Dallas, Texas 75736-3866

Phone: 972-432-5219 - Fax: 972-509-9058

“Do what you say you are going to do ... when you say you are going to do it.”

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**Chairman Emeritus**Jim Bochum
1933-2009**Religious / Marketing Editor**Shirley Demus Tarpley
("Sister Tarpley")**Chief Editor Emeritus**Ruth Ferguson
1965-2020**NDG Columnist**

Allen R. Gray

Published by

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Contributing Writers

Jackie Hardy

Lori Lee

Jacqueline Murphy

Dwain Price

Terri Schlichenmeyer

David Wilfong

Special Projects to the Publisher

Melineaze L. Curtis

Production

David Wilfong

NDG Obituary Dept.Vicky Richardson-Stewart
VP of Operations

North Dallas Gazette assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material and reserves the right to edit and make appropriate revisions.

The North Dallas Gazette, formerly Minority Opportunity News, was founded in July 1991, by Mr. Jim Bochum and Mr. Thurman R. Jones. North Dallas Gazette is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

African Americans, hate crimes and money



Dr. John E. Warren
Publisher,
San Diego
Voice &
Viewpoint

Recently, the California Department of Justice released a report which showed that African Americans are the greatest victims of Hate Crimes in the State. This is not surprising since we have always been the victims of Hate Crimes, with law enforcement seeking to underreport for fear of looking bad. At the writing of this editorial, there are more than 42 active investigations of shootings by law enforcement personnel in the State of California. This fact came to light recently as the San Bernardino Police Department attempted

to avoid an investigation of the shooting of Rob Adams, who was shot 7 times in the back on July 16th.

The reason for shooting this Black man while he was running away from police was because they thought he had a gun in his hand instead of the cell phone on which he was talking to his mother at the time he was shot. He was a Black man reported by a call to the police, in an area where there was supposedly a lot of gambling. The police, for their own sake, contend he had a gun instead of the cell phone.

Question: How many Black men have been killed so far by police because they had a cell phone in their hands, which police assumed was a gun? We can count at least three: one

here in San Diego county shot in broad daylight because of a cell phone in his hand, one killed in another state standing outside his garage with a cell phone in his hands that police thought was a gun. Now, Mr. Adams, who we are sure is just one more. Oh, let's not forget the young man in Minnesota who was shot in his car by an officer who thought she was reaching for her taser instead of her gun.

Now that everyone is aware of just how great Hate Crimes are against African Americans, are we going to be treated like the Asian community following what we clearly called a Hate Crime massacre at the Massage Spas in Atlanta, Georgia, or, to be more specific, here in California

where hundreds of thousands of dollars have been made available for grants to fight Hate Crimes, primarily in the Asian communities? While some Black media outlets received some of the funding, where is the similar grant allocation budget to fight Hate Crimes in the African American community beyond the State Attorney General announcing the creation of an office with a Black man over it, in response to this crisis?

Where is the money which makes the same level of commitment to the Black community that the State has made to the Asian Community? A public relations campaign without the dollars to match what has been done for the Asian community, is just window dressing.

Exploitative overdrafts strip \$15B from customers

By Charlene Crowell

Customers with bank and credit union accounts need to pay close attention to their monthly statements to identify multiple charges for overdraft fees.

Marketed and sold as a 'customer convenience,' overdraft fees are charged every time the cost of a transaction is more than a checking account balance. Averaging \$35 per usage, banks are bloating their profits – most often by exploiting the short-term cash needs of consumers who are usually just a few days away from their next deposit.

In return, banks and credit unions across the country rake in \$15 billion each year from cash-strapped customers with an average account balance of \$350 or less. More monetary misery is added by some banks' manipulative practices designed to maximize fees through delaying posting of account deposits, and/or reordering transaction.

It should be noted that some banks have voluntarily chosen to change or end

their overdraft programs. Consumer advocates applaud lenders who have taken steps to reduce these costly fees.

Yet there is no legal requirement for other institutions to do so. Some lenders continue to charge three or more overdraft fees of \$34 or more per day, often costing consumers more than \$100 in a single day. A typical debit card overdraft fee, the most common overdraft source, comes from a transaction of less than \$24, repaid within three days. Put in lending terms, a \$34 overdraft fee for a \$24 loan of three days is the equivalent of 17,000% APR.

As one consumer told the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), "\$35 is a lot of money for a person that doesn't have any."

There's nothing inherently wrong about a financial institution earning a fair profit. But there is nothing fair when billion-dollar institutions design products to prey upon people with the fewest financial resources – just to boost their bottom lines.

"Rather than competing on quality service and attractive interest rates, many banks have become hooked on overdraft fees to feed their profit model," said CFPB Director Rohit Chopra.

Other CFPB research has found that consumers who are charged more than 10 overdraft fees a year account for 75 percent of overdraft fees each year.

If you're thinking 'there ought to be a law', New York Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney agrees.

More than a year ago, she proposed the Overdraft Protection Act and was joined by 30 co-sponsors. Since that time, the number of co-sponsors has doubled to 60 and now include House colleagues representing 25 states including: California, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, and Texas. Companion legislation is also in the U.S. Senate.

The Overdraft Protection Act (H.R. 4277) would amend the Truth in Lending Act to strengthen fair and transparent bank practices. Among its provisions the

bill would require "reasonable and proportional" fees in relation to the amount of the overdraft, expand prompt and detailed customer notifications and/or statements, and provide customers the opportunity to cancel a transaction before incurring a fee.

Other research and advocacy bolsters Rep. Maloney's legislative goal. Congressional testimony from the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL) highlighted how consumers of color are harmed the most by ill-conceived institutional practices.

As part of a July 12 news conference convened by Rep. Maloney, Nadine Chabrier, a CRL Senior Policy Counsel, underscored the organization's legislative support.

"Legislation from Congresswoman Maloney and from Senators Booker and Warren would provide consumers with much-needed relief by reining in the cost and frequency of overdraft fees," noted Chabrier. "Congress should pass these bills."

Keep up with the news

O N L I N E

www.northdallasgazette.com

The often-overlooked mental health component of the growing problem of Black maternal mortality rate

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

With a maternal mortality rate of 55.3 per 100,000, Black women continue to outpace other ethnicities.

The rate per 100,000 births for white women stands at 19.1. For Hispanic women, the rate per 100,000 remains at 18.2.

While studies routinely examine the health and well-being of women, some suggest providers might ignore an essential symptom of a mother losing a child



Photo via NNPA

at, or before, birth.

“Mental health conditions, including depression and anxiety, are common during pregnancy and after birth. Twice as many pregnant Black women with low incomes experience

these conditions as white women,” said Dr. Huynh-Nhu Le, a professor in the Department of Psychological Services and Brain Sciences at George Washington University in D.C.

“Yet Black women are

much less likely than white women to receive mental health screening or treatment during and after pregnancy,” Dr. Le stated.

“Therefore, it is critical to address health and mental health concerns for Black women during and after pregnancy to close the gap in providing equitable mental health care.”

Research teams at Children’s National Hospital and George Washington University have pledged to compare usual care to patient navigation alongside mental health prevention

and treatment and peer-led support groups for women who are Black or of African descent during and after pregnancy.

The team wants to see how these options improve outcomes for women and their babies.

According to Dr. Le, researchers want to find and effectively treat low-income Black women receiving prenatal care and intervening early to help D.C. babies enjoy the strongest start in life.

“Maternal mental health conditions, such as anxiety,

perinatal, and postpartum depression are some of the most common complications of pregnancy and childbirth, stated Leah Sparks, the CEO and founder of Wildflower Health, a maternal health platform for women and their healthcare providers.

Sparks estimated that 1 in 5 women are affected, and 75 percent go untreated.

“This disproportionately impacts BIPOC women, who are less likely to seek mental health support due

See **MOTHERS**, Page 6

Flight attendant’s legal victory over illegal union-instigated firing exposes union boss targeting of dissenting employees

(Submitted by the National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation)

During former Southwest Airlines flight attendant Charlene Carter’s recently-concluded federal trial over her illegal firing at the hands of Southwest and Transport Workers Union of America (TWU), disturbing details emerged about the union’s treatment of employees who object to the union’s agenda. The trial ended in a unanimous jury verdict in favor of Carter which awarded her more than \$5 million in combined compensatory and punitive damages.

Carter’s Foundation staff attorneys filed a lawsuit for her in 2017 against the union and Southwest for illegally firing her for speaking out about her religious beliefs and against the union’s political activities. In January 2017, Carter learned that Audrey Stone, then union president, and other TWU Local 556 officials used union dues to at-

tend the “Women’s March on Washington D.C.” That event was sponsored by political groups Carter opposed, including Planned Parenthood.

The illegal firing occurred after President Stone reported Carter to Southwest for sending Stone online messages challenging Stone’s leadership and the political agenda the union hierarchy was pursuing. Carter’s opposition to union political activities included the TWU officials’ advocacy against a National Right to Work law which, if passed, would have allowed Carter to completely cut off financial support to the union.

Emails Show Union Militants Ridiculed Employees Who Didn’t Want to Fund Union Politics, Pushed ‘Targeted Assassinations’ for Union Dissidents

At the trial Carter’s attorneys introduced emails obtained in discovery that showed TWU higher-ups’ contempt for workers op-

posed to the union’s control. A 2014 email communication to Southwest’s then-Senior Director in Inflight Services, Sonya Lacore, from TWU union activist Brian Talburt had the latter advocating for “targeted assassinations” of union dissidents via social media. Lacore referred to Talburt as her “frequent pen pal” during her deposition prior to trial.

