



North Dallas Gazette

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A look 'Black' on 2022 and how Black excellence still prevails

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

The Black Press of America entered its 195th year in 2022, highly engaged in the continued fight for freedom, justice, equity, and equality.

Just one year after the Jan. 6 insurrection not only threatened America's democracy but freedom for people of color, the United States and the hundreds of millions of news consumers demonstrated a need for the Black Press like never before.

Fake News and the growing number of overt racists who dispensed misinformation and false reports had taken over social media and mainstream headlines.

But like in 2020, when the Black Press was the first to reveal that the coronavirus was airborne, the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) issued facts on which African Americans and others could be certain.

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

The Black Press challenged Congress, while reeling from the deaths of American icon Sidney Poitier,



Like in 2020, when the Black Press was the first to reveal that the coronavirus was airborne, the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) issued facts on which African Americans and others could be certain. (Image via NNPA)

er, Civil Rights leader and legal scholar Lani Guinier, Helen Chavis Othow, the beloved sister of NNPA President and C.E.O. Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., and many others.

Many urged lawmakers to eliminate the racist filibuster that suppressed needed laws like the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-New York) responded, calling for a vote to change the filibuster on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The vote failed, but America heard the clarion call from the Black Press.

When the Black Press noted President Joe Biden's declining

approval ratings among African Americans, the commander-in-chief responded on several fronts.

First, the Biden-Harris administration took a historical approach to advancing racial equity, including directing every agency across the federal government to address the lasting impacts of systemic racism on Black communities.

Maya Angelou became the first Black woman on the U.S. quarter, and Ketanji Brown Jackson became the first Black woman appointed and confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

With the help of federal authorities, the killers of Ahmaud Arbery

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Is self-hate a primary motivator?

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New bionic pancreas offers diabetes help

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Humane curriculum for 3rd Grade

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Colorizing the trash cans in Carrollton

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Eclectic films get Library of Congress nod

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New Whitney Houston film is out now

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People In The News ...



Pelé



Marie R. Gill

NDG Quote of the Week: "If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair."

—Shirley Chisholm

Pelé

The family of Pelé, the international star who was instrumental in three World Cup championships with Brazil across three decades and who energized U.S. soccer with the New York Cosmos in the 1970s, has spent the past several days saying goodbye.

The 82-year-old legend has been hospitalized since November, and his doctors reported that Pelé's cancer had advanced, requiring care related to renal and cardiac dysfunction.

He has been receiving regular treatment since



Photo via NNPA

doctors removed a tumor from his colon in 2021.

"Father. My strength is yours," the international star's son, Edinho, posted on social media.

In a video posted online

by his family, Pelé appears in and out of conscious as loved ones cuddle with and embrace him on a hospital bed.

In a separate video titled, "Pelé says goodbye to family and friends from the hospital bed," Pelé recorded a barely audible message.

Boxing legend Mike Tyson and hip-hop icon Snoop Dogg were among the many international personalities to record tributes to Pelé.

Born Edson Arantes do Nascimento in Três Corações, Brazil, on Oct. 23, 1940, Pelé became soccer's first superstar.

He led the Brazilian national teams to World Cup glory in 1958, 1962, and 1970.

In 1956, he joined the Santos Football Club, with Pelé, at inside left forward, winning nine São Paulo league championships and, in 1962 and 1963, the Libertadores Cup and the Intercontinental Club Cup.

Sometimes called "Pérola Negra" ("Black Pearl"), Pelé became a Brazilian national hero. According to Britannica, he combined kicking power and accuracy with a remarkable ability to anticipate other players' moves.

"After the 1958 World Cup, Pelé was declared a national treasure by the Brazilian government to ward off large offers from European clubs and ensure that he would remain in Brazil," Britannica researchers wrote.

On Nov. 19, 1969, in his 909th first-class match, he scored his 1,000th goal.

Pelé made his international debut in 1957 at age 16 and played his first game in the World Cup finals in Sweden the following year.

The Brazilian manager was initially hesitant to play his young star. But, according to Britannica,

when Pelé finally reached the field, he had an immediate impact, rattling the post with one shot and collecting an assist.

He had a hat trick in the semifinal against France and two goals in the championship game, where Brazil defeated Sweden 5-2. At the 1962 World Cup finals, Pelé tore a thigh muscle in the second match and had to sit out the remainder of the tournament.

Nonetheless, Brazil went on to claim its second World Cup title.

Researchers said rough

See PELÉ, Page 7

Marie R. Gill

MIAMI (Black PR Wire) – Founder and CEO of M. Gill & Associates, Inc., Marie R. Gill, is ending the year on a high note after being named as one of South Florida's Most Influential and Prominent Black Women In Business and Industry of 2022 by M•I•A MEDIA GROUP LLC., publisher of Legacy Miami and Legacy South Florida.



M. Gill & Associates, Inc.

"I'm thrilled and humbled to be recognized alongside so many successful, inspiring women in business."

Over 30 years ago, Marie R. Gill founded M. Gill & Associates with a mission to

help businesses to succeed.

She wears many hats and in addition to serving as the CEO of her own firm. She is also the Executive Director of the MBDA Export Center in Florida, where she continues to exceed expectations.

A consummate professional, Marie Gill is the first woman, the first Black, and the first of Caribbean descent to have won the U.S. Department of Commerce contract to operate the MBDA Business Center in 2001.

M. Gill operates the Florida MBDA Export Center, the Miami MBDA Business Center, and a newly award-

ed MBDA Infrastructure Center. All MBDA-funded programs provide technical assistance services, free of cost, to assist minority businesses to build scale and capacity, increase revenues and investments, create and retain jobs, and expand into new and global markets. M. Gill also provides management and economic devel-

opment services to U.S. and International corporations, government agencies, and educational institutions.

M. Gill also manages the City of Miami's Small Business Center, providing specialized services free of cost to businesses within the City of Miami in exchange for the City's Cost Share Strategic Partnership on the

MBDA Programs.

All MBDA Programs are funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA)

For more information on M. Gill & Associates and its specialized programs and services, please go to www.mgillonline.com or www.mbdexport.com.

Laura Hall

WASHINGTON (Black PR Wire) -- The National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL) elected Representative Laura Hall to serve as the 15th National President. The elections were held during the NBCSL 46th Annual Legislative Conference on earlier this month at the Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada.



state legislators are heard and we are indeed the "Voices for the States."

NBCSL holds elections every two years to select new leadership. Along with the election of the new president, other Executive Committee officers—Rep. Harold Love (TN), President-Elect, Sen. Raumesh Akbari (TN), Vice Presi-

dent, Rep. Vivian Flowers (AR), Secretary, Rep. Toni Rose (TX), Financial Secretary, and Sen. Gerald Neal (KY), Parliamentarian.

"I am extremely proud to pass the torch of leadership to my dear friend and colleague, Rep. Laura Hall," said current NBCSL President Billy Mitchell, "I know that she will take this organization to even greater heights under her leadership. I want to also congratulate the members of the newly elected Executive Committee. I look forward to the work that each of you will do."

Representative Hall will officially take on the role as NBCSL President in

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Are Black individuals like Kanye West, Van Jones, and Stephen A. Smith ‘perpetrating a fraud,’ or is self-hate a primary motivator for anti-Blackness?

