



North Dallas Gazette

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Racist sentenced to life for Buffalo mass killing of Africans Americans

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

A white man who traveled to a Buffalo grocery store in May and killed 10 African Americans, including Black Press writer Katherine Massey, pled guilty to 25 criminal counts on Monday and will spend the rest of his life in prison.

A grand jury previously indicted Payton Gendron, 19, on domestic terrorism, first-degree murder, attempted murder, hate crimes, and weapons possession.

A single domestic terrorism motivated by hate charge carries an automatic life sentence upon conviction.

Prosecutors said Gendron acknowledged that he committed the heinous crimes "for the future of the white race."

A lawyer for the victims indicated relief that the state's case didn't go to trial.

"It avoids a lengthy trial that they believe would be very difficult for the families," said Terrence Connors, an attorney representing the victims' families.

"I think it was pretty clear they had no real defense."

The self-described white supremacist, Gendron, previously pled not guilty to federal hate crime charges. Federal law allows for the death penalty in those cases.



Tops supermarket on Jefferson Avenue, in a predominantly Black neighborhood, where May 14, 2022 shooting occurred (Photo via NNPA)

He still faces 27 federal counts, including ten counts of hate crimes resulting in deaths, three counts of hate crimes involving an attempt to kill, and 13 counts of using, carrying, or discharging a firearm related to a hate crime.

Prosecutors said Gendron possessed a 180-page manifesto that revealed troubling perceptions the self-avowed white supremacist had.

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

Gendron described himself as a fascist, a white supremacist, and an anti-Semite.

His live-streamed shooting spree has left at least ten dead and several

more wounded.

Unlike the many unarmed Black people killed during encounters with law enforcement, the white racist is alive to plead not guilty in court.

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

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People In The News ...



Lena Waithe



Rep. Hakeem Jeffries

NDG Quote of the Week: "Black history isn't a separate history. This is all of our history, this is American history, and we need to understand that. It has such an impact on kids and their values and how they view black people."
—Karyn Parsons

Lena Waithe

LOS ANGELES (Black PR Wire) – ABFF Ventures LLC today announced Emmy Award?-winning writer, creator, actor and founder of Hillman Grad Lena Waithe will serve as the ambassador for the 2023 American Black Film Festival (ABFF). As ambassador, Waithe, who has been an influential advocate for under-represented storytellers in Hollywood, will help bring awareness to ABFF's mission of showcasing Black talent and discovering new voices and will collabo-



rate with the festival for one-of-a-kind moments. The 27th ABFF will be held June 14-18 in Miami Beach followed by a virtual event June 19-25 on ABFF PLAY, [https://abff-](https://abff-play.com/)

play.com/.

"Lena is a powerhouse in the film and television industry and a trailblazer for emerging creative artists," said Nicole Friday, festival producer and president of ABFF Ventures LLC. "Her commitment to elevate diverse voices personifies ABFF's commitment to diversify Hollywood. We are excited to have her unique perspective and talent as our 2023 ABFF Ambassador."

"I am so honored to have been chosen as ABFF's 2023 Festival Ambassador," Waithe said. "I am excited to collaborate with

the festival to shine a light on unique and groundbreaking stories and the creatives behind them."

Since its inception, the highly anticipated festival has become a cornerstone for diversity in Hollywood. It has premiered the work and supported the careers of many of today's most successful filmmakers, actors, writers and stand-up comedians and is recognized as the standard bearer of excellence for Black creativity. Continuing its legacy to empower Black artists and showcase a wide range of entertainment content, in 2023 ABFF will

introduce three new cultural initiatives to its robust lineup including "About Women," which will highlight the work and support comradery among women of color in the film and television industry; "Pro-Hollywood," highlighting how professional athletes are using their platform to impact diversity in the entertainment industry; and "ABFF Pride," a new series of screenings and talk events centered on the LG-BTQIA+ community aptly timed to take place during Pride Month. The festival will continue to feature studio premieres indepen-

dent films, master classes, panels, talent showcases, networking and hospitality events.

Waithe's connection to the ABFF brand was previously established as an honoree at the ABFF HONORS, a coveted award show that salutes excellence in television and film. Waithe received the "Industry Renaissance Award" which is presented to content creators whose exemplary work in film and television contributes to changing perceptions of people of color in the en-

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Rep. Hakeem Jeffries

New York Rep. Hakeem Jeffries is probably precisely what Democrats need in America's brutal political civil war, where most Republicans behave as if it's a North vs. South redux.

For starters, Jeffries is unapologetically Black.

During his campaign, he often wore tracksuits. When he presented arguments for former President Donald Trump's impeachment, Jeffries punctuated his remarks by quoting none other than the late hip-hop icon the Notorious B.I.G.

"And if you don't know, now you know," Jeffries said in the quintessential



mic drop moment.

But most importantly, Jeffries's ascension into a leadership role as vets like House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Majority Whip James Clyburn step aside signals a much-needed changing of the guard.

More pointedly, Washington insiders – and many outsiders – have argued that it's time for the younger generation of leaders to take the helm.

Both Pelosi and Clyburn are 82.

Along with Jeffries, 52, taking over for Pelosi, Rep. Katherine Clark, 59, of Massachusetts, is poised to replace Clyburn as whip. At the same time, Rep. Pete Aguilar, 43, of California, will likely ascend to the role of Democratic conference chair.

As one journalist pointed out, the "oldest member of the incoming Democratic leadership team is nearly a quarter-century younger than the youngest member

of the current Democratic leadership team."

"The thing about us is that while we can have some noisy conversations at times about how we can make progress for the American people, what we've seen is that under the leadership of Speaker Pelosi, Steny Hoyer, Jim Clyburn, we've constantly been able to come together," Jeffries said during a nationally televised interview this week.

Maxwell Frost, the 25-year-old from Florida, perhaps best summed up the changing of the guard in the Democratic party.

Frost won the election this month as the first member of Generation Z to win a seat in the U.S. House

of Representatives, where he'll serve under Jeffries' leadership.

"I think it's important that we have a government that looks like the people," Frost stated.

The change in Democratic leadership comes at a time when their Republican counterparts have seized control of the House, weaponized the U.S. Supreme Court, gerrymandered congressional maps throughout the country, and have used their pulpits to spark and spread messages of hate and division.

And with the G.O.P.'s unchecked and unquestioned leader, Donald Trump, announcing his 2024 White House bid, Democrats have

finally read the room and recognized the need to get younger.

"Americans have tended to see younger candidates as less qualified to serve in office relative to a middle-aged or older candidate," Damon Roberts, a political scientist at the University of Colorado Boulder, told C.B.S. News.

That view partly comes from age requirements.

To serve in the U.S. House, a candidate must be at least 25. A U.S. Senator must be at least 30, while a presidential hopeful can't be younger than 35.

"People do seem to be

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Tyler Perry

(Black PR Wire) On October 21, 2022, Byron Allen's Allen Media Group hosted the first annual TheGrio Awards, a new event dedicated to celebrating "luminaries from the worlds of film, music, comedy, television, sports, philanthropy, business, fashion, social justice, environmental justice and education, as well as cultural icons and innovators whose many contributions positively impact America."

The glamorous night was held at the Beverly Hilton Hotel and aired across national television on November 5, 2022 via theGrio Television Network and



other Allen Media Group television and digital platforms.

Tyler Perry was honored with the Icon Award for his philanthropy and "embodiment of the American Dream," as noted by The Grio Network's Janelle Harris Dixon.

"As if his empire could

be richer, Perry is a mogul with a giver's heart and his philanthropy, both through the Perry Foundation and his individual giving, is iconic in and of itself," Janelle writes. "He's paid for strangers' funerals, bought folks groceries during the pandemic and made a \$1 million donation to the NAACP, its largest gift ever from a single donor. The opportunities he's created for other folks — Black actors, writers, creatives, just people needing a chance to shine — are part of the happy ending he's writing for himself."

With the media group and platform's spotlight on African American-focused news, lifestyle, sports,

and entertainment, the star-studded awards were hosted by comedian Sheryl Underwood and actor Taye Diggs, with performances from Yolanda Adams, Tyrese Gibson, Fantasia and Patti LaBelle. Tyler Perry was honored alongside Ben Crump (Justice Icon Award), Alena Analeigh McQuarter (Young Icon Award),

Jennifer Hudson (Trailblazer Icon Award), Dave Chappelle (Cultural Icon Award), and more. As The Grio Awards continue, we are looking forward to the annual celebration of these groundbreaking creatives and their impactful work. See a full list of the 2022 honorees here.

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Voters turned out for economic justice

By Nina Mast, Lea Woods,
and Jennifer Sherer
Economic Policy Institute

In this year's midterm elections, voters showed a strong level of support for progressive ballot measures across the country. These victories were tempered by the defeat of worthwhile ballot measures in some states and the uncertainty of progress under a divided Congress. Nonetheless, voters across the country approved minimum wage increases, protected access to abortion, supported cannabis legalization, and approved measures to increase housing affordability and promote good union jobs.

Though much work remains to be done to enact a progressive economic agenda, this midterm election showed clear signs of support for a policy agenda that prioritizes economic, racial, and gender justice for working families.

Minimum wage

Nebraska: Voters approved Initiative 433, which will increase the state's minimum wage to \$15 by 2026.

Nevada: Voters approved Question 2, which will increase the state's minimum wage to \$12 in July 2024. The measure also removed a provision that allows employers to pay workers \$1 less if they offer health insurance.