In the same email, Talburt labeled Corliss King, who later became a Local 556 executive board member, as “incredibly dangerous” because “She will play VERY well to the heavy inner city, minority crowd.” Talburt suggested there would be an “opportunity” for an assassination of King given what he described as her “dreadful work history.”

Also in the email, a union nonmember and frequent critic, Mike Casper, was referred to as a “cancer” that must be “eradicated.” Talburt also appears to call union critics “sheeple” and “cancer,” and says dis-

sent against the union is “a dangerous thing and must b [sic] eradicated when ever [sic] possible or it spreads... I highly encourage targeting people.”

Talburt later forwarded the email to TWU president Stone highlighting what he claimed was “off the record” promotion to Lacore of “targeted assas-

sination” of union critics. President Stone would then later target Carter with the complaint to company management that led to Carter’s illegal termination by Southwest.

President Stone also testified at trial to reporting other union opponents to Southwest, including the leader of the recall effort

whom Stone reported for criticizing her on social media for reporting Carter. Throughout 2017, Talburt repeatedly emailed Southwest management, asking that they discipline the recall leader and other union opponents for their protected activities.

See **UNION**, Page 13

Have Land You Need To Sell?

We Buy Land

No Commissions. No Fees.

Get Your Fair Cash Offer!

- Vacant House
- Fire Damage

- Estate Sale
- Behind on payments

CALL NOW
972-665-0170



Check us out on Facebook!

Like our page to stay current with all the news and events in DFW!



Fearing a recession, many express misgivings about a looming downturn

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

In the past, it hasn't always been clear when a recession loomed, let alone when it has already begun. However, the silver lining now is that, unlike in previous downturns, the Federal Reserve and the U.S. government have already taken action by making critical adjustments to fiscal and monetary policies to regulate economic activity.

"The United States currently has certain interim policies and tools, such as automatic stabilizers like the Earned Income Tax Credit and Unemployment Insurance that are automatically triggered to inject funds into the economy and don't require any government action to take hold in the event of a downturn," said Mila Garcia, a finance expert, and the founder of iPaydayLoans.

"And while such programs have proven effective,

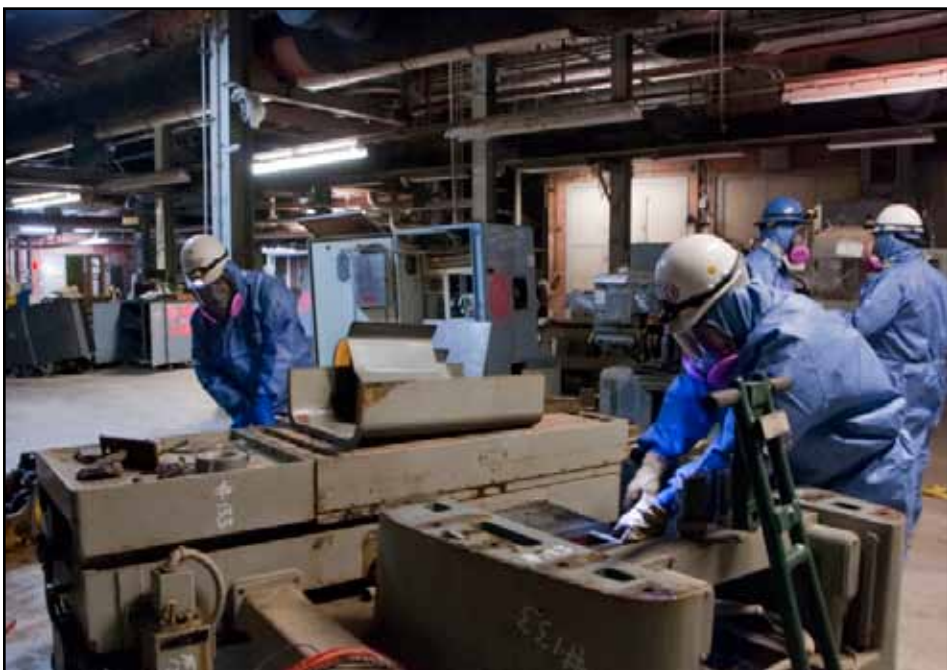


Photo via NNPA

they should have an even stronger effect with congressional action being taken alongside them. So, if a downturn does hit, we can at least expect to be less vulnerable to economic troubles than before," Garcia stated.

Amid rising inflation and concerns of a looming recession, many have shared their fears and what America should learn from the pandemic-induced economic downturn.

"Given that Americans are struggling to pay their medical bills, inflation is rising quickly at a pace of 9 percent, and gas and food prices are at all-time highs, this subject is one of the most popular and alarming ones for all Americans," said Rinor Zejna, a digital public relations specialist.

Zejna offered some findings from research regarding bankruptcy in the United States, noting that one in three Americans struggle to pay medical bills and 750,000 files for bankruptcy each year.

"Medical debt is the number one cause of bankruptcies," Zejna offered. "And 58 percent of Americans live paycheck to paycheck."

Home sales and building

have dropped substantially over the past year, and consumer confidence has fallen to its lowest point since the pandemic's beginning.

Still, President Joe Biden remains optimistic.

"Coming off last year's historic economic growth and regaining all the private sector jobs lost during the pandemic, it's no surprise that the economy is slowing down as the Federal Reserve acts to bring down inflation," Biden said in a statement.

"But even as we face historic global challenges, we are on the right path, and we will come through this transition stronger and more secure," the President continued.

He insisted that the job market remains historically strong, with unemployment at 3.6 percent and more than 1 million jobs created alone in the second quarter.

"My economic plan is focused on bringing inflation down without giving up all the economic gains we have made," Biden asserted.

"Congress has a historic chance to do that by passing the CHIPS and Science Act and Inflation Reduction Act without delay."

Still, corporations have experienced a decline in sales and earnings during recessions and continue to fear what may come.

According to reports, the average U.S. corporation's after-tax profit margin is around 16 percent.

In traditional recessions, the rate drops down to single digits.

Meanwhile, those corporations are collectively sitting on a record level of over \$4 trillion in cash.

"Companies may have raised these funds during the era of easy money and low-interest rates over the past decade," Vishesh Raisinghani wrote for Yahoo Finance.

"Now, this cash is acting as a buffer and could allow companies to retain staff despite the economic slowdown."

'Merchant of Death' offered in exchange for Brittney Griner, Paul Whelan

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

On the day she testified at her trial in Russia, Brittney Griner may have found herself closer to freedom and a return to the United States.

Several reports said the United States government has offered to swap the so-called "Merchant of Death" Viktor Bout for Griner and another imprisoned American, Paul Whelan.

Bout, who's serving a 25-year federal prison sentence and notorious for his desire to kill Americans, reportedly has been at the top of Russian President Vladimir Putin's wish list.

"We communicated a substantial offer that we believe could be successful based on a history of conversations with the Russians," a senior administration official told CNN. "We communicated that a number of weeks ago, in June."

The unnamed sources told the network that the planned trade received the backing of President Joe Biden after being under discussion since earlier this year.

CNN reported that Biden's support for the swap overrides opposition from the Department of Justice, which is generally against prisoner trades.

The families of Whelan, who Russia has held for alleged espionage since 2018, and WNBA star Griner, jailed in Moscow for drug possession since February, have urged the White House to secure their release, including via a prisoner exchange, if necessary, the report stated.

During her testimony, Griner told the court that she's still unsure how cannabis oil ended up in her luggage.

She said a doctor recommended cannabis oil for her injuries on the basketball court.

"I still don't understand to this day how they ended up in my bags," Griner said, adding that she was aware of the Russian law outlawing cannabis oil and that she had not intended to break it.

"I didn't have any intent to use or keep in my possession any substance that is prohibited in Russia," Griner said.

Detained in February, Griner said she had already been in Russia for several months before her arrest.

"My career is my whole life," she reflected as she faces up to 10 years in a Russian prison.

"I dedicated everything. Time, my body, time away from my family. I spent six months out of the year away from everybody, and with a huge time difference."

U.S. officials are awaiting word from the Russian government on whether

they will accept the swap.

"It takes two to tango. So, we start all negotiations to bring home Americans held hostage or wrongfully detained with a bad actor on the other side," an unnamed official told CNN.

The CNN report noted that Secretary of State Antony Blinken announced Wednesday that the United States presented a "substantial proposal" to Moscow "weeks ago" for Whelan and Griner, who

are classified as wrongfully detained.

The top U.S. diplomat said he intended to discuss the matter on an expected call with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov this week.