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

“So, you have two types of Negro. The old type and the new type. Most of you know the old type. When you read about him in history during slavery, he was called ‘Uncle Tom.’ He was the House Negro.” -- Malcolm X

In the 1960s, African Americans embraced a locally fashioned brand of Black pride, and “Black is beautiful” was their traditional motto.

According to writer Ronald E. Hall, African Americans mostly embraced the Black pride movement in the 1960s.

“Unfortunately, such activist idealism manifested in Black pride expired with the passing of the times,” Hall asserted.

The author then noted that Black Americans “remain the most despised” among the community of human races, reinforced via media images.

“In response,” Hall determined, “is Black self-hate acted out by the political conservatism of Black American Supreme Court

Justice Clarence Thomas as an icon.”

In the eyes of many in Black America, Justice Thomas – disparagingly described by some as “Uncle Thomas,” isn’t alone.

Recently, the antics of Republican Georgia Senate Candidate Herschel Walker, hip-hop star Kanye West, sports commentator Stephen A. Smith, CNN contributor Van Jones, and others have drawn the ire of fellow African Americans.

Walker’s campaign against Democratic Sen. Raphael Warnock infuriated Black Americans, many of whom called him a “House Negro,” and an “Uncle Tom.”

“Herschel Walker being in this election is an insult to Black Americans,” Rutgers University Professor Valerie Fitzhugh determined.

“How does he not know he is being used?”

Earlier this month, a photo of Dallas Cowboy owner Jerry Jones surfaced, showing him among the crowd of white people in 1957 who blocked six Black students from desegregating a high school in Arkansas.

Before Jones responded

to the criticism, Smith quickly jumped to the owner’s defense, and the uproar from the Black community proved swift.

Most observers noted that in his four decades owning the Cowboys, Jones had never hired a Black head coach.

Further, the owner had vociferously blasted former 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick for kneeling during the national anthem.

Kaepernick hasn’t received an NFL job since.

“Sometimes a fruit falls from a tree and rolls so far away from its roots that it’s no longer of the tree,” asserted Brother Jamaal Nelson, the owner of the app Knowledge of Self.

Continuing his quoting of Malcolm X in describing Smith, Nelson said, “the hard fall, and long journey, bruises the fruit so much that it totally changes it. But, unfortunately, it’s the same for some of our people.”

West, the rapper, now known as “Ye,” also upset many of his own race with comments ranging from “slavery is a choice” to asserting that George Floyd died of a fentanyl overdose.

He further angered the masses by donning white lives matter shirts alongside Candace Owens, whom many Black people dismiss as a self-loathing individual.

“Many millennials viewed West as an older brother,” writer Minda Honey wrote.

“Losing hope in him can feel like losing hope in ourselves like we’re looking at what’s waiting for us after a few more successes after we find out that white validation is gold-plated and something green and corrosive waits for us beneath it,” Honey, the owner of Taunt, insisted.

“If West can’t be Black and brilliant in America, someone like me can’t survive it either. So, we’re resistant to giving up on him,” Honey assessed.

As for Jones, the CNN contributor, his “apology” for what he deemed the lack of response by the Black community to West’s anti-Semitic comments drew the ire of nearly all social media.

“Now, I must have missed the meeting where

See SELF-HATE, Page 7

Pushing for better quality healthcare

By Joe Biden
U.S. President

I promised to lower costs for families and ensure that all Americans have access to quality affordable health care. In recent days, we received further proof that our efforts are delivering record results and bringing families the peace of mind that comes with health insurance.

From November 1st to December 15th, nearly 11.5 million Americans signed up for insurance on HealthCare.gov—about 1.8

million more people, an 18 percent increase, over the same period last year. That’s an all-time record, with enrollment still open and not counting people who have signed up for coverage through their state marketplaces. Gains like these helped us drive down the uninsured rate to eight percent earlier this year, its lowest level in history.

Right now, four out of five people who sign up for health insurance through the Affordable Care Act can find health care coverage for \$10 a month or less.

These lower rates were set to expire at the end of this year, but thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act, we were able to extend them and save millions of Americans on Obamacare an average of \$800 a year.

Because of this landmark legislation, on January 1st, Americans will start to see the benefits of additional cost-saving measures in the Inflation Reduction Act. That includes seniors seeing a month’s supply of insulin capped at \$35, Medicare beneficiaries paying

\$0 out of pocket for recommended adult vaccines covered by their Part D plan, and prescription drug companies needing to pay Medicare a rebate if they try to raise their prices faster than inflation for drugs administered at a doctor’s office.

We’re not finished working to make health care a right, not a privilege. Visit HealthCare.gov by January 15th, 2023 to take advantage of those lower rates and sign up for health care for the coming year.

Keep up with the news

O N L I N E

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Bionic pancreas improves Type 1 diabetes management compared to standard insulin delivery methods

A device known as a bionic pancreas, which uses next-generation technology to automatically deliver insulin, was more effective at maintaining blood glucose (sugar) levels within normal range than standard-of-care management among people with type 1 diabetes, a new multicenter clinical trial has found.

Automated insulin delivery systems, also called artificial pancreas or closed-loop control systems, track a person's blood glucose levels using a continuous glucose monitor and automatically deliver the hormone insulin when needed using an insulin pump. These systems replace reliance on testing glucose level by fingerstick, continuous glucose monitor with separate insulin delivery through multiple daily injections, or a pump without automation.

Compared to other available artificial pancreas technologies, the bionic pancreas requires less user input and provides more automation because the device's algorithms continually adjust insulin doses automatically based on users' needs. Users initialize the bionic pancreas by entering their body



iLet bionic pancreas device (Beta Bionics via NIH)

weight into the device's dosing software at the time of first use.

Users of the bionic pancreas also do not have to count carbohydrates, nor initiate doses of insulin to correct for high blood glucose. In addition, health care providers do not need to make periodic adjustments to the settings of the device.

In participants using the bionic pancreas, glycated hemoglobin, a measure of a person's long-term blood glucose control, improved from 7.9% to 7.3%, yet remained unchanged among the standard-of-care control group. The bionic pancreas

group participants spent 11% more time, approximately 2.5 hours per day, within the targeted blood glucose range compared to the control group. Results were similar in youth and adult participants, and improvements in blood glucose control were greatest among participants who had higher blood glucose levels at the beginning of the study.

The 13-week trial, conducted at 16 clinical sites across the United States, enrolled 326 participants ages 6 to 79 years who had type 1 diabetes and had been using insulin for at least one

year. Participants were randomly assigned to either a treatment group using the bionic pancreas device or a standard-of-care control group using their personal pre-study insulin delivery method. All participants in the control group were provided with a continuous glucose monitor, and nearly one-third of the control group were using commercially available artificial pancreas technology during the study.

"Our observation that this system can safely improve glucose control to the degree we found, and do so despite requiring much less input from users and their health care providers, has important implications for children and adults living with diabetes," said Dr. Steven Russell, study chair, associate professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School, and staff physician at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Hyperglycemia, or high blood glucose, caused by problems with insulin pump equipment, was the most frequently reported adverse event in the bionic pancreas group. The number of mild hypoglycemia events,

or low blood glucose, was low and was not different between the groups. The frequency of severe hypoglycemia was not statistically different between the standard of care and bionic pancreas groups.