Tipped minimum wage

Voters in Washington, D.C. and Portland, Maine considered ballot measure to eliminate the subminimum wage for tipped workers. The tipped minimum wage system, which allows employers to pay workers well below the minimum wage, is a legacy of slavery and disproportionately harms workers of color and women. Over 3 million tipped workers nationwide are paid below their state's minimum wage for as little as \$2.13 an hour.

Meanwhile, workers in states with one fair wage have higher take-home pay and are less likely to live in poverty than workers in states that pay tipped workers the federal minimum of \$2.13.

Washington, D.C.: Voters approved Initiative 82, eliminating the subminimum wage and raising the wage floor for tipped workers from \$5.35 to \$16.10 by 2027. A similar initiative was passed in 2018 but was overturned by the D.C. City Council and Mayor Muriel Bowser.

Portland, Maine: Voters rejected Question D, which would have raised the overall minimum wage to \$18 by 2025 and eliminated the subminimum wage for tipped work. The measure would have also classified app-based workers as employees and established a Department of Fair Labor Practices to investigate and enforce labor standards at the city level. The Maine Center for Economic Policy, a partner of EPI's Economic Analysis and Research Network (EARN), estimates that over a third of Maine workers would have earned higher wages as a result of the change. An increased minimum wage would have primarily benefited women and workers of color in the state.

Workers' rights

New York: Voters approved the Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act of 2022, which establishes prevailing wage standards on construction projects. The bill also allows the state and municipalities to require contractors to execute labor peace agreements and buy American for structural iron and steel.

Illinois: Voters approved Amendment 1, which will prevent lawmakers from passing so-called "right-to-work" laws and give workers a constitutional right to collectively bargain over

wages, hours, and working conditions.

However, in Tennessee, so-called "right-to-work" was further entrenched at the ballot box. Voters approved Amendment 1, enshrining "right-to-work" in the state's constitution and making efforts to repeal the law much more difficult. EPI research has shown that states with so-called "right-to-work" laws, which are designed to weaken unions financially, have lower wages for both unionized and nonunionized workers than states without such laws.

Free school meals

Colorado: Voters approved Proposition FF to provide free meals for all public school students in the state. The measure, which will also fund pay increases for school cafeteria workers, will be funded by limiting state income tax deductions by households earning more than \$300,000 annually. Colorado Fiscal Institute, an EARN partner, called the initiative a "fair, equitable" measure that "will boost the physical and economic health of our communities."

Tax fairness

Massachusetts: Voters approved Question 1, an amendment to the state's constitution that will increase taxes on the state's richest residents. The Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center, an EARN partner, estimates that the tax will generate at least \$2 billion a year for investments in public education and affordable transportation.

Health Care**Medicaid Expansion**

South Dakota: Voters approved Constitutional Amendment D, which will require the state to provide Medicaid benefits to adults between 18 and 65 with incomes below 133% of the federal poverty level. Though the Affordable Care Act offered to pay 90% of states' costs to ex-

pand Medicaid eligibility, 12 states have yet to expand eligibility. As a result, over 3.5 million people—mostly people of color—lack affordable health care coverage. South Dakota is the seventh state to expand Medicaid through the ballot initiative process. An additional 45,000 South Dakotans will qualify for Medicaid under the expanded program, 14,000 of whom are American Indian.

Abortion

Voters in Kentucky rejected an amendment that would eliminate residents' right to reproductive freedom and prohibit the use of public funds for abortion. The right to an abortion is a matter of economic security, independence, and mobility for millions of women across the country. People who are denied abortion access are more likely to live in poverty, be unemployed, and face other adverse economic outcomes. Kentucky currently has an abortion plan in place, but the state Supreme Court will consider the constitutionality of the ban this week.

California, Michigan, and Vermont voters approved amendments that enshrine reproductive rights, including the rights to contraception and abortion, into the state constitution.

Criminal justice**Constitutional amendments to abolish slavery**

Voters in Oregon, Tennessee, Vermont, and Alabama approved measures that remove language in their state constitutions permitting slavery or involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime. Louisiana voters rejected a measure to remove language permitting slavery from the constitution after the amendment's sponsor expressed concerns that the measure's confusing wording could inadvertently erode protec-

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Keep up with the news

O N L I N E

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The City of Dallas is right to ban what harms public health

By Lori Lee
NDG Contributing Writer

We are starting to hear about the City of Dallas' plans to ban gas-powered lawn equipment. These plans, now in the works, are expected to include a full ban of gasoline-powered lawn mowers, leaf blowers, trimmers and other landscaping tools by either 2027 or 2030.

What does this mean for our future? With the ongoing climate crises, it is no doubt that this is the right move for the City. It will, in fact, be no small step but a significant contribution toward worldwide efforts to combat global warming. The move will also help counter nega-

tive health effects associated with pollution.

One might say it is more than the roar of loud mowers or the inconvenience of having leaves blown about while trying to take a walk. The carcinogenic hazards that lawn equipment spews into the air threaten public health.

How many lives are lost to pollution each year? A 2019 study published in the National Academy of Sciences estimates that over 100,000 Americans die annually due to heart attacks, strokes and illnesses associated with air pollution.

And while grassy lawns, like all plants, renew the air with healthy oxygen, using gas-fueled equipment to

care for these lawns negates any public health benefits. The resulting carbon monoxide, the major contributor to global warming, not only hurts public health now, but also the health of future generations.

Each lawn mower, in fact, produces more air pollution than each respective passenger vehicle on the road. Science Daily reports, just one person cutting their lawn for one hour is equivalent to multiple passengers taking a 100-mile ride in a automobile. As the EPA reports, off-road gas-powered equipment results in about 242 million tons of pollutants each year, an amount equivalent to that resulting from all cars and homes

combined.

The problem is that lawn equipment technology and their emission controls have not progressed over the years, like automobiles. This is because they have gone largely unregulated.

Will businesses forced to replace gasoline-powered equipment be hurt in the near term? Probably so. However, those that plan to come out electric in front of the rest can market the environmental benefits of cleaner burning equipment and save from lower fuel costs. In the end, we will all be better off.

Lori Lee holds a Ph.D. in Urban Planning and Public Policy from the University of Texas at Arlington.



Carmaby Gilany / Unsplash

Parkland urges all to get the jab and avoid the danger of the flu

Flu season began in the fall and lasts through winter. The best way to prevent flu is by receiving an annual flu shot.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends everyone ages 6

months and older receive a flu shot. Getting the flu shot helps prevent you from getting sick and protect the people you love who may have a harder time if they were to get sick. Parkland Health officials offer these

tips to keep you and your family healthy:

- Keep your distance from others who are sick or showing symptoms.
- Stay home when you are sick so that you don't pass the virus to others.

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing to help keep from spreading germs.
- Clean your hands often using soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sani-

tizer when soap and water are not available.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Practice good health habits. Get plenty of sleep, exercise, manage your

stress, drink plenty of fluids and maintain a balanced diet that includes fruits and vegetables.

To learn more about the flu and where to get the flu shot visit <https://www.parklandhealth.org/flu>

USDA invests more than \$59M to improve dietary health and nutrition security

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently announced an investment of \$59.4 million to support the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program's (GusNIP) Produce Prescription and Nutrition Incentive programs designed to encourage families and individuals to eat more healthfully by increasing access to fresh fruits and vegetables. This investment delivers on a commitment made in the Biden-Harris Administration's National Strategy on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health to improve access to healthy and affordable food.

Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young, USDA Chief Scientist and Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics, visited the Takoma Park Silver Spring

(TPSS) Co-op in Takoma Park, Maryland. Crossroads Community Food Network in partnership with TPSS is receiving funding under this program to launch "Year-Round Fresh Checks" to expand access to affordable fresh fruits and vegetables in the Takoma/Langley Crossroads community, a primarily immigrant neighborhood just outside Washington, D.C. Over the course of the project, it is anticipated that 3,000 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) users will spend \$450,000, which will be matched with \$450,000 in incentives (\$250,000 from federal funds and \$200,000 from state and local matching dollars).

"Partners such as Crossroads Community Food

Network, Inc., are invaluable for USDA's nutrition security efforts," said Jacobs-Young. "By understanding the lived experiences of their community, they help deliver USDA programs into the hands of the people who need them most."

GusNIP programs strive to improve dietary health through increased consumption of fresh produce, improve individual and household food security, and reduce health care use and associated costs. GusNIP Nutrition Incentive programs provide incentives at the point of purchase among income-eligible consumers participating in USDA's SNAP and income-eligible consumers participating in other USDA nutrition assistance programs. Produce

Prescriptions leverage medical assistance programs to provide "prescriptions" from a health care provider for fresh fruits and vegetables.

"Since its creation in 2019, GusNIP projects have increased access to healthy foods, and this investment serves to ensure that even more consumers can provide fresh, locally-grown fruits and vegetables for their families," said Dr. Dionne Toombs, Acting Director of the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), the entity administering the awards. "In fact, as a result of additional funding provided through the American Rescue Plan Act, NIFA is expanding our reach to many first-time program applicants from underrepre-

sented communities nationwide."

Forty-three awards make up a \$20.7 million Produce Prescription Program investment through USDA's American Rescue Plan funding for the GusNIP program. Among the 43 FY22 Produce Prescription Program proposals awarded, 95% are first-time applicants to the GusNIP Produce Prescription Program, and 60% are new entries to NIFA overall. In addition, \$38.7 million will support eight GusNIP Nutrition Incentive projects.

In addition to Crossroads Community Food Network, Inc., examples of projects receiving funding include:

- The Keya Foundation, Inc., in Timber Lake, South Dakota's Produce Prescription Program will

serve the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe. The project will address a pressing need in American Indian communities to increase fruit and vegetable consumption and promote optimal cardio-metabolic health for families with school-aged children.