LEGAL NOTICE

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

| Game # | Game Name / Odds | \$ | Official Close of Game | End Validations Date |
|--------|--|------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 2385 | Show Me \$100,000 Overall Odds are 1 in 4.27 | \$5 | 9/14/22 | 3/13/23 |
| 2306 | Break the Bank Super Ticket™ Overall Odds are 1 in 3.80 | \$10 | 9/14/22 | 3/13/23 |
| 1838 | Instant Millionaire Overall Odds are 1 in 3.20 | \$20 | 9/14/22 | 3/13/23 |
| 2419 | Triple Play! Overall Odds are 1 in 4.36 | \$2 | 9/28/22 | 3/27/23 |
| 2203 | \$1,000,000 Extreme Cash Overall Odds are 1 in 3.53 | \$20 | 9/28/22 | 3/27/23 |

Texaslottery.com is the official source for all pertinent game information. Game closing procedures may be initiated for documented business reasons. These games may have prizes unclaimed, including top prizes. In addition, game closing procedures will be initiated when all top prizes have been claimed. During closing, games may be sold even after all top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. For help with a gambling problem, ncpgambling.org. © 2022 Texas Lottery Commission. PLAY RESPONSIBLY.

TEXAS LOTTERY

Biden-Harris announce new actions to address mental health in schools

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

The White House announced the awarding of the first of nearly \$300 million to expand access to mental health services in American schools.

President Joe Biden secured the funding through the bipartisan omnibus agreement to expand access to school mental health services.

Biden also plans to encourage governors around the country to invest more in school-based mental health services, administration officials said.



Photo via NNPA

“Our nation’s young people are facing an unprecedented mental health crisis. Even before the pandemic, rates of depression, anxiety and suicidal thoughts among youth were on the rise,” administration officials said in a release.

“The pandemic exacerbated those issues, disrupt-

ing learning, relationships, and routines and increasing isolation – especially among our nation’s young people.”

Officials said more than 40 percent of teenagers have reported that they struggle with persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness, and more than half of par-

ents and caregivers express concern over their children’s mental well-being.

“To address this crisis, President Biden put forward in his first State of the Union a comprehensive national strategy to tackle our mental health crisis, and called for a major transformation in how mental health is understood, accessed, treated, and integrated – in and out of health care settings,” officials stated.

Beginning in August, the Department of Education plans to start the process to disburse almost \$300 million Congress appropriated through both the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act and

the Omnibus to help schools hire more school-based mental health professionals and build a strong pipeline into the profession for the upcoming school year.

According to the news release, the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act will invest \$1 billion over the next five years in mental health supports in our schools, making progress towards the President’s goal to double the number of school counselors, social workers, and other mental health professionals.

The administration has allocated the funding to two critical programs.

Those include the Mental

Health Service Professional (MHSP) Demonstration Grant Program, which will provide over \$140 million in competitive grants to support a strong pipeline into the mental health profession, including innovative partnerships to prepare qualified school-based mental health services providers for employment in schools.

Additionally, the School-Based Mental Health (SBMH) Services Grant Program will provide over \$140 million in competitive grants to states and school districts to increase the

See SCHOOLS, Page 7

GREENWOOD, from Page 6

to stigmas around mental health and distrust in the healthcare system,” Sparks continued.

A recent March of Dimes report found that Black and Hispanic women experience 49 percent higher premature births, and African American babies are more than twice as likely to die before their first birthday.

“For patients who do seek mental health support, timely access can be a huge obstacle,” Sparks added.

“Recent reports cite patient wait times ranging from 1 to 3 months. Yet, at the same time, we’re seeing postpartum depression rates rising nearly three

times because of the pandemic.”

The connection between the mother’s overall health, particularly her mental health, and her baby’s development, cannot be overstated, insisted Kimberly Brooks, the program lead at HealthySteps DC.

“HealthySteps joins in the fight to close the gap in care for African American mothers,” Brooks asserted.

“We are committed to providing maternal mental health supports to African American mothers who often have limited access to Maternal Mental Healthcare.”

“When provided with

appropriate care and support, we see decreased depression increased social support, and increased self-efficacy.”

Giovanna Andrews, founder, and CEO of the nonprofit Harper’s Heart, noted that equitable maternal health care across racial, social-economic, and age borders continue to represent a significant problem in America.

“I have learned through research and community outreach that there are multilayered issues that many expectant individuals face,” Andrews remarked.

“From proper access to educational resources, unhealthy generational norms within particular sub-cul-

tures, lack of transportation and biased practices within the medical field, to name a few,” Andrews said.

Additionally, Andrews determined that diversifying healthcare leaders, creating a trustworthy relationship, and pairing social services within the healthcare field are keys to equitable healthcare.

“Diversifying doctors, nurses, social-service workers, etc., will help create a sense of trust and comfortability for the individuals. In addition, identifying and understanding the totality of the pregnant individual and the barriers they may face will help create an individualistic approach to healthcare prac-

tices,” Andrews stated.

“The trauma many individuals face before, during, and after childbirth can heighten the risk of Postpartum Depression and Anxiety. Therefore, proper mental health awareness and accessibility within the maternal journey are very important. As well as destigmatizing mental disorders particularly in Black and brown communities.”

Andrews continued:

“As a single African-American mother myself, I can speak firsthand on the ‘strong Black woman’ narrative that is weaved throughout my community.

“I had to unpack what mental triggers and traumas I faced throughout my

pregnancy journey that led to my PPD after birth.

“Unfortunately, many mothers that look like me are not fortunate enough to have exposure and or willing to partake in proper mental health care. Breaking down those barriers is critical for equitable healthcare.

“Though our country still has some of the highest death rates for mother and baby, the conversation, research, and work are happening in pockets of our country. It is important to support that work through awareness and funding to uplift and spread the mission of many change-makers in the community.”

WILKERSON, from Page 2

program includes gunnery, missile, anti-submarine and air defense exercises, as well as amphibious, counter-piracy, mine clearance operations, explosive ordnance disposal and diving and salvage operations.

“I’m looking forward to the show of community and a united front by all the countries involved,” said Wilkerson.

Serving in the Navy means Wilkerson is part of a team that is taking on new importance in America’s focus on rebuilding military readiness, strengthening alliances and reforming

business practices in support of the National Defense Strategy.

“We can get all the branches of the military anywhere in the world in a short period of time,” said Wilkerson.

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

Navy.

According to Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mike Gilday, four priorities will focus efforts on sailors, readiness, capabilities, and capacity.

“For 245 years, in both calm and rough waters, our Navy has stood the watch to protect the homeland, preserve freedom of the seas, and defend our way of life,” said Gilday. “The decisions and investments we make this decade will set the maritime balance of power for the rest of this century. We can accept nothing less than success.”

Hosted by Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, RIMPAC 2022 will be led by

Commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet, who will serve as Combined Task Force (CTF) commander. Royal Canadian Navy Rear Adm. Christopher Robinson will serve as deputy commander of the CTF, Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force Rear Adm. Toshiyuki Hirata as the vice commander, and Fleet Marine Force will be led by U.S. Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Joseph Clearfield. Other key leaders of the multinational force will include Commodore Paul O’Grady of the Royal Australian Navy, who will command the maritime component, and

Brig. Gen. Mark Goulden of the Royal Canadian Air Force, who will command the air component.

“I’m most proud of getting enlisted surface warfare (ESWS) qualified,” said Wilkerson.

ESWS qualifications are issued to U.S. Navy personnel who are trained and qualified to perform duties aboard United States surface warships.

During RIMPAC, a network of capable, adaptive partners train and operate together in order to strengthen their collective forces and promote a free and open Indo-Pacific.

RIMPAC 2022 contributes to the increased interoperability, resiliency and agility needed by the Joint and Combined Force to deter and defeat aggression by major powers across all domains and levels of conflict.

As a member of the U.S. Navy, Wilkerson and other sailors know they are part of a legacy that will last beyond their lifetimes providing the Navy the nation needs.

“Serving in the Navy means my family can sleep better at night knowing they are safe,” added Wilkerson.

Irving implements short-term rental registration program

The City of Irving recognizes the need to ensure that Short Term Rentals (STRs) operate in a way that protects the quality of life in neighborhoods.

The Irving City Council recently adopted an ordinance requiring that STRs operating within city limits be registered with the city by Oct. 1 to ensure the City of Irving can quickly contact STR owners when



City of Irving

issues occur. STR owners and operators can register properties starting Aug. 1 by visiting CityofIrving.org/STR.

Establishing and maintaining contact with STR

operators, who are often not living on the property, is critical. Concerns, such as property maintenance and rental guest activity that violates state laws or city codes, must be addressed and corrected swiftly.

For questions regarding STR licensing, contact Yessemeri Chavez in the Code Enforcement Department via email or by calling (972) 721-4944.

FUDGE, from Page 2

lion is available for non-competitive Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) renewal and replacement expiring grants.

Specifically, HUD is seeking projects that:

- End homelessness for all persons experiencing homelessness;

- Place emphasis on racial equity and anti-discrimination policies for LGBTQ+ individuals;

- Use a Housing First approach;

- Reduce unsheltered homelessness and reduce the criminalization of homelessness;

- Improve system perfor-

mance;

- Partner with housing agencies to leverage access to mainstream housing programs;

- Partner with health agencies to coordinate health and supportive services, including to prevent and respond to future infectious disease outbreaks;

- Advance racial equity and addressing racial dis-

SCHOOLS, from Page 6

number of qualified mental health services providers delivering school-based mental health services to students in local educational agencies with demonstrated need.

The White House said this will increase the number of school psychologists, counselors, and other mental health professionals serving our students. Some schools will gain mental health staff for the first time.

They said others will see this critical workforce expand.