Four companion papers were also published in Diabetes Technology and Therapeutics, two of which provided more detailed results among the adult and youth participants. The third paper reported results from an extension study in which the participants from the standard-of-care control group switched to using the bionic pancreas for 13 weeks and experienced improvements in glucose control similar to the bionic pancreas group in the randomized trial. In the fourth paper, results showed that using the bionic pancreas with a faster-acting insulin in 114 adult participants improved glucose control as effectively as using the device with standard insulin.

"NIDDK's decades-long investment in developing advanced technologies for diabetes management has reached another promising milestone and continues to provide significant return," said NIDDK Director Dr.

Griffin P. Rodgers. "While we continue to search for a cure for type 1 diabetes, devices like the bionic pancreas can allow people to worry less about their blood-glucose levels and focus more on living their fullest, healthiest lives."

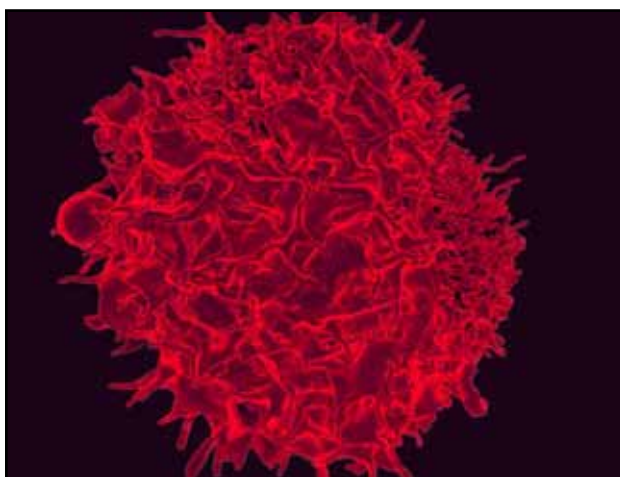
Dr. Edward Damiano, project principal investigator, professor of biomedical engineering at Boston University, and founder and executive chair of Beta Bionics, Inc., concurs. "The completion of this study represents a major milestone for the bionic pancreas initiative, which simply would not have been possible had it not been for the support provided by the NIDDK over the years."

The study is one of several pivotal trials funded by NIDDK (National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), part of the National Institutes of Health. The study was published in the New England Journal of Medicine to advance artificial pancreas technology and look at factors including safety, efficacy, user-friendliness, physical and emotional health of participants, and cost.

Experimental cancer vaccine shows promise in animal studies

(NIH) -- An experimental therapeutic cancer vaccine induced two distinct and desirable immune system responses that led to significant tumor regression in mice, report investigators from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), a part of the National Institutes of Health.

Dubbed "vax-innate" by the scientific team, the approach achieves an important goal in the quest for more effective immunotherapeutic vaccines for



cancer.

The study demonstrates that intravenous vaccine

delivery enables and enhances T-cell immunity by overcoming tumor-induced

immunosuppressive activity.

The researchers say the vaccine might also be given intravenously to people who have already received tumor-specific T cells as a therapy.

It also could improve tumor control by increasing the number of T cells and altering the tumor microenvironment, the researchers note.

The researchers found that intravenous administration of the vaccine boosted the number of cy-

tototoxic T cells capable of infiltrating and attacking tumor cells and engaged the innate immune system by inducing type I interferon.

The innate immune response modified the tumor microenvironment, counteracting suppressive forces that otherwise would tamp down T-cell action.

Modification of the tumor microenvironment was not seen in mice that received the vaccine via needle injection into the skin (subcutaneous admin-

istration).

The experimental vaccine, SNAPvax, was designed by Robert Seder, M.D., and colleagues at the NIAID Vaccine Research Center (VRC) together with collaborators from Vaccitech North America, a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company in Baltimore, Maryland.

Vaccitech announced plans to advance the SNAPvax platform for use in treating human papilloma virus-associated cancer in 2023.



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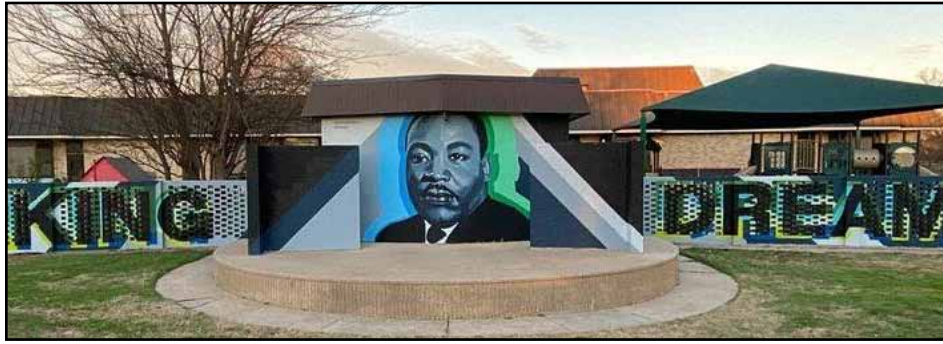
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Martin Luther King Celebration Week kicks off Jan. 10

In January of next year, the City of Dallas will host its 41st annual celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a weeks' worth of events highlighting issues of equity, diversity, and opportunity.

The City's 41st annual celebration of the King's legacy will include a Day of Prayer, a Day of Service, a Wreath Laying Ceremony, Job Fair, Equity Symposium, Youth Summit, and a Scholarship and Awards Gala.



Courtesy photo

The week-long celebration will also include its Annual Scholarship & Awards Gala, featuring keynote speaker Rev. Dr. Gwendolyn

Boyd, and Mistress of Ceremony, Tashara Parker.

At the Gala, the winners of the 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Essay Contest

will be awarded eight scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000 (per award). The awards will go to qualifying graduating high school

seniors accepted into a college-level educational institution (two-year college, four-year college, or trade school).

The Gala will take place Jan. 14, 2023 at the Hyatt Regency Dallas at 300 Reunion Blvd, Dallas, TX 75207.

The week will culminate with the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade. H.E.L.P. (Hope.Encourage.Love.Protect) and the City of Dallas have partnered to

host the parade on Monday, January 16.

Tickets for the Gala are \$150. Tables are \$1,500. Purchase tickets via Eventbrite at bit.ly/CODMLK-Gala.

For more information, visit <https://dallasmlkcenter.com/mlk-scholarship>. or www.help-dallas.org/2023-mlk-parade for parade information.

Parade applications are available online at bit.ly/2023MLKParade.

How some are finding success while living on less

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

It was supposed to be a part-time job. But the workload, travel requirements and responsibilities made Keturah Lee's IT program management position as stressful as any full-time job.

The Northeast Washington resident was working for a federal agency less than 30 hours a week when the COVID-19 pandemic hit in 2020. "But I was doing a full-time person's job," she said.

"It was extremely stressful. I was trying to carry all the responsibility and not drop the ball. It was a never-ending cycle. I felt I always had to be on."

A few months into the pandemic, Lee decided to become one of the nearly 50 million Americans who quit or changed jobs during what has been termed the "Great Resignation" of 2021-22.

While some people didn't have a choice due to loss of employment, many made a move in search of better opportunities.



Photo via NNPA

According to a recent LinkedIn survey, work-life balance was the biggest concern, topping compensation, and benefits.

Lee decided to find a job with less pressure and more flexibility, allowing more time for her volunteer ministry as one of Jehovah's Witnesses.