• Kahuku Medical Center in Kahuku, Hawaii, aims to fill the gap in accessibility and affordability of nutritious, locally grown fruits and vegetables for low-income individuals at risk for, or diagnosed with, a nutrition-related chronic condition using a collaborative approach to improve health outcomes among those at greatest risk, while expanding local food producers' economic opportunities and

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OP-ED: The time is now for increasing diversity in American media ownership

By Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.

Several months ago, I co-wrote an op-ed with my long-term friend and national media colleague, Jim Winston. Our commentary emphasized why “Diversifying American Media Ownership Must Become a National Priority.”

Now after the results of the high turnout of communities of color and young voters in the recent Mid-Term Elections across the United States, it is time once again to reiterate the relevance and importance of ensuring an increase in the multiracial diversification of ownership of radio and TV broadcast stations as well as all other media platforms including print and social media.

The multimedia publishing and communications industry is a trillion-dollar business sector in America. Yet the disparities and inequities of ownership of media industry businesses by persons of color remain



Current TV broadcast industry ownership stats reveal a pattern that favors incumbent owners who are primarily White males –less than 2% of U.S. TV stations are owned by minorities. (iStock Photo / NNPA)

glaring.

I know some of you would ask me why I am speaking up and out about other persons of color to own media businesses in America in addition to African American ownership of media businesses. There is, I assert, only one clear answer. If you are, as I am, for equality, equity, and believe in the oneness of all humanity, then we must practice what we preach.

This is why I am publicly

and forthrightly supporting the efforts and leadership of Soo Kim, founder and managing partner of Standard General. Kim is an effective and outstanding Korean American business leader, and he is on record supporting greater Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) in our nation’s media ownership landscape.

As the racial demographics of our nation continue to diversify, American media must intentionally become

more representative of that growth. One reason is because diversity is simply good for business. Another reason is because it is right, and it is just to include the very people on which one’s business success depends.

But perhaps the ultimate reason is because the greatest issues of our day – economic inequity, health disparities and systemic racism – pure and simple – will be best impacted when addressed by a multiplicity

of people of all races.

Kim has announced an application for a \$8.6 billion major media merger by acquiring TEGNA, a company owning 64 television stations coast to coast. Kim turned many heads with his description of a vision of “new partnership models to get diverse viewpoints and perspectives on the air and to make sure people have the resources to do it.”

One need only to review the leadership of major media networks in America to see that there are far too few that are owned or led by people of color. This makes Soo Kim’s vision and leadership timely, inclusive, and progressive. This is the kind of media ownership that is exactly what our nation needs at this “transformational” moment.

Current TV broadcast industry ownership stats reveal a pattern that favors incumbent owners who are primarily White males –less than 2% of U.S. TV

stations are owned by minorities – if the FCC and the DOJ block this deal, it would signal that the broadcast industry continues to be exclusively reserved for White male incumbent players.

I support and join with Congresswoman Marilyn Strickland (D-WA) in her letter to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that commends and endorses the proposed merger between Standard General and TEGNA. Strickland stated to FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel, “I share your longstanding goal of expanding voices and minority ownership in this sector, and the merger would be a critical step in that direction.”

We also note with appreciation that FCC Commissioner Geoffrey Starks, a strong advocate for equity in the communications industry, observed last year,

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Celebrate the season with holiday happenings at Texas State Parks

AUSTIN (Texas) -- TPWD -- Texas State Parks will be commencing its holiday season festivities with special seasonal events across the state. Starting this Saturday, state parks across Texas will host themed guided walks, scavengers hunts and more for all visitors to enjoy.

Anyone planning a trip to a Texas State Park is highly encouraged to reserve their day pass in advance since some parks are expected to reach their capacity limit. Reserve day passes online through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) website or over the phone by calling (512)

389-8900.

Get crafty at the corn husk doll event at Goliad State Park and Historic Site from 10-11 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 20. Visitors will be able to make their own corn husk dolls and learn about the history of this toy. Participation in this event is free, with regular park en-

trance fees.

Don’t let the real turkey steal the show this Thanksgiving by showcasing your centerpiece creation from the Thanksgiving Arts and Crafts event at Ray Roberts Lake State Park -- Johnson Branch Unit. Ranger Izzy

will be leading this event at the Nature Center from 10 a.m.-noon Tuesday, Nov. 22. The park will bring the supplies, and visitors only need to bring their imagination. This event is free with park entrance fees.

Skip the Black Friday

scramble and head for the trails with the Opt Outside Hike at Lockhart State Park from 10 — 11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 25. All ages are welcome for this three-quarter-mile guided stroll and par-

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Mission buildings and grounds at Goliad State Park sparkle with thousands of lights and luminaries during the “History of Lights” that lasts through the end of the year. (Earl Nottingham / TPWD)

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Game #	Game Name / Odds	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
2343	Million Dollar Loteria Overall Odds are 1 in 3.27	\$20	12/16/22	6/14/23
2392	777 Slots Overall Odds are 1 in 4.06	\$2	12/28/22	6/26/23
2316	Triple \$\$\$ Overall Odds are 1 in 4.30	\$2	12/28/22	6/26/23
2409	50X Speedway Riches Overall Odds are 1 in 3.99	\$5	12/28/22	6/26/23
2380	Cash Celebration Overall Odds are 1 in 3.92	\$10	12/28/22	6/26/23

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

The Great Migration: Why more students are choosing HBCUs

By Colette P. Gaston
Prairie View A&M

The Great Migration is the period from 1910 to 1970 when Black Americans migrated from the southern United States to northern, western and midwestern states. Racial violence, poor economic growth, access to education and voting rights were all motivating factors for Black southerners to find their opportunity elsewhere. In the current political climate, Black Americans are once again feeling the walls of oppression closing in.

Since 2019, there has been a 49% increase in anti-black hate crimes (2020 Hate Crime Statistics) outside of the southern United States, and more anti-black violence is occurring. In May 2022, a grocery store in Buffalo, New York, in



PVAMU

a predominately African American neighborhood, was targeted by a white supremacist mass shooter, leaving ten victims dead. In the summer of 2020, the murder of George Floyd by a police officer in Minneapolis, Minnesota, led to global anti-police brutality protests. At a time when it is more apparent than ever that no region of the U.S. is safe from the stench of racism, African American students are looking for safety

in numbers.

The United States is currently experiencing economic uncertainty as the economy recovers from its near halt during the covid-19 pandemic. A poignant phrase often spoken regarding how African Americans experience economic downturns in the U.S. says, "if White America has a cold, Black America has the flu." This statement, while arguably true amongst the racial collective, is contradicted by graduates from several Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Despite the student loan debt that many African American college students incur in pursuit of their education, HBCU graduates in several states earn higher median incomes than African American graduates with the same education who did not graduate from HBCUs (Hale, 2022). Af-

rican American students are looking for economic growth for themselves and their families.

There is a conservative resurgence that is demonizing critical race theory and any other pedagogy that presents American students with the opportunity to analyze or criticize the political and social events in the nation's past. More so, any pedagogy that exposes the sinister nature of the dominant racial, religious and economic culture of the United States. African American influence on American literature, scholarship, STEM and fine arts has been overlooked, ignored or discredited, leaving African American students with few heroes that have not been sanitized to remove all traces of militancy and Black nationalism. African American students are looking for

an education that speaks to their unanswered questions.

By the blood, sweat and tears of Fannie Lou Hamer, Lonnie E. Smith, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and others too numerous to name, African Americans secured the protection of voting rights in 1965. Many of the bodies on the front lines belonged to college students with the same rebelliousness, passion and energy that burns within African American Gen Z students filling out college applications at this very moment. African American students are seeking a safe place for their grievances to be expressed and their voices to be validated. They are seeking someone to help them channel their energy

into action, and that will inspire them to be active citizens.

The migration of Black American students to HBCUs shows us that our most natural reaction to the danger of American racism is unity and education. African American Gen Z students are accepting the unification call of Marcus Garvey, Malcolm X, Stokely Carmichael and numerous other leaders. African American students are becoming aware that their public education system has underserved their cultural needs. They are now looking to HBCUs to, in the words of U.S. Representative Maxine Waters, "reclaim their time."

Colette P. Gaston, Ed.D., is a history lecturer in the Division of Social Sciences at Prairie View A&M University.

Former Booker T. Washington students lead 'Black Nativity'

Bishop Arts Theatre will present its annual holiday production of Black Nativity inspired by Langston Hughes' hand-clapping, toe-tapping, finger-snapping retelling of the Christmas story. Black Nativity runs from December 1-18, 2022 for three consecutive weekends at Bishop Arts Theatre. This year's production is the heartwarming retelling of the Nativity story that includes Gospel music, dramatic dance, and a biblical narrative. This year's production will be directed by Sheridan Singleton with

choreography by J. Alexander Langley.

A 2008 graduate of Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing & Visual Arts, Sheridan received a B.F.A. in theater from Point Park University in 2012. As a performer, she had the privilege of participating in a four-week summer intensive with the world-renowned SITI Company, and was trained in the Tadashi Suzuki Method of movement and Viewpoints in 2011. After moving to the city of Chicago, she began working with inter-

disciplinary arts company Mozawa and helped create and devise new works such as *FALLEN*, *Y Portraits: Awakening*, and a devised piece based on Strindberg's *A Dream Play*, all of which involved collaborating with artists from all mediums. While in graduate school, Sheridan co-founded F.I.E.R.C.E. Theater Collective and produced work that brought together the artists and their audience. After receiving her Masters degree in Arts, Media, and Entertainment Management from Columbia College

Chicago in 2018, she joined Chicago Opera Theater as their development assistant, and eventually became the Executive Assistant to the General Director and the Board Liaison. Sheridan returned to Dallas in 2020 and worked as a General Management Associate at Cry Havoc Theatre.