“By increasing the number of qualified mental health professionals in our schools, and thereby reducing the number of students each provider serves, this program will meaningfully improve access to mental health services for vulnerable students,” officials asserted.

Other programs receiving funding include Fos-

tering Trauma-Informed Services in Schools, Expanding Mental Health Services Through Full-Service Community Schools, and Responding to Childhood Trauma Associated with Community Violence.

“In just 18 months, President Biden has invested unprecedented resources in addressing the mental health crisis and providing young people the supports, resources, and care they need,” administration officials stated.

parities in homelessness;

- Engage people with lived experience of homelessness in decision-mak-

ing; and

- Support local engagement to increase the supply of affordable housing.

Applications for the FY 2022 CoC Program NOFO are due to HUD on September 30, 2022.

MISSING

HELP BRING ME HOME

NCMEC: 1250770

Samantha Tapp



Missing Since: Oct 12, 2004
Missing From: Burleson, TX
DOB: Jul 25, 1988
Age Now: 34
Sex: Female
Race: White
Hair Color: Brown
Eye Color: Brown
Height: 5'4"
Weight: 120 lbs

Age Progressed



Samantha's photo has been age-progressed to 32 years. She was last seen on October 12, 2004. Samantha may go by the alias last name Vandiver.

DON'T HESITATE!

ANYONE HAVING INFORMATION SHOULD CONTACT

CALL 911 OR

1-800-843-5678 (1-800-THE-LOST®)
Burleson Police Department (Texas) 1-817-426-9910

This week marks the 34th birthday of missing child, Samantha 'Sam' Tapp. Sam went missing on October 12, 2004 from Burleson, Texas. The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children will be highlighting letters from Sam's sister, Kendale and her childhood best friend, Vanessa written to Sam.

The search for Sam has never stopped and her sister wants her to know that she will always love her and always continue to search for her.

In addition to the letter the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children completed an age progressed photo of Sam last year, this image represents what she may look like today.

If you have any information about the disappearance of Sam Tapp you are encouraged to call or text the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children at 1-800-843-5678 / 1-800-THE-LOST or call the Burleson Police Department 1-817-426-9910.

DART salutes 2022 Student Art Contest winners



Ava D., 6th Grade

Dallas, Charter



Agastya S., 3rd Grade

Coppell ISD

See more at DART.org/ArtContest



Does anyone really care about African-American boys and men?

By Dr. Salvatore J. Giorgianni, Jr., PharmD.

Senior Science Advisor, Men's Health Network and Dr. Jean Bonhomme, MD, MPH.

Founder of the National Black Men's Health Network



Over two and a half years ago, in the article "African-American Boys and Men in America Are Killing Themselves and No One Seems to Care," I wrote about the national disgrace that is the heavier toll of suicide facing African-American boys and men.¹ I said that in minority communities, people often misunderstand what a mental health condition is, and therefore, discussing the subject is uncommon. A lack of understanding leads many to believe that a mental health condition is a personal weakness or a form of punishment. African-Americans are also more likely to be exposed to factors that increase the risk for developing a mental health condition, such as discrimination, social isolation, homelessness, and exposure to violence.

What has changed - for better and for worse - since

then? Do African-American men and boys continue to have a higher death rate from suicide and violence than others? Is the male suicide rate in the United States still far higher than women? Is suicide still a leading cause of death for minority males? Are African-Americans still more likely to experience serious mental health problems than the general population? Sadly, the answer to all of these questions remains yes.

What has gotten worse? As I've said previously, African-American youth who are exposed to violence have a 25% higher risk of developing PTSD than non-Black youth. Violent crime rates in US cities have only increased since 2019.² This is especially

true amongst young African-American men. These two facts seem inextricably tied together: violence leads to PTSD; PTSD leads to violence, over and over again.

Minority access to mental health-related diagnoses and care is impeded by barriers and challenges that are also experienced by minorities who need addiction and recovery support and resources. There also seems a strong correlation between mental health issues and overdose rates. A recent JAMA study suggests that during the COVID epidemic, specifically from January 2019 through mid-2020, opioid overdoses decreased 24% among whites in Philadelphia. Conversely, opioid overdoses actually increased

amongst Black Philadelphians by over 50%.³ According to the U. S. Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health, only one third of Black adults diagnosed with mental illness receives treatment. According to the American Psychiatric Association's "Mental Health Facts for African-Americans" guide, Black adults are less likely to be included in research and receive quality care, while being more likely to use an emergency room as primary care.

I recently spoke with Dr. Jean Bonhomme, founder of the National Black Men's Health Network, who relayed to me some other startling recent statistics. In 2020, African-Americans made up about 13.5% of the U.S. population, while they also made up over 55% of homicide victims, with a more than a 65% increase in homicides relative to 2019. Other

stark figures that Dr. Bonhomme shared were from a recent CDC study.⁵

In the same period--2019 through 2020--drug overdose death rates for non-Hispanic Black persons increased by 44%, while for non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native (AI/AN) persons the drug overdose death rates increased by 39%. Other numbers that jump out include the 2020 death rate from overdose among Black males aged ≥ 65 years (52.6 per 100,000) as being nearly seven times that of non-Hispanic white males of a similar age. Meanwhile, treatment for substance use was at the lowest for Black persons (at 8.3%).⁶ One factor in the mental health crisis disproportionately facing the Black community is shown in data from the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors. This data indicates that the num-

ber of people admitted to psychiatric hospitals (and other residential facilities) in the US declined from 471,000 in 1970 to 170,000 in 2014.⁷ This reduction in the availability of a potential intervention opportunity appears to have led to growth in incarceration and similar non-therapeutic interventions, which, in the absence of these other options, take the place of actual psychiatric help. We must also consider that the life circumstances of young black men must also be the driver of many of these differences and disparities. Out of decency alone, the US needs to find a way to identify and target systemic changes to benefit these populations, which have the most urgent need.

Data like this can seem overwhelming, but this only highlights how disparities tend to cascade

See CARE, Page 14

JUBILEE THEATRE PRESENTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PERFORMING ARTS FORT WORTH

DREAMGIRLS

Book and Lyrics by TOM EYEN Music by HENRY KRIEGER Directed by D. WAMBUI RICHARDSON Musical Direction by STEVEN A. TAYLOR Photography by QUINTON WINSTON

AUGUST 11-14 • BASS HALL

BASSHALL.COM • CALL 817-212-4280 • GROUPS 817-212-4248

Presented by arrangement with Soto-Ortiz, A Concord Theatricals Company (www.sotoortiz.com)

INFORM DALLAS

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP EVENT

Building a trauma-informed city through CONNECTION, COMPASSION, and COMMUNICATION.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2022 2PM - 4PM

A unique opportunity to connect with Dallas-area community partners working to support at-risk youth.

PANELIST

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
|  ANTONG LUCKY Urban Specialists |  KAREN HUGHES Vogel Alcove |  MAXIE JOHNSON DISD Board Member |  JUDGE AMBER GIVENS 282 Judicial District Court |
|  KAREN RILEY City of Dallas |  MELINDA RUSS Men of Nehemiah |  RAND CARLSON Men of Nehemiah |  CALVIN JOHNSON Defense Attorney |

Join in conversation on resolving trauma-related issues and opportunities to get involved!

Followed by a Networking Reception

RSVP NOW!!

www.beyondvisionary.org/forum

AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM OF DALLAS
3536 Grand Ave. Dallas, TX 75210
#INFORMDALLAS #SUMMEROFHEALINGDALLAS #BEYONDIVISIONARY

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY RECORDING ARTIST ZACARDI CORTEZ

Film Review: 'Nope' is an interesting concept, but sometimes a drag

By Dwight Brown
NNPA Film Critic

(**1/2) It came from outer space. Or somewhere.

Something's hovering over Otis Haywood's (Keith David, Barbershop) ranch in SoCal's parched Santa Clarita Valley. Otis comes from a long line of horsemen and is a noted animal wrangler for TV and film. His son OJ (David Kaluuya, Get Out) works beside him and his stallions. That thing in the sky looks like it's swooping things up and propelling things down. They better be careful...

Jordan Peele has twisted the horror genre in several directions. In this instance, he veers off the path a bit, spending an inordinate amount of time setting up moments of dread. Yes, there is some gore. Yes, bodies fly up and things are hurled down. Yes, some people are maimed or sucked away. But not in a well-measured out way.

Clocking in at 2h 10m, some may wish that Peele's script was more taut and the footage a bit tighter (editor Nicholas Mansour, Us). That each moment was connected to something vital. Instead, there is lot of space in between the beats. You spend more time waiting to be scared and shocked than being scared and shocked. And those shocks are accentuated by very loud sounds (sound designer Johnnie Burn). Noises that sometimes overshadow the visual effects.

And who is causing all the terror is never that clear, though their intentions are. OJ: "Ghosts out there acting

all territorial." The unidentified flying object that causes all the fright looks like a prop from a 1960s "Twilight Zone" episode—or a round casserole dish with a lid. In ways that's campy and old school. In ways it doesn't hold a candle to other space oddities that have hovered over earth in movies like Arrival.

OJ and his overly ram-bunctious and slightly annoying younger sister Emerald (Keke Palmer, Akeelah and the Bee) hatch a scheme to try and document the UFO. A helpful and kinetic electronics store clerk (Brandon Perea, American Insurrection) and a nearly retired and very mystical cinematographer (Michael Wincott, Westworld) join their team.