As the pandemic raged, she studied to be an American Sign Language interpreter. She earned a certificate, quit the IT job, started working part-time as a freelance interpreter and found that her prayers were answered.

"I had made it a matter of prayer," she said. "I didn't want to be rash. I

wanted to make sure I was making the right decision."

Even without the pandemic as a catalyst for taking a hard look at priorities and life goals, the Witnesses' emphasis on service and family has led many in that Christian faith to make similar employment choices over the decades and given them a wealth of experience in learning to find success living on less.

"Living a balanced, simple life protects us, because it gives us more time and energy for spiritual things," said Robert Hendriks, U.S. spokesperson for Jehovah's Witnesses. "Spirituality has a direct impact on a person's emo-

tional well-being, which is why Jesus said that those conscious of their spiritual need are happy. Living by that principle takes constant effort as we each strive to maintain life balance."

Video programs with practical suggestions based on Scriptural principles on [jw.org](https://www.jw.org), the Witnesses' official website,

helped Lee appreciate the value of a simple lifestyle and helping others through her ministry.

"Having less is also good for less stress," she said. "I'm living within my means. Not consuming so much and having and buying just what I need has helped me live a life that's less stressful."

Gail Martin likewise

has no regrets about reassessing her priorities more than two decades ago. She left a high-powered but all-consuming job as a systems analyst to put faith and family first.

"I can prioritize studying the Bible, my religious meetings and my volunteer ministry," said Martin of

See LESS, Page 6

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Thursday, January 26, 2023
5:30 p.m.

Turney W. Leonard Governance
and Training Center
Conference Area
5151 Samuell Blvd.
Dallas, TX 75228

Annual Report of Performance on Texas Academic Performance
Report for 2022-2023

and the 2022-2023 Evaluation of the Effectiveness of
Accelerated Instruction

The Dallas Independent School District will hold a public hearing to share information with the community regarding the educational performance of the district along with the effectiveness of accelerated instruction. The Meeting will take place at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, January 26, 2023, Conference Area, 5151 Samuell Blvd.

Persons interested in making comments at the public hearing must register to speak by contacting Board Services at (972) 925-3720. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m., Monday, January 23, through Wednesday, January 25, at 5 p.m.

HALL, from Page 2

January of 2023. Under her leadership, she plans to continue work on protecting voter rights, women's rights, and increasing the engagement of NBCSL members and corporate

partners.

NBCSL is the nation's premier organization exclusively serving the interests of African American state legislators. With more than 700 members collectively

representing over 60 million Americans, NBCSL serves as a national network, advocate and catalyst for public policy innovation, information exchange, and joint action on critical issues. Visit nbcsl.org to learn more.

Texas Humane Network introduces third-grade humane curriculum

AUSTIN — The Texas Humane Network recently introduced its third-grade humane curriculum program online. The curriculum will promote the safety and well-being of children, animals, and our communities while addressing learning loss due to the pandemic.

Over the last year, the Texas Humane Network has worked with expert curriculum writers, humane educators, and partners throughout the state to create an introductory educational curriculum in alignment with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). TEKS are the state standards for what



Zach Vessels / Unsplash

students should know and be able to do.

Among the major concerns of the human curriculum program is addressing learning deficiencies due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the pandemic, Tex-

as students have struggled with mental health, learning loss, and problems re-engaging in the classroom.

A McKinsey & Company study found students remain behind in math and reading, especially those

in majority-Black schools, who remain five months behind historic levels, compared to those two months behind in white-majority schools.

Another area of concern in humane education is animal safety. “The lack of any formal education in Texas on how to treat and behave around animals has caused growing problems with dog bites, poor treatment of animals, and threatens the overall safety of Texans, especially children,” said Shelby Bobosky, Executive Director.

“Introducing a third-grade humane curriculum in Texas public schools offers the opportunity to

teach children how to safely interact with animals and treat them with respect,” said Bobosky.

In 2021, there were over 1,000 dog-bite-related claims in Texas. Texas also has one of the largest stray dog populations in the country.

“Dog bites tend to happen most frequently to children who don’t know how to keep their distance, treat the animal, or protect themselves. Providing humane education to children can help children stay safe around stray animals,” said Bobosky.

Education about animals has been shown to cap-

ture the attention of young minds, remarked Bobosky, suggesting the curriculum could be a great way to help students improve their performance and readjust to learning in a classroom.

“Ultimately, humane education is about keeping both children and animals safe. A humane curriculum sets a foundation of knowledge for students to know how to treat animals with respect and kindness and will create a more empathetic, humane Texas for all,” concluded Bobosky.

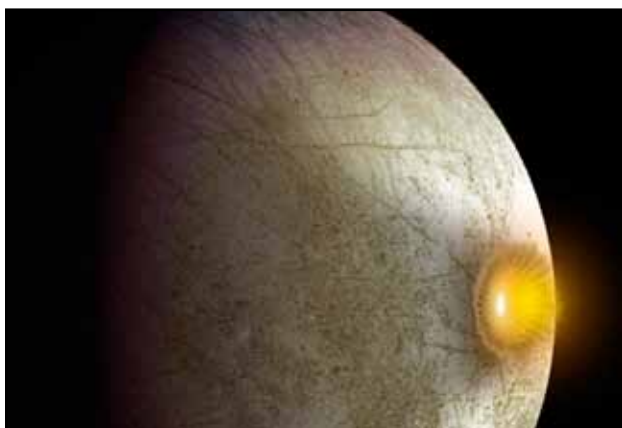
For more information, please contact Cara Gustafson at cara@publicblueprint.com.

Comet impacts could bring ingredients for life to Europa’s ocean

AUSTIN (Texas) — Comet strikes on Jupiter’s moon Europa could help transport critical ingredients for life found on the moon’s surface to its hidden ocean of liquid water — even if the impacts don’t punch completely through the moon’s icy shell.

A model built by University of Texas at Austin researchers indicates that if a comet or asteroid strikes the moon’s ice shell, it could increase the ingredients to sustain life.

The University of Texas at Austin researchers developed a computer model to observe what happens after a comet or asteroid strikes



An artist’s concept of a comet or asteroid impact on Jupiter’s moon Europa. (NASA/JPL-Caltech via Univ. Texas at Austin)

the moon’s ice shell. The model indicated that if an impact can make it at least halfway through the shell, the heated meltwater generated will sink through the

rest of the ice, bringing oxidants — a class of chemicals required for life — from the surface to the ocean, where they could help sustain any potential life in the sheltered

waters.

The researchers compared the steady sinking of the massive melt chamber to a foundering ship.

“Once you get enough water, you’re just going to sink,” said lead author and doctoral student Evan Carnahan. “It’s like the Titanic times 10.”

Scientists have proposed impacts as a means to transport oxidants on Europa, but they assumed the strikes would have to break through the ice. This study is important because it suggests that a much larger range of impacts can do the job, said co-author Marc Hesse, a professor at the UT Jack-

son School of Geosciences Department of Geological Sciences

“This increases the probability that you would have the necessary chemical ingredients for life,” said Hesse, who is also a faculty member at the UT Oden Institute for Computational Engineering & Sciences. The study was published in *Geophysical Research Letters*.