J. Alexander Langley is an alumnus of Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in Dallas, TX. He went on to study Dance at Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA before re-

turning to Dallas to pursue his professional dance career. Alex has performed as a principal dancer with 6 o'Clock Dance Theatre, Dallas Black Dance Theatre II, and Anita N. Martinez Ballet Folklorico, as a soloist with Dallas Neoclassical Ballet, and as a production cast dancer with Princess Cruises. He has also performed in regional productions of "La Cage Aux Folles", "Disney's TARZAN: the Musical", and "Fiddler on the Roof". His choreography has been performed by Dallas Black

Dance Theatre II, Anita N. Martinez Ballet Folklorico, and 6 O'Clock Dance Theatre. Alex has also been fortunate enough to choreograph musical plays like "Disney's Newsies", "RENT: School Edition", "The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical", and "La Cage Aux Folles".

Single tickets to Black Nativity are on sale now and can be purchased online at www.bishopartstheatre.org or via phone by calling 214.948.0716 Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

MEDIA, from Page 5

"Majority ownership of full power TV stations significantly worsened for Asian American owners (from 9 full power TV stations in 2017 to four stations in 2019). The numbers don't lie – we must ensure that ownership at broadcast stations better reflects the rich diversity of the communities that they serve. We still have work to do, and we

have to do better."

Congresswoman Strickland concluded, "This is why the Standard General-TEGNA acquisition is especially important. If the transaction goes through, Soo Kim, a Korean American naturalized citizen, would be the first Asian American to own and operate a major broadcast station group. Additionally, it

is my understanding that if this deal is approved, the new entity would be the largest minority-owned broadcast station group in America today. It would also be managed by a leading female broadcast executive with a history of investing in local news and in her employee base. I understand further that... at least half of the proposed board of directors will be of minority composition and a

majority will be women."

Lastly, as has been widely publicized, access to capital also continues to be a big barrier for minority broadcast owners – from getting a mortgage to being able to obtain financing to conduct business deals, like the one with TEGNA. Again, that is why the proposed Soo Kim deal will be a real game-changing move, if approved, that will overcome some of the past

significant barriers that minorities have faced to get access to financing in general, but especially for the FCC-regulated broadcast and media space.

The U.S. Justice Department and the FCC should therefore move forward expeditiously to approve the merger, and to reaffirm the importance of serving the greater public good and the issue of equity for all minority-owned media busi-

nesses in America. Now is the time.

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr. is President and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) representing the Black Press of America, and Executive Producer/Host of The Chavis Chronicles (TCC) weekly on PBS TV Stations across the nation. He can be reached at dr.bchavis@nnpa.org

Lewisville Christmas Parade slated for Saturday in Old Town

The City of Lewisville is planning a hometown holiday to warm the heart this weekend, starting with a good old-fashioned parade. The parade is part of the Old Town Holiday Stroll being held Saturday, Dec. 3, 8 a.m.-9 p.m., in Old Town Lewisville. The parade begins at 12:30 p.m.

Other Holiday Stroll events include a pancake breakfast with Santa, presented by Lewisville Morning Rotary, from 8 a.m.-noon; the spectacular Motorcycle Toy Run at 8 a.m.; and the Lewisville Lights! Old Town lighting ceremony at around 6 p.m.



Honey Fung / Unsplash

There also will be carriage rides through Old Town.

Immediately after the Lewisville Lights! ceremony, find a cozy spot for the family in Wayne Ferguson Plaza and enjoy the holiday

movie, Arthur Christmas.

All vehicle and float entries must be at least 50 percent decorated to depict a holiday theme. Parade and volunteer applications are available on the "Christmas

Parade" page at cityoflewisville.com. Parade applications are due by Monday, Nov. 28. Volunteer applications will be accepted until all positions are filled.

Sponsors for the 2022 Old Town Holiday Stroll include City of Lewisville, Lewisville Grand Theater, Play Lewisville, Main & Mill Business Association, Old Town Lewisville, Huffines Auto Dealership Lewisville, Prototype: IT, TStream, and Eagle Gun Range.

Lewisville's Achievement Fair

The City of Lewisville is accepting applications

for the Lewisville Achievement Fair, which celebrates accomplishments in a range of fields by people of color.

The Lewisville Achievement Fair is an initiative of the Mayor's Commission: Listen Learn Lead and is intended solely for student participation.

Any student who lives in Lewisville and is in grades 6-12 at any public or private school, or any homeschooled student in the same grades who lives in Lewisville, is eligible to enter.

Application deadline is Friday, Jan. 20. Applications and the complete

contest rules and eligibility requirements can be downloaded from the Listen Learn Lead page at cityoflewisville.com.

A diverse panel of judges will evaluate each project on Saturday, Feb. 11, and awards will be presented.

Entries will be judged on historic accuracy, the ability to effectively tell the story of the chosen subject, understanding of the subject's positive contribution, and organization and creativity in the presentation of material.

Entries will be judged in

See Parade, Page 11

Annual Bark & Build Competition kicks off at NorthPark Center

The health-related benefits of having a pet include improved physical fitness, higher self-esteem, and social support comparable to that of parents and siblings, reports the National Institute of Health

The SPCA of Texas can help. Its 32nd annual Home for the Holidays event at NorthPark Center will continue through Friday, December 23. The signature event will bring shoppers and pet lovers together to raise awareness for homeless pets, and to help these wonderful animals find their forever, loving families.

The annual festivities kicked off Friday, November 18 with the 8th annual Bark + Build Luxury Dog House and Cat Condo Design/Build Competition, display and auction portion of Home for the Holidays. Twenty-two custom-made dog houses and cat condos



Hannah Lim / Unsplash

are on display at NorthPark Center on Level One between Dillard's and Macy's. These one-of-a-kind pet houses were designed and built by members of the American Institute of Architects Dallas Chapter (AIA Dallas) and TEXO, The Construction Association.

All of the entries will be auctioned off online at

spcaholidays.com. You can bid online for your favorite house or condo until 8 p.m. Sunday, December 4! All money raised will go toward the SPCA of Texas' important mission to provide every animal exceptional care and a loving home.

All entries for AIA Dallas and TEXO, The Construction Association's Bark +

Build Doghouse Design/Build Competition will be judged on both design and construction quality by a jury panel. Awards include: Best in Show (1st place) and the Hot Dog Award (runner up). As well as the Teacup Pup Award, Furniture Award, Big Dog Award, the Playful Pals Award and the Cat Condo Award.

Additionally, the final prize, Top Dog Award or "People's Choice," will be given to the dog house or cat condo that receives the most bids! You can bid online at spcaholidays.com for an opportunity to take home one of these gorgeous pet houses and to

cast your vote. Awards will be announced Wednesday, December 7.

On Black Friday, November 25, the Home for the Holidays Adoption Pavilion opened at NorthPark Center on Level One between Macy's and Dillard's. The SPCA of Texas features adoptable pets daily from noon to 6 p.m. through Friday, December 23 with the hope that over 200 animals will find their forever homes this holiday season. SPCA of Texas merchandise will be available for purchase seven days a week as well. Since the SPCA of Texas' first year of Home for the Holidays in 1990, over 10,000

pets have been adopted. Children who came with their parents and adopted a pet, are now coming back as adults with their families and adopting again. This event is a holiday tradition for many families here in North Texas.

The SPCA of Texas is also grateful to the Home for the Holiday Companion Courtyard Sponsors: Hill's Pet Nutrition, Sewell Automotive Companies and VCA Animal Hospitals; Dog House Sponsor: Guaranty Bank and Trust; and Sponsor: Olivella's Pizza & Wine. For more information on the event, please visit spcaholidays.com.

BUFFALO, from Page 1

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

"The constant repetition of white supremacist conspiracy theories on social media and even mainstream media outlets has

led to horrific violence in places as distant as Christchurch, El Paso, Oslo, and Charleston," Mitchell asserted earlier.

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

Mitchell added that CAIR has often spoken against those who promote the "great replacement

and other racist conspiracy theories.

Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown told National Newspaper Publishers Association's live daily morning show, Let It Be Known, that Gendron surveilled both the community and the grocery store as part of the attack's planning.

Brown said the teen surveilled the area for several days and targeted a busy place in an area predominantly populated by Black people.

Gendron's manifesto

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

According to the U.S. Census, the zip code is 78 percent Black and among the top 2 percent of zip codes nationwide with the highest percentage of the Black population. In addition, it has the highest rate of any zip code in upstate New York.

"Well, this manifesto tells everything to us. And

that is what's so bone-chilling about it is that there is the ability for people to write and subscribe to such philosophies filled with hate," New York Gov. Kathy Hochul said after the shootings.

"The white supremacist acts of terrorism that are being fermented on social media and to know that what this one individual did has been shared with the rest of the world as well as the live-streaming of this military-style execution that occurred in the streets

of my hometown."

Massey, one of Gendron's victims, spent her life trying to clean up and help her community. While she retired from Blue Cross Blue Shield, Massey, 72, remained active in her community as the Cherry Street block club president and as a columnist for the Buffalo Challenger, an NNPA member newspaper.

"She was the greatest person you will ever meet in your life," her nephew, Demetrius Massey, told reporters.

'Deck the Plaza' lights up City Hall and other holiday events this weekend

Dallas Mayor Pro Tem Carolyn King Arnold and City Manager T.C. Broadnax will be lighting up the Holiday tree on Friday, Dec. 2 evening at City Hall Plaza.