Ricky "Jupe" Park (Steven Yeun, Minari), a ring-master, runs a nearby family-themed cowboy park named "Jupiter's Claim." There are clashes between the Haywoods and the park folks. Jupe's beef with the UFO is murky. The Haywood's prime impetus for charting the mysterious object is monetizing their 15 seconds of reality fame. That's an error. Vengeance would have been a far more primal and compelling motive.

Debates will rage about the red herring storytelling, lapses and effects. But no one will argue about the spectacle. The Santa Clarita Valley setting is a gorgeous and biblical canvas. Taupe colored sands and hills. Sparse vegetation. An ever-present sun. The impressive, photogenic geography is as iconic as the Durango,

Mexico setting in John Houston's classic The Treasure of the Sierra Madre. The moments when OJ

gallops on horseback over dusty terrain are indelible. And though the UFO itself may be dinky, visions of


victims being sucked into it and churned up like ground beef will mess with viewers' heads.

When you hire cinematographer Hoyte Van Hoy-


See NOPE, Page 16



Daniel Kaluuya, Keke Palmer and Brandon Perea costar in Nope.
(Courtesy photo)



WHAT'S YOUR WARRIOR?
GOARMY.COM/ROTC



**START YOUR CAREER
A STEP AHEAD.**

Begin your journey as a U.S. Army officer, and set off on a path to the top. Officers get leadership opportunities right away, all while enjoying benefits like competitive pay and a clear path to advancement. Join forces with us, and take on anything.

For more information, please contact Mr. Eddie Smith at the TCU Army ROTC program at 817-257-6461 or visit goarmy.com/rotc/tcu.

©2020. Paid for by the United States Army. All rights reserved.

First-ever app connects entertainment professionals with early release

(PRLog) tap., a global marketplace, today announced the early release of its new app for iOS and Android mobile devices. The early release of the mobile app showcases the company's forward-thinking in developing the most innovative tools for entertainment professionals and consumers.

With a centralized database of more than 10,000 representing Oscar-winning industry executives, film distributors, top billed actors and actresses, publishers and more. As the entertainment market continues to grow with the inclusion of influencer marketing, tap. is leading the way in the development of a central global marketplace to help entertainment professionals collaborate and work together.

"tap. is shifting the way entertainment professionals

can get connected and build upon their careers in a way never seen before" says Jean-Que Dar, Founder and CEO. "tap. has helped thousands of professionals connect and with the latest features added to the app, it has created a seamless experience for both the pro and executives to collaborate.

Innovative features on tap's mobile app include:

- State of the art technology. tap.'s mobile app includes a 360-degree view of every profile user.

- Optimized news-feed. Known as the "Access Feed," tap.'s mobile app features a continuous thread of opportunities from creator profiles, prospect mentors and collaborators directly from industry insiders.

- Streamlined contact. tap.'s mobile app includes DMT, the Deal Message

Thread, that conveniently connects users directly with access to payments, contracts and NDA's.

- Easier and faster access to entertainment connects. tap.'s mobile app provides a growing global database that helps clients on next with any artist, at any time—no matter the geographical location.

- Ability to book talent or crew immediately. tap.'s mobile app allows users to quickly hire talent or crew at the convenience of their fingertips. tap. helps to locate the best replacement available and nearby to reach their desired project needs in a timely manner.

- Vetted Entertainment Pros. tap.'s mobile app has combined the best of both worlds-- social networking exclusively for entertainment pros and Hollywood insider access. With an ex-

tensive database of Oscar winning filmmakers & winners, Emmy Award recipients, and the World's most elite in entertainment, credibility is at the fore-front of tap access for users.

- Protected payment and access. tap.'s mobile app features Art Pay, the unique mobile payment systems that protects user information and escrow payments to ensure quality performance is achieved.

tap.'s launch of the new app is the first step of many new and innovative ways that the company expands on access to the global entertainment network. tap. is dedicated to transforming it organization to become a leader in entertainment professional networking.

To learn more, please visit <https://www.artistepro.com>. To join the community, visit <https://tap.ec/>.

Search connections

Find or be found in the entertainment industry.

Annette Black

Producer Actor Director



Connected by Sunny Vechter

Albert Flores

Producer Executive



Connected by House of Cards Luke Cage



Kristin Watson

Director Producer

Connected by Schenck's List



Leslie Alexander

Actor Producer

Connected by Truth be told The Help



Cameron Williamson

Actor Producer Executive

Connected by Once Upon a Time... in Hollywood

Will Smith issues apology to Chris Rock and family for Oscars slap

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

Will Smith said he was "fogged out" and that he's finally reached out to Chris Rock to formally apologize the infamous March 27 Oscars slap.

"It's all fuzzy," Smith said in an Instagram video posted on July 29.

"I've reached out to Chris and the message that came back is that he's not ready to talk. And when he is, he will reach out."

While Rock presented the Oscar for best documentary at the 2022 Academy Awards ceremony, Smith took exception to the comedian's comments about Jada Pinkett Smith's shaved head. Pinkett Smith had revealed she has alopecia.

After some uncomfortable laughter, Smith emerged from his seat, approached Rock during the live telecast, and slapped the star.



"Keep my wife's name out of your [bleeping] mouth," Smith yelled out at Rock.

"Anyone who says words hurt has never been punched in the face," Rock said during a standup a day before Smith's Instagram video surfaced.

It was the first time that Rock had directly addressed the incident.

"I'm not a victim. Yeah, that s— hurt," Rock remarked. "But I shook that s— off and went to work the next day. I don't go to the hospital for a paper cut."

In Smith's new video, he also apologized to Rock's mother and brother Tony Rock.



"That was one of the things about the moment. I just didn't realize," Smith recounted.

"I was thinking but how many people got hurt in that moment. I want to apologize to Chris' mother," he continued. "I want to apologize to Chris' family, specifically Tony Rock. We had a great relationship. You know, Tony Rock was my man, and this is probably irreparable."

Smith also refused to lay any blame on his wife.

"I made a choice on my own, from my own experiences from my history with Chris," Smith stated. "Jada had nothing to do [with it]."

He also noted how his

actions detracted from his best actor win and other nominees and winners.

"It really breaks my heart to have stolen and tarnished

your moment," Smith asserted.

"Sorry isn't really sufficient. But I promise you, I am deeply devoted and

committed to putting light and love and joy into the world. And if you hang on, I promise we'll be able to be friends again."

Curse OF THE PUERTO RICANS

Written by Rosa Fernandez

AUGUST 11 - 28, 2022



Bishop Arts Theatre

215 S. Tyler St.
Dallas, TX 75208

(214) 948-0716
bishopartstheatre.org

UNION, from Page 4

Emails unearthed by Foundation attorneys and introduced at trial also showed the contempt that Southwest and TWU officials had for Carter specifically because she opposed union political activities. After Carter sent an email to TWU Local 556 Treasurer John Parrot demanding that the union stop deductions from her paycheck for the union's Political Action Committee (PAC), Parrot forwarded Carter's request to several union agents, saying "Ha! She has been supporting the thing she despises this entire time..."

One respondent to Parrot's forward was Todd Gage, a TWU Local 556 Vice President, who wrote: "I wish I could give her a list of all the campaigns she has donated to in the last 17 years! Her head would explode." Local 556 Second Vice President, Brett Nevarez, said "so typical bat****/dip**** cannot read her paycheck!"

Foundation Attorneys Will Continue to Defend Carter

Despite the unanimous jury verdict for Carter, Southwest and TWU union officials have announced that they will appeal. Foundation staff attorneys will continue to defend Carter.

"Ms. Carter demonstrated that, even in an overwhelmingly toxic environment, independent-minded workers can stand up, push back against union boss attacks on individual rights and free speech, and win," commented National Right to Work Foundation President Mark Mix. "The evidence presented at Carter's trial reveals an ingrained union culture of intimidation and prejudice against dissident workers. While we will keep fighting to defend Ms. Carter's victory for her rights, flight attendants or other employees who have experienced similar hostility should not hesitate to contact the National Right

to Work Foundation for help in defending their rights."

"Federal law governing labor relations in the air and rail industries allows union officials to demand workers fund their activities as a condition of employment," Mix added. "TWU union officials' attacks on em-

ployees who disagree with the union's agenda are the unsurprising result of a system in which workers do not have even the simple power to withhold dues when union officials violate their rights — an accountability mechanism Right to Work protects."

CASH TODAY!!!