Whether oxidants can get from where they naturally form on Europa’s surface to the ocean is one of the biggest questions in planetary science. One of the goals of NASA’s upcoming Europa Clipper mission to the icy

moon is to collect data that can help narrow down answers.

For now, comet and asteroid impacts are among the most plausible mechanisms. Scientists have spotted dozens of craters on Europa’s surface, many with a distinct rippled appearance that suggests frozen meltwater and post-impact motion beneath the crater.

The discovery comes from a study led by researchers at The University of Texas at Austin, who developed a computer model to observe what happens after a comet or asteroid strikes the ice shell, which is estimated to be tens of kilometers thick.

Dallas ISD chess tournaments hit record-breaking numbers of participants

Two tournaments, two Saturdays, and one school filled with excitement and suspense as almost 2,000 Dallas ISD elementary and secondary students competed against each other in the fall chess tournaments hosted by the Student Activities department at Obama Male

Leadership Academy.

The secondary chess tournament on Oct. 29 kicked off the first of two Saturday tournaments with 665 students from 72 middle and high school campuses ready to play the strategy game of chess.

Students were able to

play multiple rounds of chess, paired with different opponents, based on their wins and losses after each game. Different strategies were used throughout the tournament, some executed well to win a gold, silver or bronze medal.

Even though the King’s

Pawn is the most popular opening move in chess, Christian de Santiago from H. Grady Spruce High School said he prefers the second most popular opening move.

“I like to use the Queen’s Pawn Opening to get most of my pieces free,” the

bronze medal winner said about his strategy. “This lets me get a lot of my pieces out in play on the board and control the game.”

On the other hand, Diego Galavan from Trinity Heights TAG said playing fast is his strategy. “I like to play a fast-paced game,

predicting future moves and not giving my opponent time to think too much before his next move,” gold medal winner said.

Students came ready to use what they have learned from previous years as they

See CHESS, Page 15

LESS, from Page 5

Riverside, California. “I’m also able to spend three months a year in Illinois with my family and help my brother care for my

mom.”

The key to long-term success at living on less, she said, is regular life re-assessment. “What might

work now may eventually not work,” she said. “Sometimes, you have to make adjustments. It’s a continuous process.

She often goes back to the free resources on

jw.org, searching for Scriptural counsel on how to “handle your finances, choosing a career, how to be happy and whatever it might be that you need to look at your priorities and

your values,” she said.

Martin is currently re-evaluating her life to prepare for retirement. She doesn’t yet know what adjustments she will make to simplify her life fur-

ther, but she’s holding on to what makes her happy. “I feel like if you put priorities first like family and God, that’s a lot more fulfilling than working yourself to death,” she said.

Turn trash cans into treasure with Color Carrollton Program

Color Carrollton is back with another opportunity for local artists to show off those painting skills.

Participants can sign up to paint one of 16 industrial-size trash cans for Carrollton's Jimmy Porter Park (2105 N. Josey Lane).

The theme for this season will be La Vie Quotidienne: Art of Everyday Life.

Participants must sign and submit a Color Carrollton Agreement form prior to pickup.

Sign up beginning on



Friday, January 6 and ending on Monday, January 30 at 11:59 p.m. at cityofcarrollton.com/signupnow.

Complete agreement and email to Ramiro.Caballero@cityofcarrollton.com. Space is Limited.

Trash cans are primed with a white base coat and can be picked up on Monday, February 6 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. at Carrollton's McInnish Sports Complex fields one to four (2335 Sandy Lake Road). Acrylic paint is required.

Finished, painted masterpieces must be returned at the pickup location at McInnish Sports Complex between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Monday, March 6.

A deposit of \$25 is re-

quired and will be refunded if the agreement is followed and the trash can is returned.

City staff will seal the trash cans after participants drop off their finished works of art with an outdoor protective varnish topcoat specifically for acrylic paint.

Color Carrollton is part of the Art Around Carrollton initiative featuring a collection of public as well as private works of art,

located indoors and outdoors, including murals on exterior walls, sculptures large and small, iron works, and monuments located throughout the City of Carrollton.

For an interactive map of each artwork's location and the story behind it, visit cityofcarrollton.com/arts, click Arts Initiatives, and check out the Art Around Carrollton web page.

For more information, call 972-466-9815.

SELF-HATE, from Page 3

we all came together on Black Twitter and elected Jones the representative of the 'community,'" Jessica Washington wrote for the Root.

"But, I kind of think I'd remember making the man who said we don't give Donald Trump 'enough credit' for his love of Black people, the supreme leader."

Washington called white supremacy a threat that impacts all oppressed peoples,

and all should take it seriously.

"But trying to make the victims of white supremacy fight like crabs in a barrel does nothing to make the situation better," she declared.

Dr. Jeff Menzies, a clinical psychologist, said it's often difficult to label someone an "Uncle Tom" or a "House Negro."

"Part of [some people's behavior], I think, is stubbornness," Dr. Menzies of

the National Newspaper Publishers Association's "Let it be Known" live morning show.

"For example, some people are like, 'you're not going to move me from my political views.' Some will point out that Democrats are not that better, just maybe not as condescending," he said.

Dr. Menzies called self-hate "real."

"It's a learned process and learned as a conditioning," the clinical psychologist continued. "The pro-

cess of learning is a deep and systematic concept."

Dr. David Childs, a History and Black Studies department professor at Northern Kentucky University, said its proper to view West, Smith, Jones, and others in a historical context.

"Since the time of enslavement, there have been African Americans that have sided with white forces that joined up with the enslaver to get benefits," Dr. Childs said.

"Sometimes I wonder if they believe everything they put forth. But it's very lucrative to sign up with certain individuals like those with [former President Donald Trump]."

"They stand to benefit, reminding me of what Malcolm X said in his speech differentiating between the House Negro and the Field Negro. He talked about how the House Negro benefitted from the master. I see that today. If offered the right amount of money,

many people in our community would say and do whatever."

Sonny Etienne, a licensed mental health counselor, and certified addiction profession said self-hate isn't always by accident.

"It's well-orchestrated," Etienne stated.

"There are folks out there perpetrating fake news. So, the thing you've got to ask with Kanye, are there unseen political hands working behind the scenes?"

PELE, from Page 2

play and injuries turned the 1966 World Cup into a disaster for Brazil and Pelé, as the team went out in the first round, and he contemplated retiring from World Cup play.

Returning in 1970 for one more World Cup tournament, he teamed with young stars Jairzinho and Rivelino to claim Brazil's third title and permanent ownership of the Jules Rimet Trophy. Pelé finished his World Cup career, scoring 12 goals in 14 games.

Pelé's electrifying play and penchant for spectacular goals made him a world-

wide star.

His team Santos toured internationally to take full advantage of his popularity. For example, in 1967, he and his team traveled to Nigeria, where a 48-hour cease-fire in that nation's civil war was called to allow all to watch the great player.

Pelé announced his retirement in 1974 but, in 1975, agreed to a three-year \$7 million contract with the New York Cosmos of the North American Soccer League and to promote the game in the United States.

He retired after leading

the Cosmos to the league championship in 1977.

Pelé was the recipient of the International Peace Award in 1978. In 1980 he was named Athlete of the Century by the French sports publication L'Equipe, and he received the same honor in 1999 from the International Olympic Committee. In 2014 the Pelé Museum opened in Santos, Brazil.