The free holiday celebration is open to the public. Families are invited to come and enjoy the holiday-themed activities. Santa Claus and some special interactive characters will be present. Children will have an opportunity to hop on the carriage rides and play with real snow while enjoying the live music and entertainment on stage.

"This is a special celebration to engage with Dallas residents, City employees and their families," said City Manager T.C. Broadnax. "We are happy to bring this pedestrian event back to activate all of City Hall Plaza."

The 50-foot-tall holiday tree will be lit at 5:45 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Carolyn King Arnold and City Manager T.C. Broadnax.

Other activities include train rides, bounce houses, a City staff holiday tree decoration exhibit and food trucks.

WRR 101.FM will be broadcasting the countdown and holiday music.

The event will take place on Friday, December 2 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at City Hall Plaza, 1500 Marilla Street in Dallas.

Then, on Saturday, Dec. 3, ride with Santa on the TRE Train to the Dallas Holiday Parade.

Parading along Commerce and Houston Streets from 10 am to noon, the Dallas Holiday Parade is the largest one-day, outdoor event in the city.

The Trinity Railway Express (TRE) is delighted to invite all of our North Texas residents to join us on Saturday, December 3, for a train ride with Santa and Mrs. Claus to the parade.

Since 1987, the Dallas Holiday Parade has brought love, life, and joy to the hundreds of thousands of spectators who enjoy the parade each year. This year's sponsors include Toyota of North America, AT&T, the AT&T Discovery District, and the Adolphus Hotel.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will join TRE riders for the special holiday ride to this year's festivities. Each train ride will end at EBJ Union Station with live musical performances and promotional giveaways, as well as photo opportunities with the Claus Family.

The TRE will offer three

opportunities to ride to the parade this year. With stops at each of the 10 stations between Fort Worth and Dallas, we invite everyone to join us for a fun and festive ride with plenty of time to spare to enjoy the parade.

For more information and a schedule of events, please visit www.trinityrailwayexpress.org.

Also, on Dec. 3, 2022, the Dallas Park and Recreation Department and Mayor Pro Tem Carolyn King Arnold invites North Texas residents to celebrate the Holiday Season at Kiest Park, with live entertainment, pictures with Santa, hot chocolate station, inflatables, carnival rides, food trucks, and more. The event will take place from 3 to 7 p.m. at Kiest Park Softball Complex, 3080 S. Hampton Road in Dallas.



Laura Beth Snipes / Unsplash

WAITHE, from Page 2

ertainment industry.

As founder and chair of Hillman Grad Lena oversees a slate of projects that give marginalized storytellers access to the industry, including projects at Warner Bros., Netflix, BET, Disney, Amazon, Universal, Focus HBO, HBO Max and Showtime. Her company most recent-

ly negotiated an exclusive deal with Warner Bros. Television Group, which includes HBO Max, cable and broadcast networks.

Waithe created and executive produced the critically acclaimed Showtime series THE CHI, which has received a Peabody Award nomination, and she also received two NAACP Im-

age Award nominations. Her semi-autobiographical series, TWENTIES, which she writes and executive produces for BET has been praised for being the first primetime series starring a masculine presenting Queer woman of color in a lead role. Recently, Waithe executive produced the film BEAUTY for Netflix, and is currently working on producing a Sammy

Davis Jr. biopic. Other upcoming projects include: the feature directorial debut of A.V. Rockwell's A

THOUSAND AND ONE which is set for a March 2023 release; CHANG CAN DUNK for Disney+;

and BEING MARY: THE MARY TYLER MOORE DOCUMENTARY, directed by James Adolphus.

USDA, from Page 4

agricultural infrastructure.

The Farmers Market Fund in Portland, Oregon, will expand its Double up Food Bucks program to more outlets, enabling SNAP participants to increase their purchases of local fruits and vegetables. Participants at 80 farmers markets, 10 farm stands, 45 grocery stores and 40 Community Supported Agriculture models in 34 of Oregon's 36 counties will receive a dollar-for-dollar incentive at the point of purchase in 2023 and 2024.

By bringing together stakeholders from various parts of the food and health care systems, GusNIP projects help foster understanding to improve the health

and nutrition status of participating households, facilitate growth in underrepresented communities, and collect and aggregate data to identify and improve best practices on a broad scale.

The Biden-Harris Administration's National Strategy provides a roadmap of actions the federal government will take to end hunger and reduce diet-related diseases by 2030 – all while reducing disparities. The National Strategy was released in conjunction with the first White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health in over 50 years, hosted by President Biden on September 28, 2022.

USDA touches the lives

of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. In the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate-smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean-energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit www.usda.gov.

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SPRJ55189

Film Review: A lot of quality is packed into the 'Strange World'

By Dwight Brown
NNPA Film Critic

(***) “These colors are so trippy—and even the trees are cool.” Sixteen-year-old Ethan (Jaboukie Young-White) voices the obvious. It’s what viewers will think upon seeing the wondrous visuals in this heartwarming ani/adv/fan/fam tale.

Director Don Hall (Raya and the Last Dragon) and co-director/writer Qui Nguyen (writer on Raya and the Last Dragon) have magically created a netherworld that’s hard to pinpoint. It’s in the vein of a 19th century Jules Verne novel (Journey to the Center of the Earth), yet it’s a unique universe. One where odd creatures, human-like plants and a host of hard-to-describe beings perplex the central characters as much as the audience. Using CGI with computer and 3d animation of the highest quality, the filmmakers take



Image via NNPA

viewers to a strange new world.

Searcher Clade (Jake Gyllenhaal) is a very humble farmer who lives in Avalonia. He’s well respected by townsfolk for discovering “Pando,” a plant/power base that Avalonians subsist on. He’s the son of legendary, hippy-Viking-looking explorer Jaeger Clade (Dennis Quaid), who vanished 25 years ago while on an expedition. Life is calm for Searcher and his wife Meridien (Gabrielle Union) and their rambunctious son Ethan.

Then one day, the mayor, Callisto Mal (Lucy Liu),

urgently needs the farmer’s help. Something is endangering Pando, their life source. They must travel to the heart of the problem and solve it quickly if Avalonia is to survive.

This dangerous mission carries the toons over hill, over dale and into uncharted territory they could not fathom. Watching them weather crashes, run from evil weird organisms and face extinction makes 1h 42m whirl by. In the most thoughtful ways, Nguyen’s very progressive script focuses on saving the planet themes that will resonate with young audiences.

The second emphasis is on normalizing very modern issues in everyday ways. The Clades are an interracial couple, one of the characters has a gay crush, there’s a dog with three legs and mom drives an airship. For some, this approach will seem “woke.” For many, these plot devices simply mirror life in ways not often seen in animated movies. But, if you’ve been to Disneyland or Disney World, then it’s no surprise that Disney is being inclusive.

Captivating visuals will keep viewers’ eyes glued to the screen. Production de-

signers Justin Cram (Frozen II) and Mehrdad Isvandi (art director on Encanto) create images that are mercurial and fanciful. The colors (art director Larry Wu, Frozen), from pastel pinks to greens and purples, mesmerize. Henry Jackman’s (Jumanji: The Next Level) musical score swells at the perfect moments and credit editor Sarah K. Reimers (Wendell & Wild) for keeping scenes short and sweet.

The characters come alive because the cast is so vibrant. Jake Gyllenhaal, who is too often cast in heavy drama, plays Searcher as a nerdy, vulnerable and animated dad. Dennis Quaid steals the screen from him as the larger-than-life Jaeger whose swollen ego deserves its own zip code. Quaid’s gravelly voice seems stolen from Nick Nolte’s vault. Young-White projects the innocence and shyness of a teen coming into his own and Union and Liu are solid

as hell as the mom/pilot and mayor.

The tense, endearing father/son drama on view will engage male audiences. That desire to strike out on your own, while still needing paternal nurturing, is a common rite-of-passage conundrum. Searcher and Jaeger have scores to settle. The rebellious Ethan and smothering Searcher have a stormy test of wills too, as dad tries to mold his defiant son into agrarian life. Ethan: “The farm is so small ... the world is so big!”

Strong familial conflict, magical adventures and timely social messaging make this animated feature a bit deeper than most. If Strange World can find its audience, those viewers will be pleased. Why? Because even the trees look cool!

In select theaters now.

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KERA and WRR are working together to prepare for the next chapter of classical music and the arts in North Texas

KERA and WRR 101.1 FM are making exciting progress in their partnership to transition the station to an all-classical format. As a noncommercial station, WRR and KERA will be able to prioritize programs and content that reflect the diversity of North Texas, while highlighting local ensembles and musicians.

Although KERA won't officially assume management of WRR until Jan. 3, listeners can expect to hear all classical music all the time on WRR, with a special focus on holiday classical music throughout the holiday season from Nov. 25-Jan. 2 of next year. This will include around-the-clock classical holiday music; new programs honoring multiple winter holidays; and live, local performances.

The special holiday programming will include WRR's annual "Caroling in the Arts District" — five days of live, remote broadcasts with some of North Texas' most beloved choral groups, including Dallas Symphony Chorus, Turtle Creek Chorale, The Women's Chorus of Dallas, Verdigris Ensemble, the Texas Boys Choir and Singing Girls of Texas. Held Dec. 5-9 in the lobby of Moody Performance Hall from Noon to 1 p.m., the event is free and open to the public.

When the City sought new management for the station, North Texans made it clear that they wanted to keep classical alive in the region, explained President & CEO of KERA Nico Leone. It felt like a celebration when City Council approved the agreement between WRR and KERA, said KERA's Chief Content & Diversity Officer Sylvia Komatsu. "One of the most universal feelings around the holidays is celebration, so we're excited to share this programming in the coming months that reflects our joy and gratitude about



Samuel Sianipar / Unsplash

the future of classical music in North Texas."