Fair Price Offer For Oil and/or Gas Royalty
Small "NET" Revenue Interest



No Matter How Small

Fax Information To:
972-509-9058

Call:
972-665-0170
(Leave Message)

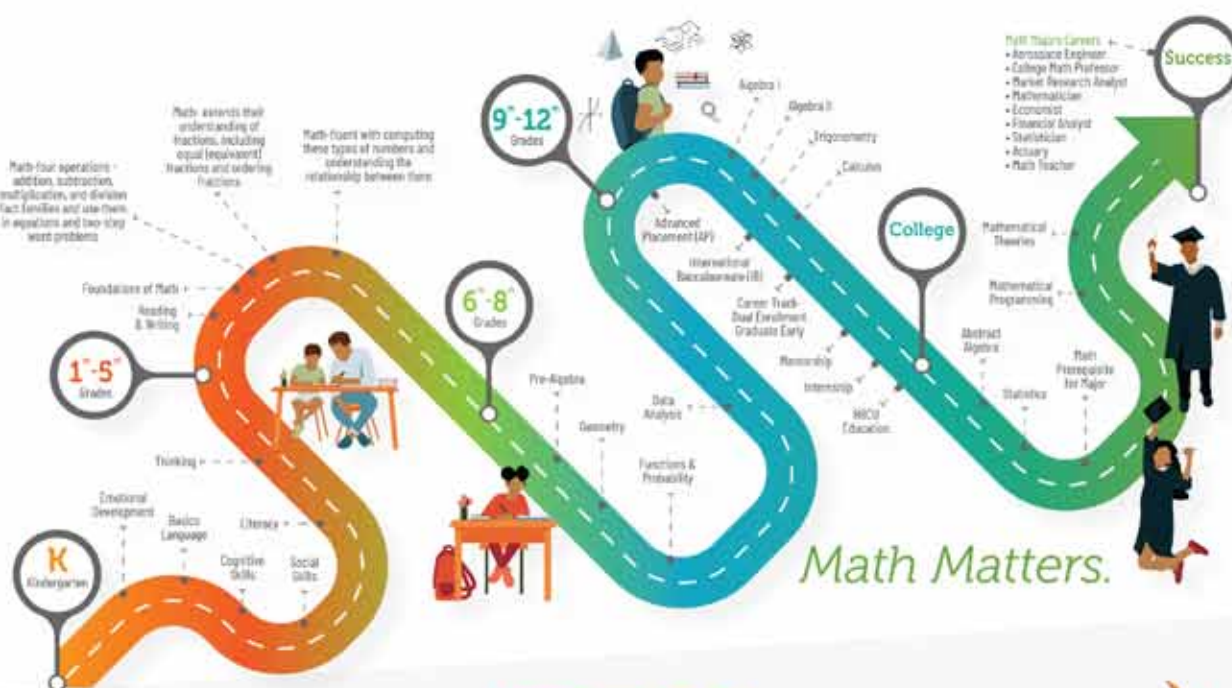
Email:
inquiries1909@gmail.com

Cellco Partnership and its Controlled Affiliates Doing Business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to construct a 43-foot small cell communications towers at the vicinity of 6361 Gaston Avenue Dallas, Dallas County, Texas 75214. Lat: [32-48-48.77], Long: [-96-45-12.05]. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: *Trileaf Corp, Alexis, a.humphrey@trileaf.com, 2550 S. IH-35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704, 512-519-9388.*

Learn. NAVIGATE. Succeed.

Every decision you make will enable your child to navigate learning opportunities from K-12 through college.

FOLLOW THE PATHWAY TO CAREER SUCCESS.



Learn more at
WWW.NNPA.ORG/Education

© 2022 NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION



Inflation slamming Black America hard as families struggle with necessities

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

Black households are more exposed to inflation fluctuations than their white peers, according to a study published by the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.

The differences, while not overwhelming, are not trivial either, the study authors wrote.

For example, if prices paid by white households increase by 7 percent over a year, calculations by researchers suggest that one may expect them to increase by 7.5 percent for Black families.

"In our research, we examine how this informs the trade-off between inflation and unemployment stabilizing a more significant portion of their income on goods and services with prices that change more often.



The differences, while not overwhelming, are not trivial either, the study authors wrote. (Ayo Ogunseinde / Unsplash)

ization for White and Black households," the study authors explained.

"The result implies that when evaluating trade-offs between inflation and unemployment, one ought

to keep in mind that the costs of inflation may be borne disproportionately by the more disadvantaged group."

With gas, food, and other prices rising, the authors

concluded that necessities such as groceries, electricity, and wireless phone service make up a larger share of Black families' budgets.

The study said that Black households are also spend-

ing a more significant portion of their income on goods and services with prices that change more often.

The result, according to researchers, isn't a mystery: "Black families will suffer the worst effects of rising inflation because they lag behind their White counterparts in income, wealth, financial savings and home ownership."

"Black families, especially those without an employed college graduate, are affected the most by inflation compared with all the other demographics," said Ellie Walters, the CEO of Findpeoplefaster.com.

"Necessities like groceries, accommodation, gas, electricity bills, and phone bills eat up most of their income, leaving them with

fewer savings since most of them fall within the low-income groups," Walters stated.

She said Black families are affected by even the slightest increase in price, and with the rising recession, many might have to live without most of these necessities.

"A large number of Black families live paycheck to paycheck and cannot easily escape the constantly increasing wealth gap between them and the other demographics, especially the white," Walters remarked.

"Inflation often makes this dilemma worse, since during inflation, wages are cut, and workers are laid off. These low-income

See INFLATION, Page 13



Ed Bell Construction Company

An Equal Opportunity Employer

August 1, 2022

Ed Bell Construction is a Dallas based heavy highway contractor doing business in the North Texas market since 1963. With clients such as TxDOT, Dallas County Public Works, and the Cities of Dallas, Fort Worth, Richardson, and Mansfield (plus many others), we have a strong backlog of work in the highway market locally.

We are currently hiring for the following positions:

- Pipelayer (Underground)
- Dozer Operator (Earthwork)
- Roller Operator (Earthwork)
- Form Setter (Structures, Paving)
- Boom Mobile Crane Operator (CDL)
- Concrete Finisher (Paving, Structures)
- CDL Drivers (Water Truck, Haul Truck)
- Laborer (Earthwork, Underground, Paving)
- Loader Operator (Earthwork, Underground)
- Excavator Operator (Earthwork, Underground)

Available: multiple openings

Rate: Negotiable

Must have own transportation

Years of Experience required will vary, from 6 months to 2 years (depending on position)

Physical and Drug Screen Required

Must have a Clear Background

Must be at least 18 years old (CDL Driver, 21 yrs)

**Must apply in PERSON, Monday – Friday from 8am to 11am
@ 10605 Harry Hines Blvd.**

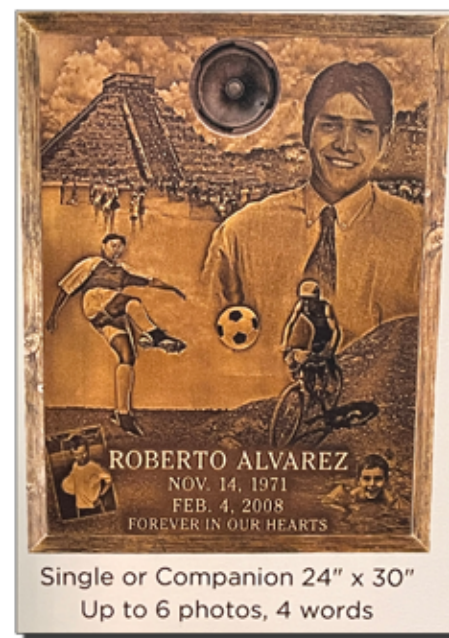
**Please visit our website: www.edbellconstruction.com/careers
Or email your resume to: careers@edbellconstruction.com**

"For Sale at Discount" Laurel Land Memorial Park - Dallas

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

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

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



Single or Companion 24" x 30"
Up to 6 photos, 4 words

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

INFLATION, from Page 12

earners, largely made up of Black community members, are trapped by an economic cycle that seems rigged against them.”

Ronda Brunson, an expert in financial planning and credit restoration at Project Restore Bmore, agreed that Black households would continue to feel the impact of rising inflation.

“Most Black homes with car notes are paying double-digit interest rates, same for

credit cards. Yet, we are not conditioned to go for better but to be grateful for whatever approval without contesting,” Brunson asserted.

“If I am already paying three times more than you for the same vehicle, then of course, when inflation occurs, I’m going to feel it first.”

According to the Brookings Institute, the median wealth of a white household is \$188,200, which is 7.8 times more than the

average Black household at \$24,100.

Two years ago, the homeownership rate for white Americans was about 73% compared to 42% for Black Americans.

William Thomas of Butler Associates said money problems remain a concern for all, although Black and Brown communities feel the pain more acutely.

Thomas offered what he said were four simple things people can do to navigate tough inflationary times.

“Make a budget, reduce any unnecessary expenses for the time being, which means assessing needs versus wants,” Thomas asserted.

“[Also], identify a Community Development Financial Institution in your area and seek financial advice from a professional. This action may support better financial choices while navigating through uncertain financial times. Finally, stick to the plan created.”

Thomas advised that

when it comes to reducing expenses, evaluate every item you purchase and ask, “Is this a need or want to have item?”

He said sacrificing is essential to achieving success. This may mean brand switching for groceries and planning to switch on your phones.

“The ultimate budgeting goal is to save the savings from your plan so you can stock your bank account with a healthy cushion for important occasions like birthdays, holidays, start-

ing a business, or a rainy-day fund,” Thomas continued.

“The best approach is to work with a trusted financial advisor, especially loan officers at your local community bank. Your local lender understands how important it is to access capital.

“Leverage their expertise to help craft a strong plan using accessible, affordable financial products to assist the effort to save while building credit and deflating the impact of inflation.”

PRICES, from Page 1

a large market share can maintain high prices as long as Americans continue to pay them. On the other hand, small businesses typically don’t have the luxury of price setting but more often must swallow increasing input costs.