"We thank you all for all the love and light you send," Pelé's daughter, Kely Nascimento, wrote on Instagram. The post accompanied a photo of the family inside the icon's hospital room.

DOING THE RIGHT THING

"The time is always right to do what is right." — Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dallas CASA needs more Black volunteers to serve our community's abused and neglected children living in foster care.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION:

Friday, Jan 13 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	Friday, Jan 27 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Thursday, Jan 19 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Thursday, Feb 9 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

For more information or to register for this event, please visit dallascasa.org

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The Electoral Count Reform Act reforms work to ensure something like January 6 never happens again

WASHINGTON -- The Electoral Count Reform Act reforms work to ensure something like January 6 never happens again

The reforms were recently spelled out in a government funding bill. Congressman Allred said he will vote to pass the bill in the House and work to send it to President Biden's desk to be signed.

The bill, negotiated by a bipartisan group of senators, includes reforms to the Electoral Count Act. The Electoral Count Reform Act includes several important reforms aimed at ensuring that Congress can identify a single, conclusive slate of electors from each state.

Following release of the text of the Omnibus government funding bill, Congressman Colin Allred (TX-32), a former voting rights attorney, stated, "I was on the floor of the House on January 6, when I texted my wife Aly, 'whatever happens, I love you.' That day we came so close



Jose Matute / Unsplash

to losing our democracy, and we must do all we can to make sure that something like January 6 never happens again."

The Act strikes a provision of an archaic 1845 law that could be used by state legislatures to override the popular vote in

their states by declaring a "failed election" – a term that is not defined in the law. Instead, this legislation specifies that a state could move its presidential election day, which otherwise would remain the Tuesday immediately following the first Monday in November

every four years, only if necessitated by "extraordinary and catastrophic" events.

The Act identifies each state's Governor as responsible for submitting the state's electors, unless otherwise specified in state laws. Congress cannot ac-

cept a slate submitted by a different official. This reform would address the potential for multiple state competing slates. The Act provides for expedited review, including a three-judge panel with a direct appeal to the Supreme Court, of certain claims related to a state's certificate identifying its electors. This accelerated process is available only for aggrieved presidential candidates and allows for challenges made under existing federal law and the U.S. Constitution to be resolved more quickly.

The Act requires Congress to defer to slates of electors submitted by a state's executive pursuant to the judgments of state or federal courts. It also affirmatively states that the constitutional role of the Vice President, as the presiding officer of the joint meeting of Congress, is solely ministerial and that he or she does not have any power to solely determine,

accept, reject, or otherwise adjudicate disputes over electors.

The Act raises the threshold to lodge an objection to electors to at least one-fifth of members of both the House of Representatives and the Senate. This change would reduce the likelihood of frivolous objections by ensuring that objections are broadly supported. Currently, only a single member of both chambers is needed to object to an elector or slate of electors.

The legislation also makes reforms to the Presidential transition process.

Praising the bipartisan effort, Allred stated, "[t]he reforms updating the Electoral Count Act are a result of bipartisan negotiations and I commend senators on both sides of the aisle for working to get this done. This is an important step to ensure we strengthen our democracy and the presidential certification process."

Vote of confidence

By Daris Howard

We attend a little country church in our rural community. I have been involved in many community events and have taken on many assignments from the congregation leaders. Mostly, I have worked in scouting.

On Tuesday one week, I had been asked by the congregational leaders to take a new assignment with the young men. The announcement would be given in the church meeting on Sunday, and as usual, everyone in the congregation would be given a chance to either support or express their concern about the assignment. But as I was coming into the church that Sunday, one of the congregational



Justin Luebke / Unsplash

leaders stopped me and told me they had changed their mind. They felt inspired to ask me instead to be the person who would teach the children music.

The members of our little country church have certain idiosyncrasies, and one of them is a strong distinction between what men do and what women do. A man

teaching the children music would be like assigning him to play on a female sports team. But I had been taught by my father that if a call came from church leaders, a person should accept it, and heaven would help him overcome his inadequacies. So, with great apprehension, I accepted.

I wondered what the

members of the congregation would say. I was particularly nervous about the assignment since my wife was a music major in college, and I didn't even know if I was on pitch half the time. The only thing going for me was that I loved children.

It would be a full week before it would be announced to the congregation. That just gave me more time to worry about it. I wondered what my children would think when they learned that their dad, who couldn't sing right half the time, would be teaching music. I talked to my wife about it, but we didn't mention anything to our children other than to tell them that I was getting an unusual assignment.

When the next week

came, and the announcement was made, it went worse than I expected. Instead of the solemnity that usually exists with these announcements, the congregation burst into laughter, starting with my own children. It was to such an extent that the head congregational leader, whom we call "the bishop," had to pause the meeting for everyone to calm down. Once the laughter stopped, the meeting was restarted, only to have everyone once more burst into laughter. This time the bishop spoke to the congregation about how sometimes they, the leaders, felt directed to do unusual things.

No one expressed any concern about the assign-

ment, so I was to officially start the next week. I thought it might be good for me to watch what the current music teacher did. But the minute I stepped into the children's meeting room, one of the ladies in charge handed me the songbook.

I shook my head and handed it back. "I don't start until next week. I just came to watch."

She shoved the book back to me. "We don't have anyone for you to watch, so get up and lead."

Nothing I said would change her mind, and she would not accept no for an answer, so I soon found myself trembling in front of forty children. We sang

See VOTE, Page 15

Film Review: Whitney Houston: I Wanna Dance with Somebody

By Dwight Brown
NNPA Film Critic

(**1/2) It's an illusion. When actress Naomi Ackie stands with her back to the camera, you stare at her clothes, wigs, physique and mannerisms and get tricked into thinking that's Whitney Houston. Then she turns around, and it's not. It's a recurring mirage. A string of images that give Houston fans something to cling to.

Veteran record executive Clive Davis met with screenwriter Anthony McCarten (Queen biopic *Bohemian Rhapsody*), enlisted the aid of Gary and Pat



Photo via NNPA

Houston (Houston's brother and sister-in-law) and this production evolved. Davis knew the singer's musical

feats; her family understood her personal story and McCarten created a script that shows the songstress' highs,

and indelible performances.

In the 1980s, a young Whitney (Ackie) sings backup for her mom Cissy Houston (Tamara Tunie) at the NYC nightclub Sweetwater's. Davis (Stanley Tucci), an exec at Arista Records, is impressed and signs her. A stunning debut performance on the Merv Griffin Show introduces Houston to throngs of viewers. Her first album in 1985, *Whitney Houston*, sells millions and its #1 hit single "Saving All My Love For You" launches her recording career. International world tours, Grammy

Awards and film roles (*The Bodyguard*) propel her into stardom.

Fame comes with bouts of drug abuse, a troubled marriage to Bobby Brown (Aston Sanders, *Moonlight*) and a strained relationship with her father/manager John (Clarke Peters). Even a gossiped about relationship with friend/lover/assistant/creative director Robyn (Nafessa Williams) is aired. Little is left unsaid or un-

sung. Kasi Lemmons' (Harriet) style of direction tends to be thorough and straightforward. The footage is direct, not stylish and tightly

edited (Daysha Broadway, *The Forty-One-Year-Old Version*). Viewers may wonder if the film would have been more kinetic if a director with a music video background had taken the reigns. It's a debate worth having, as the film feels like a mix of staid TV movie, theatrical film and streaming production elements. Another worthy discussion is whether this project should have been a mini-series instead of a feature. That said, Lemmons gets the job done, her way.