WRR's transition to a fully classical format is part of the station's larger transition from a commercial to noncommercial station. Non-classical paid programs will no longer air as a part of the format, and the noncommercial nature of the station will open up new revenue opportunities that were not possible as a commercial station or under City management.

"During the past few months, a tremendous amount of time and care has gone into ensuring that this transition is not only successful, but that it flourishes," said Host and Director of Marketing and Promotions at WRR Amy Bishop. "Under this new nonprofit model, we will be able to devote more airtime to music and programs for an even fresher, diverse, and local sound," said Bishop.

The City is excited about the partnership with KERA and the growth of WRR, which will enable more sustainable operations and a more diverse audience for the classical station and the City's arts partners, explained Interim Director of Office of Arts and Culture Benjamin Espino.

A full lineup and schedule of WRR's holiday programming and specials can be found at wrr101.com/holiday.

KERA is a not-for-profit public media organization serving North Texas through KERA TV, KERA Create, KERA World, KERA Kids 24/7, KERA 90.1 and the Triple-A music station KXT 91.7 FM. For

over 60 years, North Texans have turned to KERA as a vibrant destination for community engagement and lifelong learning. KERA produces original multimedia content, carries the best in national and international public television and radio programs, and provides online resources at www.kera.org.

The Office of Arts and Culture works to enhance the vitality of the city and the quality of life for all Dallas residents by creating an equitable environment wherein artists as well as arts and cultural organizations thrive; people of all ages enjoy opportunities for creative expression; and all celebrate Dallas' multicultural heritage. Its mission is to support and grow a sustainable cultural ecosystem that ensures all residents and visitors have opportunities to experience arts and culture throughout the city.

Owned and operated by the City of Dallas since 1921, WRR has served North Texas as the state's first licensed radio station. Though its origins began as a groundbreaking event in public service for police and fire on the AM band, WRR has provided classical music as a commercial station on the FM band at 101.1 since 1964. Through the decades, WRR-FM's priority has been to bring world-class music and arts programming to its listeners, and to be a champion for the local arts community. WRR will switch to a noncommercial classical radio station under management of KERA on Jan. 3, 2023.

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Fifty Summer internships available at top Hollywood Studios through Television Academy Foundation

LOS ANGELES -- The Television Academy Foundation today announced applications are open for its 2023 Summer Internship Program in Hollywood for media arts college students nationwide. The program offers approximately 50 paid, eight-week internships at top entertainment production companies.

Online applications are currently being accepted through Jan. 19, 2023, at 5 p.m. (PST) at TelevisionAcademy.com/Internships.

The prestigious internship program gives students in-depth and hands-on professional experience working in a variety of television careers and professions at prominent Hollywood studios and production facilities. Internship categories include—but are not limited to—animation, cinematography, program development, directing, editing, interactive media, news and writing.

The program and its extraordinary opportunities are offered for undergraduate and graduate college/



Internship Program that allows students from across the country to break into Hollywood in their desired media professions (Christian Joudrey / Unsplash)

university media arts students for the summer of 2023. Internships may be in-person, hybrid or remote—depending upon the opportunity.

Finalists for these coveted opportunities are selected by members of the Television Academy; final selections are made by participating host companies. The program is designed to train, inspire and open doors for diverse and high-

ly motivated students who might not otherwise have access to the industry.

Summer interns will also receive weekly professional-development sessions including panels with television-industry leaders, customized seminars on personal brand-building, and navigating the job market ahead.

Exclusively for Southern California college students, the Foundation also offers

community in the process of inclusive history, motivate students to respect past achievements and to set their own goals, and to create an inclusive environment in Lewisville by educating the community about the value and contributions of people of color and recognizing that diversity in the community is an asset.

Completed applications must be sent to Tamara Miller, Lewisville City Hall, 151 W. Church Street, Lewisville, TX 75057, or send a digital copy to tmiller@cityoflewisville.com.

the Getting Real Unscripted Internship for students from disadvantaged backgrounds who are interested in nonfiction television careers. In addition, internships for foster youth in the greater Los Angeles area, provided through an endowment gift from Dick Wolf's Wolf Family Foundation, are available.

"The Foundation is committed to providing career-advancement opportunities for students from all backgrounds," said Cris Abrego, chair of the Television Academy Foundation. "Our Internship Program allows students from across the country to break into Hollywood in their desired media professions."

Established in 1980, the Foundation's Internship Program has been instrumental in launching many careers of prominent writers, producers, directors,

executives, and Emmy® nominees and winners. Notable Foundation alumni include: Marco Esquivel, vice president of creative content at Shondaland; Eric Kripke, series creator of The Boys, Supernatural and Timeless; Sev Ohanian, executive producer of Marvel's Ironheart and Judas and the Black Messiah; Gina Prince-Bythewood, director/writer of Shots Fired and The Woman King; Brandon Riegg, vice president of nonfiction and comedy specials at Netflix; Pam Soper, senior vice president programming at CBS Television; and Zoe White, director of photography of The Handmaid's Tale.

All selected interns become lifelong members of the Television Academy's alumni network, gaining access to exclusive networking opportunities,

year-round industry events and an online alumni platform.

Established in 1959 as the charitable arm of the Television Academy, the Television Academy Foundation is dedicated to preserving the legacy of television while educating and inspiring those who will shape its future. Through renowned educational and outreach programs, such as The Interviews: An Oral History of Television Project, College Television Awards and Summit, Student Internship Program and the Media Educators Conference, the Foundation seeks to widen the circle of voices our industry represents and to create more opportunity for television to reflect all of society. For more information on the Foundation, please visit TelevisionAcademy.com/Foundation.

PARADE, from Page 7

two divisions - students in grades 6-8, and students in grades 9-12. Cash awards will be presented in each division for first place (\$200), second place (\$150), third place (\$100), and honorable mention (\$50).

The public display of all the entries in the Achievement Fair will be held Feb. 11-19 at Lewisville Grand Theater, 100 N. Charles Street, but may switch to an alternate location depending on the number of entries.

The subject of each project can be any one person

or a group in which at least half of its members are people of color, including but not limited to Black, LatinX, Asian, Pacific Islander, Indigenous American, and multiracial. Fictional characters are not eligible to be the subject of a project.

The subject of each project must have made a significant positive contribution to the community, country, or world.

Some of the objectives of the Lewisville Achievement Fair are to engage the



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Dallas PARD dedicates art installation to honor Arthello Beck, Jr.

The City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture and Dallas Park and Recreation Department recently dedicated a public art installation honoring Arthello Beck, Jr..

The art project was originally planned at Glendale Park in City Council District 4; however, the Dallas Park and Recreation Park

Board moved to relocate the art to Twin Falls Park in City Council District 3. For this reason, the dedication was a joint event between the two council districts.

The powder coated and porcelain enameled aluminum sculpture measures 9 feet in height and sits on a stained concrete pedestal. Cowley feels color and

composition play a very important role in expressing the meaning of a particular piece, emphasizing that craftsmanship is key in the presentation of her artwork. She works to ensure that lively color and craftsmanship shows in each of her pieces so that each piece of art has special appeal to viewers.

"The vision for my sculpture, 'thehumanization,' comes from one of my favorite Arthello Beck quotes. Arthello said, 'We live in a dehumanized society. To combat this dehumanization, I try to bring out human values in my art.' My sculpture is a manifestation of the 'hu-

manizing" qualities of Arthello's work. The simple beauty of seeing an African American family engaged with each other in everyday life is the foundation of the piece," said Cowley.

"We are excited to welcome to our park system this exquisite tribute to one of Dallas' most beloved artists," said Dallas Park and

Recreation Board President Arun Agarwal.

"Almost 100 parks showcase public art that adds beauty, tells interesting stories, and creates lively conversations. This is a timeless tribute to Arthello Beck Jr. and an invaluable asset to Twin Falls Park and to the city of Dallas" said Agarwal.

PARKS, from Page 7

Participation is free with park entrance fees. Visitors are encouraged to wear weather-appropriate clothing and sturdy shoes and bring water. The trek down the trail will begin at the Creekview Trailhead.

Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State park invites visitors to spend the afternoon discovering the furry, fishy and feathered friends that call the park home at the Festive Frontera Family Fun Day from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3. Participants will be able to ride the shuttle to the pavilion and make holiday ornaments, explore the touch tables, open an owl "present," play the "backyard bass" fishing game or go birdwatching

with an expert. Attendance is limited and registration is required. Anyone interested in participating should call 956-584-9156 or sign up at the park to reserve their spot.

The elves have left the shelves and have run amuck at Fort Boggy State Park. From 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, visitors can take a walk on the one-mile Lake Sullivan Trail and see how many elves they can spot. The first 10 people to find all 10 elves will receive a prize from the park office. This event is free to participate in with regular park entrance fees.

Explore the far reaches of the universe in the Badlands with a Star Party at

Big Bend Ranch State Park. This event, which runs from 6:45 -9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 23, will deliver unparalleled views of the darkest skies in Texas along with constellation identification, star and planet gazing and stories of the night sky. Spots are limited for this event and participants must RSVP to Ranger Layla via email at layla.spurlock@tpwd.texas.gov or 432-424-3327 ext. 2. Visitors will meet at the West Contrabando Trailhead located eight miles from the Barton Warnock Visitor Center and 41 miles from Fort Leaton State Historic Site. A ranger will direct attendees at the trailhead to the star viewing area.