Sadly, less than 8% of current inflation is attributable to rising labor costs, explains the Economic Policy Institute. This hits lower income groups the hardest, especially those who lack transportation options amidst rising gas prices. Chad Stone, Chief economist at the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities reports, “[w]ages are not driving inflation and workers at the bottom of the pay scale have not benefited from the job growth.”

How to reign in an imbalanced market is unclear. Dallasnews.com reports that the President recently called on gas companies to lower prices, while pointing out how out of sync their prices are in relation to their costs. He also called out the meatpacking industry for price gouging. Yet, there is only so much power in the bully pulpit in a market motivated by profits.

The Fed continues to raise interest rates, encouraged doing so will stop wage growth and dampen inflation, essentially freezing the economy until prices settle, analysts note.

Yet textbook solutions have proved irrelevant post pandemic. Explains Gerome Powell, the Fed perhaps waited too long to raise interest rates because recent supply shocks did not resolve post-pandemic, as they have historically.

Inevitably, raising interest rates will hurt the ability of those of lower incomes. Further, it will prove effective only if our economic problems lie less in supply shortages than in excess supplies of money. Such money could be saved awaiting a drop in interest rates, which some analysts project in 2023.

There is some good news based on data from the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Business Cycle Dating Committee. Based on the committee’s definition of recession as “a significant decline in economic activity that is spread across the economy and that lasts more than a few months,” the committee reports growth in both real income and production. That is, considering employment, real personal income (minus government transfers), real consumer spending, and industrial production data, and despite inflation, production and real spending have continued to grow during the period beginning with the pandemic and through the first half of this year.



GARLAND
TEXAS MADE HERE

**Attention Suppliers of Goods,
Services and Construction**

Review Competitive Opportunities at
<https://garlandtx.ionwave.net>

www.garlandpurchasing.com

972-205-2415

CBS Insurance Services, LLC
7125 Marvin D. Love Frwy., Suite 302
Dallas, Texas 75237

**Looking for A Career Change
Then We Need You!!**

If you’re looking for full or parttime work with flexible hours, income ranging from \$800.00 to \$2,000.00 plus weekly. No Experience Needed we will license and train.

For more information call (214) 238-6855
Ask for Shun
Email: info@cbsolutionsplus.com

TISEO PAVING COMPANY

419 E. Hwy. 80, Mesquite, TX 75150
Tel: (972) 289-0723 Fax (972) 216-5637
www.tiseopaving.com

**Performing Concrete Street Paving
in the Metroplex Area**
**We Accept Subcontracting Bids
For All Public Works Projects
in the Dallas Area.**
We Are Accepting Applications for Concrete Mixer Drivers and Heavy Equipment Mechanics

Equal Opportunity Employer



**DO YOU WANT AN EXCITING AND
REWARDING CAREER?**

**PURSUE A CAREER AS A POLICE
OFFICER OR FIREFIGHTER!**

- Competitive wages
- Array of benefits
- Education incentive pay
- ...and more

**REGISTER ONLINE TO TAKE
THE CITY OF IRVING’S NEXT
CIVIL SERVICE ENTRANCE EXAM**

www.cityofirving.org

The City of Irving does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

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.

Do I Need to Repeat That?

By James L. Snyder

Of all the holidays during the year that I like, my birthday is at the bottom of the list. Now that I'm at my current age, I prefer not to be reminded that I'm getting older. All a birthday does for me is tell me I'm just getting older. Who wants to be reminded of that?

Then, the worst part of a birthday is all the candles on the top of the cake.

I'm not sure who came up with the idea of putting candles on a birthday cake. They probably were having a very slow day and didn't have anything more to think about.

When I was young, a birthday cake with candles was very exciting. Now that I am older, I don't have as much excitement in celebrating my birthday. A

birthday cake with candles only reminds me that I'm old. Thanks a lot!

When I was young, they would put as many candles on the cake as my birthday. Now, they can't find a cake big enough to contain all my candles. Thanks a lot!

The problem with celebrating your birthday is everybody asks you that one horrible question. "How old are you this year?"

I usually tell them I'm 12 months older than last year, but that doesn't float any balloons on my birthday.

One thing happened this year on my birthday, which was sad. My uncle, who was 91, died in the hospital. So in a sense, he did me a favor because now, on that birthday, people will talk about my uncle's death and his memories rather than how old I am. If I see him in heaven, I will shake his

hand and say, "Thanks."

As usual, this year, on my birthday, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I went out to celebrate at our favorite restaurant. At first, I was afraid she would tell the waitress that it was my birthday, and then they would all gather around and sing happy birthday to me.

Fortunately for me, that did not happen. That was one birthday present that I really enjoyed.

We had a very lovely dinner together, and as we were finishing our dessert, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage looked at me rather strangely and said, "Do you feel old?"

I'm not sure what she meant by that, but looking at her, I reached out, took hold of her arm, gently squeezed it, and said, "I feel old now."

I was smiling, but she was not smiling. I'm still smiling about that.

It's not every day that I can catch her on a question like that.

When I got over that little routine, I looked at her and said, "Do you mind if I ask you a very serious question on my birthday today?"

I don't always get an opportunity to ask questions, so I thought this would be a good birthday present.

"Of course," she said, looking at me smiling. "Ask me any question you want to ask."

I should've known she was setting me up, but it was my birthday, and I thought birthdays carry certain exemptions.

"Okay," I said as seriously as possible. "I've read where the average woman speaks 20,000 words a day, and the average man speaks

only 7,000 words a day. Can you tell me why?"

She looked at me very sternly and said, "Do you want to celebrate another birthday?"

I knew I was in trouble, but then she cleared her throat and said, "I'll answer that question for you. This will be my birthday present to you this year."

Maybe, just maybe, I escaped persecution along this line.

"It is a very simple question to answer." She cleared her throat, looked at me with one of her looks, and said, "The reason a woman speaks 20,000 words a day and a man speaks only 7000 words is because the woman has to repeat herself three times before the man hears what she is saying."

With that, she stared at me and said, "Do I need to

repeat myself?"

Because one of the things on my bucket list was celebrating another birthday next year, I soberly shook my head and said, "No, you don't."

Fortunately for me, the waitress came with our check, and I got up, took it to the cashier, and paid for our dinner.

I wished I had never asked that question and hoped she would also forget it.

I paid a heavy price for that question for the next several days. Every time The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage asked me anything, she always concluded by saying, "Do I need to repeat myself?"

This was the most expensive birthday present I ever received.

See REPEAT, Page 15

CARE, from Page 8

through any system, like an engine with one worn part eventually damaging another. The United States has deferred system-wide maintenance in the places that have needed them most for far too long: the health and mental health care systems. The outcome is predictable, yet we remain shocked when the situation worsens.

Are there any positives the can impact minority mental health? Absolutely! The new nation-wide 988 crisis number launch went live July 16th of this year, and text-based services will be included. Studies suggest that over 75% of those using text on existing crisis services are under 25.8 Minority populations in the USA have a higher percentage of people in younger age groups than whites. Therefore, better serving an underserved community is an outcome that is a clear improvement on the current situation.

Post-pandemic societal trauma, proper focusing on framing gender equity, gender identification, and gender expression are all areas of special concern within

minority communities. For example, a Black teen in a city school district might not find the same resources and support as a white teen in the suburbs. This can trigger high mental stress that may follow them into and throughout adulthood. Issues like these, and the struggle to keep issues relevant to mainstream media, are just the tip of the iceberg of challenges facing any effort to improve the existing situation surrounding minority men's mental health.

What can be done? The ACA (Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare), as passed by Congress, does not provide for Well-Man visits. I continue to urge insurance companies and other payers to include adequately-reimbursed Well-Man medical visits similar to the yearly Well-Woman Visits available under the ACA.

Men's Health Network redoubles its recommendation that those charged with the health and social welfare of boys and men consider the following:

1. Acknowledge the heterogeneity of boys and

men and the unique needs of diverse populations

2. Develop culturally appropriate male-focused screening tools

3. Develop guidelines that recognize the need to regularly and routinely screen boys and men for both physical and mental health issues

4. Address the poor reimbursement for behavioral health clinical services

5. Establish culturally and gender-appropriate programs to identify, interrupt, triage, and manage mental health issues in African-American boys and men, providing education and training for those in the community who interact with boys and men.

With this said, Men's Health Network, Healthy Men, Inc., the National Black Men's Health Network, and the Men's Health Caucus, have launched a public awareness campaign, "You OK, Bro?" (<https://www.youokbro.org/>) and will be hosting a workshop summit on Thursday, October 13th, 2022 at the National Press Club in Washington, DC to build awareness of the mental health crisis now erupting in the male popu-

lation of the US. This important event will be live-streamed. The goal of the summit is to examine and return recommendations to help reverse the recent increase in mental health crises. Behavioral experts from multiple organiza-

tions will share research, trends and discoveries, and supply information to men, boys, and their loved ones to help them identify the signs of mental distress, and recommend ways to improve mental and emotional fitness.

"You OK, Bro?" is the beginning of a dialog that can start with those words, whether between just two men, or at a national scale. We hope "You OK, Bro?" can change the way the US sees and talks about men's mental health.

Cemetery Space Broker will make you offer on your cemetery plot



Dennis Jarvis / Flickr

- Inherited plot and can't sell it?
- Bought plot years ago and your plans have changed?
- Singles space or Side by Side spaces is okay.