Within the boundaries

See DANCE, Page 11

FILM, from Page 9

also broke ground in visually representing the LG-BTQ+ community that had long been kept out of sight. Like other groups struggling to gain acceptance, LG-BTQ+ creators used films to confront tough issues, make gay people more visible, urge greater empathy and show commonalities in society. The 1967 student short film "Behind Every Good Man" by Nikolai Ursin offered a stunning early portrait of Black gender fluidity in Los Angeles and the quest for love and acceptance. By the late 1970s, a collective of filmmakers known as the Mariposa Film Group would create "Word is Out: Stories of Some of Our Lives." The film would become a landmark in the emerging gay rights movement, composed of a mosaic of interviews discussing their lives at a time when depictions of gay men and lesbians as "everyday people" were extremely rare.

Documentaries will be well represented with an impressive nine selections covering a wide range of topics, including a prison riot, Native American heritage, musical greats, female union workers, mental health treatment, LGBTQ+ history, a Japanese-American internment camp, and a film dating back 124 years to 19th century New Orleans. Recently discovered in a Netherlands museum,

though long thought to be lost, the film, "Mardi Gras Carnival" documents American history and represents the earliest known surviving footage of the festival. In 2013, the Library released a report that determined 70 percent of the nation's silent feature films have been lost forever, while only 14 percent exist in their original format.

Some of these films document social change, while others provoke such changes. With the landmark 1967 film "Titicut Follies," Frederick Wiseman takes audiences inside the Bridgewater State Prison for the Criminally Insane to expose the abuse of patients in Massachusetts. Banned from general release until 1991 when a judge allowed the film to be viewed by the general public, the film is a seminal work of American documentary and an illustration of the impact of cinema to bring change to institutions.

"Union Maids," an Oscar-nominated documentary film from 1976, was directed by Julia Reichert, James Klein and Miles Mogulescu. It told the story of three female Union workers in the 1930s and their days of conflict and confrontation with American corporations. Reichert, a legendary figure in the documentary world, won the Academy Award, along with Steven Bogner

and Jeff Reichert, in 2019 for "American Factory."

Terminally ill with cancer and in hospice care when she learned "Union Maids" was being added to the registry, Reichert responded: "For the longest time, women's voices, especially working-class women's voices, were not respected, let alone heard." "Documentaries presented men as the experts, the historians, the authorities. We hoped this film would just show you how vital, wise, funny and essential these women's voices were and are, to the struggles of working people to get a better deal." Reichert died less than a week after the comment.

Select titles from 30 years of the National Film Registry are also freely available online in the National Screening Room, and the public can submit nominations for next year on the Library's website until Aug. 15, 2023 at loc.gov/film. The Library of Congress is the world's largest library, offering access to the creative record of the United States both on-site and online. It is the main research arm of the U.S. Congress and the home of the U.S. Copyright Office. Explore collections, reference services and other programs and plan a visit at loc.gov; access the official site for U.S. federal legislative information at congress.gov; and register creative works of authorship at copyright.gov.

Starting January 23, 2023, GoLink will have service from 5 a.m. - midnight daily.

With GoLink, you get curb-to-curb service within your zone or a connection to DART's larger network in a few simple steps:

- 1 Book with the GoPass® app or call 214-515-7272
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BLACK, from Page 1

received life in prison.

Black Press U.S.A. ran the headline, “Will Commission Conclude that Trump was Negligent in Jan. 6 Insurrection?”

In December, the Jan. 6 Commission referred criminal charges to the Department of Justice, emphatically stating that the former president should face a judge and jury for inciting the insurrection.

Having already spearheaded a lawsuit against prison officials in Mississippi over conditions there, hip-hop superstar Jay-Z and his team publicly demanded that authorities investigate racism and corruption in the Kansas City Police Department.

In February, the nation’s historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) began facing bomb threats, while Howard University’s Lacrosse team met racial slurs during a game in South Carolina.

As critical race theory proved all the rage, D.C. Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton called on Congress for \$30 million to combat implicit bias in schools.

In a year of Black achievement, Snoop Dogg purchased Death Row Records, the label that made him, Dr. Dre, and many others famous.

The three officers involved in the murder of George Floyd finally received the justice many had sought, each pleading guilty for their role in killing the Black Minneapolis man.

As Russia invaded Ukraine, the Black Press reminded the world why Black lives should matter in Ukraine.

Russia responded to America’s assistance to Ukraine by taking WNBA star Brittney Griner hostage, charging her with possessing a small amount of cannabis oil.

A Russian court found her guilty, and the basketball player received a more than 9-year sentence. How-



White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre with NNPA Sr. National Correspondent Stacy M. Brown at the White House (Photo via NNPA)

ever, in a December prisoner swap, Griner finally returned home in exchange for notorious Russian arms dealer Viktor Bout.

The P.G.A. Tour reiterated its commitment to the Black Press and continued offering scholarships and grants to HBCUs and other initiatives to people of color.

Meanwhile, an emotional Tiger Woods opened up for the first time.

During his induction into the Pro Golf Hall of Fame, Woods spoke candidly about the racism and discrimination he faced as a child.

As African American homeowners continued to face bias in real estate, Vice President Kamala Harris released a plan to stop appraisers from putting an unfair low value on the homes of Black people.

Congress also passed the Crown Act, which ends discrimination against natural Black hairstyles.

In Entertainment, despite the controversial Will Smith slap of Chris Rock, Florida A&M graduate Will Packer led an all-Black production team for the 94th annual Academy Awards.

Deion Sanders, who survived life-saving surgery that resulted in the amputation of his toes, led Jackson State University’s football team to another successful season. Sanders then signed a multi-million-dollar contract to lead Colorado State in 2023.

The Black Press made news with outstanding accomplishments within its ranks. William Garth, Sr., a philanthropist, community leader, activist, political influencer, and freedom fighter, earned posthumous enshrinement into the Black Press Archives and Gallery of Distinguished Black Publishers at Howard University’s historic Moorland-Spingarn Research Center. The guiding force behind the Chicago Citizen Newspaper Group, Garth joined a host of others enshrined, including Lenora “Doll” Carter, Marcus Garvey, Frances Murphy, Dr. Mary Ellen Strong, Charles Tisdale, and M. Paul Redd.

Dr. Toni Draper, the publisher of the AFRO, earned NNPA Publisher of the Year honors, and won selection as one of “25 over 50” by Editor & Publisher Magazine.

Texas Metro News Publisher and IMessenger Media boss, Cheryl Smith, also earned the same distinction. Additionally, Smith earned induction into the National Association of Black Journalists Hall of Fame. She was also named Distinguished Alumni by Florida A&M University School of Journalism and Graphic Communications.

Additionally, Houston Forward Times Associate Editor Jeffrey L. Boney, who serves as Mayor Pro Tem in Missouri City, has received appointments to two crucial national posts.

The award-winning journalist, author, and two-term councilmember earned an appointment to the National League of Cities (N.L.C.) 2022 Community and Economic Development Federal Advocacy Committee (C.E.D.) and the 2022 Race, Equity, And Leadership Council—or REAL.