Dust off the Santa hats and stretch your legs with

a guided hike at Franklin Mountains State Park from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 24. This two-mile hike on the Upper Sunset Trail will let visitors experience sprawling vistas along the ridgeline. Participants should bring water, snacks, hiking boots or sturdy shoes, comfortable weather-appropriate clothing and a Santa hat. This event is free with park entrance fees.

For more information about these and other holiday activities at Texas State Parks, visit the . A full calendar is available online on

the TPWD calendar page.

Photos of past holiday events are available on the TPWD Flickr page.

If you're looking to add some Texas State Park shine to your holiday display, the 2022 edition of the State Park Ornament is available for purchase. This year's edition celebrates Enchanted Rock State Natural Area and features the park's namesake granite dome, under a star-filled night sky. This is the 21st annual edition of the state park ornament and can be purchased exclusively through the online State

Park Store.

Outdoor explorers and armchair adventurers: Get the best of the Texas outdoors dropped into your mailbox 10 times a year, including the May 2023 oversized special issue celebrating 100 years of Texas State Parks. A subscription to Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine is just \$15 a year and includes full access to our digital app library featuring more than 700 stories spotlighting the best of Texas' wild things and wild places. Visit <https://tpw-magazine.com/specialoffers> to subscribe today.

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Check us out on Youtube!

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



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\$80,000 in grants awarded to entrepreneurs addressing social and health disparities

The American Heart Association EmPOWERED to Serve Business Accelerator recognizes social and tech entrepreneurs working to bring sustainable solutions to under-resourced communities

DALLAS -- (Black PR Wire) — The American Heart Association, a global force for longer, healthier lives for all, is supporting social and tech entrepreneurs who are driving change by developing new and innovative solutions to address the social determinants of health in communi-

ties across the country.

In October 2022, the AHA hosted the EmPOWERED to Serve Business Accelerator™ virtual finale where a dozen local community-based entrepreneurs from across the United States presented their business models for a chance at three grants

totaling \$80,000. Kanisha Ffriend (Friend), founder of Heirbloom Co., was named the top finalist and received a \$50,000 grant. Heirbloom Co., based in Houston, is a fullspectrum Doula service provider with the purpose of orchestrating and empowering healthy birth experiences — especially

for women of color. Ms. Ffriend also received an additional \$5,000 grant for being selected as the “fan favorite” with the most individual votes by followers and attendees of the event. Jinga Oglesby-Brihm, DNP, APRN, NP-C, received a \$25,000 grant to support the work her organization,

Empower Healthcare, is doing to address the lack of available health services in rural areas of Palm Beach County, Florida.

The finale was emceed by network television personality Sharon Epperson, CNBC senior personal finance correspondent, and judged by a panel of experts

in the business, entrepreneurial and health sectors including Uché Blackstock, M.D., founder & CEO of Advancing Health Equity in New York City, an emergency medicine physician and MSNBC medical contributor; John Dozier,

See AHA, Page 14

ECONOMIC, from Page 3

tions against slavery. Louisiana voters will consider a revised measure in 2023.

Many state constitutions retain language similar to the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which prohibits slavery and involuntary servitude except as punishment for a crime. The Abolish Slavery National Network—which is organizing the effort across the country—and other civil rights advocates argue that extremely low-paid (or, in some cases, unpaid) forced work in American prisons amounts to modern slavery. Incarcerated workers are not only exempt from minimum wage laws but are also denied overtime protection, workplace safety guarantees, and the right to unionize. Supporters see these slavery abolition amendments as an initial step in disrupting the power dynamic between incarcerated workers and prison staff and establishing basic rights for the incarcerated workforce.

Cannabis legalization

Marijuana is now legal to use recreationally in 21 states, Washington, D.C., and Guam. As legalization efforts gain momentum in states across the country, it is critical that lawmakers protect cannabis workers' collective bargaining rights to ensure that this emerging industry provides safe, good-paying, and community-sustaining jobs.

Maryland: Voters approved Question 4, which permits residents to possess, smoke, and grow

marijuana (within limits) and allows the General Assembly to tax the sale of marijuana. Companion legislation to the amendment proposes an expungement process for past marijuana convictions and an assistance fund for small, BIPOC-owned, or woman-owned businesses. Maryland Center on Economic Policy, an EARN partner, estimated that decriminalization would save the state tens of millions of dollars on enforcement costs and that taxing the sale of marijuana would generate hundreds of millions in revenue for the state.

Missouri: Voters approved Amendment 3, which legalizes recreational marijuana and will automatically expunge the records of individuals who were convicted of non-violent marijuana offenses and are not currently incarcerated. Currently incarcerated individuals can petition for release from incarceration, probation, or parole. State advocacy groups estimate that record expungement will impact thousands of Missourians whose marijuana offense convictions limited access to employment, housing, and the social safety net.

Meanwhile, Arkansas, North Dakota, and South Dakota voters rejected marijuana legalization.

Affordable housing

Voters in several states and localities approved measures to fund the construction of affordable housing. As the housing shortage grows and hous-

ing becomes increasingly unaffordable, particularly for communities of color and low- to moderate-income families, affordable housing construction has become an especially urgent priority. In Kansas City, voters approved Question 2, which allows the city to spend \$50 million over five years to build affordable housing units for low-income residents.

Colorado voters approved the only state-wide affordable housing measure on the ballot this November. Proposition 123 will

direct \$300 million of the state's taxable income to help essential workers like teachers and nurses buy homes, as well as help local governments increase housing supply. According to Colorado Fiscal Institute, an EARN partner, minimum wage workers in Colorado would need to work 75 hours a week to afford a one-bedroom apartment.

Los Angeles voters approved Measure LH, which grants the city authority to develop 75,000 units of affordable housing for seniors, unhoused, and low-

income residents. Measure ULA, which will raise \$1 billion per year for affordable housing and homelessness efforts in the city by taxing property sales over \$5 million, also appeared likely to pass as of this writing.

And Austin voters approved Proposition A, the city's largest ever affordable housing bond. The \$350 million bond will be

used to build and preserve affordable housing for Austin residents with annual incomes below \$61,800.

When given the opportunity, millions of voters across the country showed their support for policies that will strengthen workers' rights, reproductive justice, and racial equity. Lawmakers at every level of government should take note.



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Out to Pastor: If Only I Would Take Notes

By James L. Snyder

As a writer, I always have a small notebook in my shirt pocket to take notes when I have an idea. I don't have too many ideas, so I want to write down any I get so I don't forget them. That has helped me out on many occasions.

There is one exception. When The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage talks to me, I fail to take notes about that conversation. You would think after being married as long as I have, I would know better.

I never think of it until she asks, "Do you remember what I told you this morning?" That always catches me off my guard, and I think she just may be doing this on purpose.

Usually, she says this

after lunch, and I have no recollection of any morning conversations. But, because I don't remember, I get in deep trouble.

My confusion along this line is simple, is she saying this because it's true or because she knows I don't remember things? I believe that at this stage in our marriage, she has a good idea of what I can remember. Sorry to say, I don't.

Then I come in and have to face, "Do you remember what I told you this morning?"

Once, trying to get a step ahead, I said, "Yes, I do remember, and I'll get to it tomorrow." Thinking this will solve a problem, I smile and go about my business. But, boy, was I wrong.

I can never outmaneuver

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. When I said that, she replied, "Great, what are you going to do tomorrow?"

I knew I was backed into a corner and responded as cheerfully as possible, "I'm going to do tomorrow what you told me to do this morning."

I didn't get off on that one. I didn't think I would, but you never know until you try.

At my age, I'm not quite sure how the game is being played. I cannot tell if what she was telling me now is what she said to me in the morning. I think she plays me along this line, because if I forget something, then it's all on me.

I try to tell The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage that, at my age, I'm too

poor to pay attention. I tell her when I save up enough money, I will spend it on paying attention.

She never buys that. She looks at me, both hands on her hips, and says, "What have I told you about saying that?"

If only I could remember, I could beat her at this game. I'm unsure if I'm forgetting or if it never actually happened. I have no viable proof.

One day I tried it out for myself to see if I could trick her. She came into my office, and I said, "Remember what I told you this morning?"

"Yes, I do," she said with a smirk, "here are the batteries you asked me to get at the store."

All I could do was say, "Thank you, my dear." I

have no recollection of ever asking her to pick up any batteries for me at the store. If I did, I sure don't remember.

I have to give her credit on this one, she got me.

Turnaround is fair play, or so I thought, I came up with another idea.

The next time she said, "Remember what I told you this morning?" I looked at her and said, "Yes, my dear, and here are the donuts you asked me to get you this morning." I then handed her a box of doughnuts from the bakery.

She replied, "If you remember, I said, don't go nuts today."

I just can't win.

Of course, if I did get a notebook, I would have to buy a new one every week to keep up with her conver-

sations with me. It might be worth the investment; it could keep me out of trouble.

One time she asked me, "Do I need to get you some hearing aids?"

I'm thinking more about getting a recorder to tape our conversations.. Unfortunately, I can't find one with that much memory to record her conversations.

I had one more ploy, at least a try. The next time she said, "Remember what I told you this morning?" Then, with my hands behind my back, I brought them forward with a bunch of flowers, gave them to her, and say, "Yes, my dear. Here are those flowers you requested."

What was the great pay-

See NOTES, Page 15

AHA, from Page 13

Ed.D., Institute Community & Equity Officer, Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston; and Obi Obadike, CEO of Ethical, Inc., and managing partner of Your Best Ticket in La Verne, California.