We will make you a "cash offer" on your cemetery plot today! If you get voice mail-leave message phone number and information on cemetery space. We will get back to you

Call Us Today!!!!!!!
972.665.0170

A writer's outlook on the concept of time



Sister Tarpley
NDG
Religion
Editor

De Farron Keith Hill, an inspiring and prolific writer who writes about life and life's experiences, is a graduate of Grambling State University.

He said that he enjoys the creative side of helping businesses market their product and/or services.

Hill loves music, especially jazz, and the arts, and he likes traveling and playing the guitar. The following are three poetries written by Hill.

TIME: All time is relevant. Time is relevant to all times. Whatever you did today is gone; even if you do the same thing tomorrow, it is not today.

Every day changes; ev-



ery day brings forth new changes, new situations. If you only take the time from your monotonous schedule and realize the change, you will see, no two days are alike.

Loneliness is present in this world, take the time 2 comfort someone, take the time 2 meet someone, take the time 2 listen 2 them. Selfishness and hatred is only in vain, don't be guilty later of the pain.

Music is beautiful; music is joy, take the time 2 have a

girl or a boy. Think about it now, later might be too late. Instead of worrying about the money, think about the rate (death.)

Life will always throw you changes that you won't anticipate; this is no nursery rhyme, think about how U spend it, think about the time, enjoy.

Thank God for all the time He has given you; everything and everyone must come to an end, even you too. Baby-Boo.

A HIGHER HEIGHT:

We are all trying to get higher, and high. When we get high and go into the sweet by and bye, we think we can fly.

We are always trying 2 get high; a higher paying job which results in a higher cost of living; a finer car, which results in a higher note; a higher house which results in a higher boat.

A higher shoe which puts your head in the clouds and makes U forget that you are really feeling blue.

A higher Benz, which causes you to have to work harder to have more ends; just 2 ride all of your new friends; who grins, and grins, and grins along with you; and all your new high toys and high price sins.

But guess what? The high price of the entrance into Heaven is the Cost of Salvation; and you can't pay it!!! It has already been paid by God. Who is Higher than You.

The only way to receive it is through the Grace of God. Get high and excited about the Word of God and it will become the safest dope. Get high and excited about the Word of God and it will become your safety rope.

Don't knock it until you try it; I triple (Father\Son\ Holy Ghost) dare you. Get high on God and He will bring you through!!!

ROOFTOP PEACE: My Nights Turn Into Days; My Days Turn into Night, I can't Sleep, I can't Fight.

I'm Tired of being Tired. I'm TIRED of Seeking Right. I Wish I could take flight & GO out of sight. I Wish I could disappear into the Night. But Deep Down in My Soul I know that

Ain't right.

TIRED OF Being TIDE; And SICK OF Being Sick, Thoughts of this situation Hit Me Hard AS A Brick. **THOUGHTS OF Being Tired, JUST MAKE ME SICK.** OUT OF THE HOUSE I Left; And A **ROOFTOP DID I Find;** This Was the only Place That I could get Peace of Mind.

Never Thinking About **JUMPING;** But Peace Did I find; It gave Me A **TIME TO TALK TO GOD** And Ask HIM TO COME INTO MY **LIFE & BE MY LIGHT;**

TO HELP ME SEE **CLEARLY AND MAKE THIS SITUATION RIGHT.**

(Editor's note: This column originally ran in August 2015.)

REPEAT, from Page 14

Thinking about this recently come to the conclusion that hearing is a very important part of any relationship. Not just hearing, but hearing what is actually being said. I wrestle with this all along.

I hear everything The Gracious Mistress of the

Parsonage is saying, but I don't always hear it in the right context.

One verse of Scripture that emphasizes this for me is Romans 10:17, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

It is not so much hear-

ing as it is hearing the right thing. My faith in God is based upon hearing the word of God. What is God really saying to me? That is the basis of my faith in God.

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 jamesnsnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

Inspiring Body of Christ IBOC
Pastor Rickie G. Rush

7701 S. Westmoreland Rd
Dallas, TX 75237
972.579.4262 (IBOC)
www.IBOCHURCH.org

Sunday Service 7:30am & 11am
Monday School 7pm & Men's Fellowship Friday 8pm

We Buy Ugly Houses

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

CALL 972-665-0170

We Buy Houses ... Fast!

"We All Must Go Home To Glory"

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

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

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

Vickie Richardson-Steward
President / Licensed Agent

CombinedBenefitSolutions
changing the way we look at life

Call Today For a No-Obligation Quote
214-238-6855
Website: www.cbsolutionsplus.com

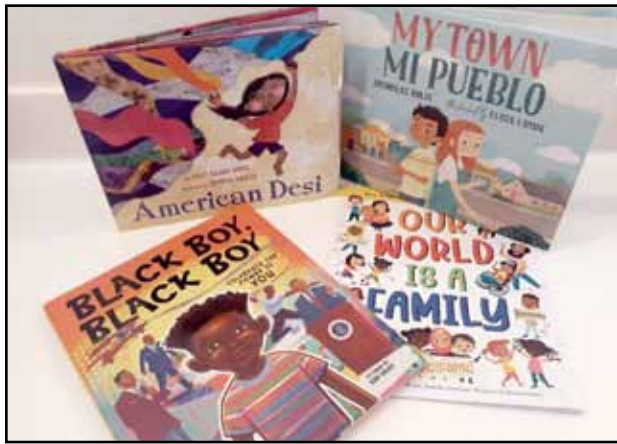
NDG Book Review: Great reads for kids on tolerance and inclusion

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

School will start soon, and you're going to meet a lot of new kids.

You'll meet kids from other towns and maybe from other countries; some will have lighter hair and some will have darker skin. Maybe they will look like you, and maybe they won't, so why not find out what's different and interesting about those new kids by reading one (or all!) of these great books....

Do you know where your new classmates will live? In "My Town Mi Pueblo" by Nicholas Solis, illustrated by Luisi Uribe (Nancy Paulsen Books, \$17.99) two cousins live very near



Terri Schlichenmeyer

one another, and very apart. She lives in the U.S., he lives in Mexico, and they're separated by a big river. In this book, they tell you about their towns – her, in English; him, in Spanish – they explain why they like visiting one another in the town across the river,

and what they do for fun. This is a great book for kids who are bilingual, and for those who may have playmates that are. Look for it on August 16.

For the child who straddles two cultures or for the kid whose playmates do, "American Desi" by Jyoti

Rajan Gopal, illustrated by Supriya Kelkar (Little, Brown Young Readers \$18.99) is the book to share.

Here, a young girl has "one foot" in America and the other in India. So is she Indian or American... or both? Can she enjoy her Bindis and bangles and still like hip-hop music? How she reconciles her two lives and even brings them together is a story of pure joy, illustrated in colorful pages that your child will want to look at again and again.

For future Black men and their current playmates, "Black Boy, Black Boy" by Ali Kamanda and Jorge Redmond, pictures by Ken Daley (Sourcebooks,

\$17.99) is a book that inspires and informs.

Here, a father proudly walks his Black son on a path through history to show the boy that inventors, activists, writers, musicians, politicians, and others have gone before him and paved the way. This pride-instilling book comes out August 9.

And finally, for every kid everywhere, no matter who he or she is, "Our World is a Family" by Miry Whitehill and Jennifer Jackson, pictures by Nomar Perez (Sourcebooks, \$17.99) is fun and helpful. The words inside this book show kids and their families from all over the world, including children that are disabled,

kids who speak different languages, kids who eat unusual foods, and kids who need friends. It explains immigration in words that small children can understand, and it tells kids how to be welcoming to those who are different.

These books are great for kids ages 4-to-7, but if you're looking for inclusive books for older children or for toddlers, reach out to your favorite librarian or bookseller. They'll help you find exactly what you need for your child, no matter what their reading (or listening) level. Your librarian or bookseller will introduce you to all kinds of new books to meet.

NOPE, from Page 9

tema (Dunkirk) you know the visuals will be captured in perfect lighting, framed to perfection and composed like a painting. When you enlist production designer

Ruth De Jong (Twin Peaks) the sets will be evocative. Give costume designer Alex Bovaird (The White Lotus) purview over the clothes and they will be fly, like

Yuen's dazzling red cowboy outfit. You can count on composer Michael Abels (Bad Education) to create a dramatic musical score and rely on Stevie Wonder tunes to add verve.

Lead actor Daniel

Kaluuya masterfully rides to the rescue on his steed like he's a matinee idol. Laconic. Stoic. Steely. His facial expressions and eye rolls convey more thought and emotion than the script intended. Palmer is suitably

energetic, but her irritating role does her a disservice.

There's a better film hiding in this extravagant cowboy hor/mys/sci-fi. Peele's followers and horror fans may ignore the lulls and remember the thrills. Others

may feel frustrated waiting and waiting for something to happen. Does Nope deserve the patience it requires? Viewers will decide.

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



CONGRESSMAN
COLIN ALLRED
REPRESENTING THE 32ND DISTRICT OF TEXAS

NEED HELP WITH A FEDERAL AGENCY?



IRS

PASSPORTS

VETERANS ADMIN

MEDICARE

IMMIGRATION

SOCIAL SECURITY

Visit: allred.house.gov | Call: (972) 972-7949