Since 2017, the EmPOWERED to Serve Business Accelerator™ has sought to support individuals and companies focused on social and health justice by offering business train-

ing and grants to support the work they are doing in their communities. Candidates participated in a rigorous eight-week intensive educational program where each had to identify and declare a "Health Impact Moonshot" challenge. Each moonshot concept was tested and refined using design thinking principles and data-driven customer discovery analyses. Finally, candidates blended their

moonshot ideas with their business models and presented them virtually to an expert panel of judges.

During the last six years, nearly 150 social entrepreneurs have participated in the Business Accelerator, and with the support of corporate sponsors, the American Heart Association has now awarded more than \$1.1 million to help accelerate start-ups, assist local social entrepreneurs and support organizations addressing the social deter-

minants of health in their communities. Watch the Business Accelerator virtual finale.

Additional Resources:

- EmPOWERED to Serve Business Accelerator
- AHA 2024 Health Equity Impact Goal
- More than \$230 million committed to support equi-

table health for all people

The American Heart Association is a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives. We are dedicated to ensuring equitable health in all communities. Through collaboration with numerous organizations, and powered by millions of volunteers, we fund in-

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Story of the Candy Cane



Sister Tarpley
NDG
Religion
Editor

Some Things to think about this Holiday Season: The story is told of a Candy Maker in Indiana who wanted to make a candy that would be a witness for Christ, so he made a Christmas Candy Cane. He incorporated several symbols for the birth, ministry and death of Jesus Christ.

He began with a stick of pure white, hard candy. The white part of the candy was to symbolize the Virgin Birth and the sinless nature of Jesus. The hard part of the candy was to symbolize Him as the Solid Rock, the foundation of the Church and the firmness of the promises of God.

The Candy Maker made the candy in the form of a "J" to represent the precious name of Jesus, who came to earth as our Lord and Savior. It could also represent the staff of the "Good Shepherd" with which He reaches down into the ditches of the World to lift out the fallen lambs, whom, like all Sheep have gone astray.

Thinking that the candy was somewhat plain, the Candy Maker stained it with red stripes. He used three small stripes to show the stripes of the scourging Jesus received by which we are healed.

The large red stripe was for the blood that was shed



by Jesus Christ on the cross so that if we had faith in Him and believed, we could have the promise of eternal life.

Unfortunately, the candy became known simply a Candy Cane; a meaningless decoration seen only at Christmas time.

However, the meaning is still there for those who, "Have eyes to see and ears to hear." I pray that this symbol will again be used to witness to the Wonder of Jesus and His ultimate and dominant force in the universe today.

Also this season as you are shopping for gifts for family, friends and coworkers, remember that God has a place where things are freely given to everyone. Along with your gifts tell your family and friends about this unique store:

Heaven's Grocery Store – As I was walking down life's highway some time ago; I saw a sign that read "Heaven's Grocery Store"; as I got closer the door

opened wide, and when I came to myself I was standing inside.

I saw a host of Angels; they were everywhere; one handed me a basket and said, "My child, shop with care."

Everything a Christian needed was in that grocery store and all that you couldn't carry you could come back the next day for more.

First, I picked some Patience, Longsuffering and Gentleness. Love and Goodness were in the next row. Further down the aisle on a shelf there was some Understanding, I know that I would need it everywhere I go.

I got two boxes of God's Wisdom, two bags of Faith and I picked up some Temperance too. I just couldn't miss the Holy Spirit for it was all over the place. I stopped to get some Strength and Courage to help me run this race.

By then my basket was getting full, but I remem-

bered that I needed some of God's mighty Grace. I'm glad that I didn't forget Salvation for it is free also; I tried to get enough of it for you and me.

I started to the counter to pay my grocery bill, for I thought I had everything to do my Master's Will. As I went up the aisle, I saw The Power of Prayer; I simply had to put that in the basket, for I knew that when I stepped outside, I would run right into sin.

Joy, Peace, and Meekness were all plentiful; they were on the last shelf. Songs and Praises were hanging near so I helped myself. Then I said to the Angel, "How much do I owe?"

The Angel smiled and said, "Not a thing, just take them everywhere you go." I smiled at the Angel and said, "Really, how much do I owe?" The Angel smiled again and said, "My child,

Jesus paid your bill a long time ago!"

This is the Lord's Day, now is the time to thank God; thank Him for this day. Thank Him because you are able to see, feel, smell, taste and hear. You are blessed because He is a forgiving and understanding God.

Ask God to help you to start each day with a new attitude and plenty of gratitude. Ask Him for help to make the best of each day and to give your best in all that is put before you. Ask

Him to anoint your ears so that you may hear Him.

Ask Him to open your mind that you may accept all things from Him. Ask for help in not complaining over things that you have no control over and help to trust in His wisdom and to believe that, "... all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose."

Romans 8:28 (KJV)

(Editorial Note: This column originally ran in December 2014.)

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NOTES, from Page 14

off for that time, I couldn't remember? She looked at those flowers and then looked at me and smiled and said, "Thank you." And that's all she said.

I racked my brain all day trying to figure out how in the world I was able to capture that one.

I may be learning to pay some attention; nobody knows how long this will last, at least me.

Reflecting on this I was reminded of one of my favorite Bible verses.

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

My big failure is when I try to lean on my own understanding instead of trusting God. My trust in God

will raise me above human understanding, which puts me on the right track. Also, my trust keeps me going in the right path.

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.

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SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY CONTEST


The 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Contest is open to high school seniors attending a City of Dallas high school. These scholarships are to help defray the cost of tuition, books, room and board, etc. Winners will be required to submit a short video of their scholarship acceptance and will be formally recognized at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship & Awards Gala on January 14, 2023.

Submission Deadline: November 30, 2022

Access the scholarship application at: bit.ly/MLKScholarship23

Prior scholarship winners are ineligible to apply.





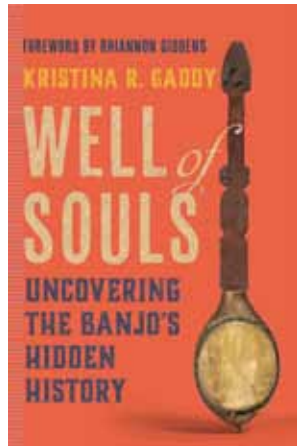
NDG Book Review: 'Well of Souls' is good for the old time instrument

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

One dollar.

That's not a lot of cash when it's your turn to pick the tunes and you want to hear your song now. Just a buck for the juke box and everybody can enjoy what you've chosen. That's not a lot for four minutes of entertainment, especially when, as in the new book "Well of Souls" by Kristina R. Gaddy, it features your favorite instrument.

In 1687, the English slave ship, the Benjamin, left the coast of Loango with a cargo of 375 adults and children headed for Jamaica and lives of slavery. Three hundred sixty-nine people arrived but not with much, if anything at all – and yet, says Gaddy, like their fellow slaves in the Islands and northward, they brought new "cultures that would become foundational to every colony and country they lived in." Shortly after the Benjamin arrived, some noticed that when the slaves had a bit of free time, they spent it dancing and making music, sometimes with a gourd impaled by a stick, a bit



of animal skin, and strings to pluck. Though the instruments closely resembled lutes and were called "mbanza" in the Kimbundu language, white men called them "Strum Strumps" and the fascination was such that Strum Strumps were taken to England, and collected.

The instrument made its way to Martinique, where it was refined with better strings. It went to Barbados, where it was called a bangil. When it arrived in France, it became "the bangeau," but in America, it was quickly becoming "an uncouth Black-originated instrument of little worth" that slaves used for celebrations and funerals, though whites remained in-

trigued by it.

"Whenever the instrument had arrived in Louisiana," says Gaddy, referring to the early 1800s, "it would soon transform again."

And by the 1840s, it had transformed into an instrument embraced by white performers in New York and elsewhere, in the most ironic of ways: minstrelsy performers loved the banjo.

Though you've been warned all your life not to judge a book by its cover, "Well of Souls" absolutely calls for doing so. Let the cover photo be your guide.

As promised by said cover, a "hidden history" of the banjo is in this book. It's there, going back – way back, more than three hundred years as author Kristina R. Gaddy reveals an art-lover's eye to explain why she focuses on this instrument, why she's eager to tell the deepest story about it and why it matters.

The thing is that she stopped too soon. Her book, thorough as it is, offers teases for modern-day

musicians, but the bulk of it ends just before the Civil War. Readers get a fascinating, lively background of the banjo from a Black history standpoint, but

nothing about its influence in the twentieth-century or beyond.

Use that as a warning: if you enjoy early American history with a hint of the

Islands, "Well of Souls" is the book for you. If you were hoping for a more modern history of the banjo, though, this isn't the book to pick.

JEFFRIES, from Page 2

pretty positive toward having a younger representative," Roberts asserted.

Stressed and sickened by thoughts of their rights and democracy slipping away, young Americans across gender, racial, geographic and education lines banded together last week to help save the Democrats from what many foresaw as a sizable midterm defeat, John Della Volpe, the director of polling at the Harvard Kennedy School Institute of Politics, wrote in an editorial.

"In the eyes of many young voters, this is how America meets its destiny: when the passion of the grassroots melds with the power of institutions to forge progress," Della Volpe asserted.

"As political analysts methodically review the numbers after an election for

the ages, anyone interested in the winning formula for 2024 should closely examine those between the ages of 18 and 39."

Gerald Warburg, a professor of practice of public policy at the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, noted that turnover in the youth-challenged leadership of the Democratic House and Senate caucuses had frozen for decades.

Until now, all Democratic legislative leaders were over 70 years of age.

Warburg contended that both parties might now welcome the opportunity to pass the torch to a new, post-baby boomer generation with fresh ideas.

Pelosi and Democrats, Warburg said, "had the courage to step back, making way for new leaders and new ideas."



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