Dr. Chavis continued to bring the Black Press and NNPA to a global audience with his PBS TV and PBS World show, “The Chavis Chronicles.”

Meanwhile, the NNPA’s live morning show, “Let it be Known,” continued to

attract mainstream viewers and celebrity guests like Gabrielle Union, LisaRaye McCoy, and Skip Marley. The show remains the NNPA’s premiere public-facing entity and, on Dec. 31, airs its 500th episode. With its vision, legacy, culture, and story on full display, the AFRO celebrated its 130th anniversary in style Saturday night with a gala at Martins Crosswinds in Greenbelt, Maryland. Comedian and D.C.-area native Tommy Davidson served as the night’s host, while Temeka Moore and Absolute Music performed various hit songs. The sold-out crowd capped the evening with a dance party as famed D.J. Kid Capri worked his magic on the turntables.

During the signing of anti-lynching legislation, Vice President Harris sang the praises of the Black Press. “Ida B. Wells,” Harris stated midway through her speech. “The courageous nature of that incred-

ible American who used her skill, her profession, her calling, as a journalist to help open the eyes of our nation to the terror of lynching which speaks to the role — going off-script — and the importance of the Black Press and making sure that we have storytellers in our community, who will tell the story when no one else is willing to tell it.”

The Black Press also called out how white people were more likely to ignore safety precautions like wearing masks and social distancing during the pandemic when they realized the various and disproportionate ways COVID-19 affected African Americans.

Psychologists at the University of Georgia’s Department of Social Science & Medicine made those conclusions following an in-depth study of racial disparities during the pandemic.

In releasing the 2022 State of Black America report, National Urban

League President and C.E.O. Marc Morial said factions of state and federal lawmakers, working in concert with shady political operatives and violent extremists, are dangerously close to dismantling American democracy and establishing autocratic rule.

The report outlined “the conspiracy and the urgent case for a national mobilization to protect and defend our most sacred constitutional right,” Morial noted in the report titled “Under Siege: The Plot to Destroy Democracy.”

Karine Jean-Pierre became the first Black woman to hold the White House press secretary job, while colleague Erica Loewe continued to open doors for Black media at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

White Supremacy again reared its racist head with the massacre at Tops Supermarket in Buffalo. An 18-year-old white male,

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December 1, 2022

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Rental competitiveness in Texas in 2022: El Paso hotter than Dallas, Austin & Houston

(Rentcafe.com) -- Cities in Texas continue to attract Californians and other out-of-state renters looking to enjoy a more affordable lifestyle compared to big coastal cities as well as better job opportunities in high-income sectors. Although the Lone Star state continues to be a very attractive place to live and do business, the competition for apartments in Texas was relatively reasonable

compared to the national landscape. This was mainly due to the state's strong pace of apartment construction during the last few years and all throughout 2022.

- El Paso was Texas' most competitive rental market in 2022, followed by McAllen and Dallas.

- Central Texas and Lubbock joined El Paso on the list of Texas markets with the most significant shifts in

competitiveness this year. All were hotter in the first part of the year.

- The fast pace of apartment construction was not enough to slow down demand in markets like Houston and San Antonio, which heated up in peak rental season.

- Houston was 60% more competitive in peak rental season than the first part of the year.

But, when and why did Texas' main rental markets get hotter in 2022? To find out, Rentcafe.com looked at five important factors based on Yardi Systems apartment data, including: the number of days rentals were vacant; the percentage of apartments occupied by renters; the number of prospective renters competing for an apartment; the percentage of renters who renewed their

leases; and the share of new apartments completed in 2022.

Based on these metrics, each rental market in Texas was rated using a Rental Competitiveness Index (RCI), during three different timeframes: the first part of the year (January to April), peak rental season (May to August) and the full year of 2022. The value of each RCI score shows if a mar-

ket was highly competitive (90 points and above), competitive (between 45 and 90 points) or less competitive (less than 45 points).

When it came to renting an apartment, Texas was less competitive in 2022 (with an RCI score below 45). In fact, it lagged behind the more competitive California as well as the red-hot state of

See RENT, Page 13

2022, from Page 11

Payton Gendron, killed ten people and injured three others on Saturday, May 14, in a venue where Blacks make up the most significant percentage of shoppers and count as the majority of those who died.

Once again, Americans grappled with the nation's latest example of senseless and unprovoked violence.

This time, the dead include grandmothers, fathers, sons, and sisters whose only "crime" would be picking up essential groceries for their families. The victims in the shooting included a former police officer and a beloved wife and grandmother who served as the primary caretaker for her husband, who lives in a nursing facility.

Federal and state governments, including in California, failed to protect Black artists, culture-makers, and media-makers from discrimination and simultaneously promoted discriminatory narratives, according to a report done by a task force investigating reparations for citizens in the Golden State.

State governments memorialized the Confederacy as just and heroic through monument building while suppressing the nation's history of racism and slavery, said researchers for the California Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans.

When the U.S. Supreme Court abolished *Roe v. Wade*, individuals like the Rev. William Barber held a "Moral March on Wash-

ington," helping to push the Biden administration and local governments into action to protect women.

In June, the NNPA wrapped its 2022 convention in New Orleans with a cruise aboard the Creole Queen Riverboat along the Mississippi River.

But the convention, which celebrated the 195th anniversary of the Black Press in America and featured a live concert by Stephanie Mills, wasn't about smooth sailing – especially given the issues facing African Americans and other marginalized communities.

Mark Thompson, the decorated journalist, and host of the podcast "Make It Plain," moderated the topic, "Amplifying Voices of Generation Z and Millennials Through the Black Press of America."

Electrifying the audience were on-air personalities Jonita "Go J.J. Go" Buchanan, DaNeshia Bell, Joshua McMillian, Lafayette Barnes, and Melony Mainor.

Erica Myles, the senior consultant and senior vice president of Diverse Segments, Representation, and Inclusion for Wells Fargo, discussed the topic, "Relationships and Resources: Tools to Move Black-owned Small Businesses from Surviving to Thriving."

A General Motors contingent spoke with NNPA President, and C.E.O. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr. about "The Path to Inclusion is Electric: How G.M. is

Building an All-Inclusive Workforce to Build an All-Electric Future."

Representatives from G.M. and Wells Fargo also sat for a live interview on the NNPA's national news program "Let It Be Known."

"The Google News Initiative Lab: Growing Digital Advertising Revenue" panel featured publishers James Washington of the Dallas Weekly, Janis Ware of the Atlanta Voice, Google News Initiative employees Eric Rosato and Casey Pallenik, and Association of Alternative Newsmedia Manager Todd Stauffer.

Munson Steed, the Rolling Out National Publications publisher, presented the topic: RIDE (Rolling Out Innovation Digital Entertainment) Lab for NNPA Publishers.

The year of Black Excellence continued despite repeated attacks on Blackness.

In 2021, Rihanna achieved billionaire status.

In 2022, Forbes acknowledged that the Barbadian beauty is now the youngest self-made billionaire in America.

The 34-year-old, who recently gave birth to her first child, ranked 21st in the latest Forbes list of billionaires.

For the first time in its 246-year history, the Marines have a Black four-star general. In addition, Lt. Gen. Michael Langley was confirmed to lead all U.S. military forces in Africa as chief of U.S. Africa Command.

Democrats elected New

York Rep. Hakeem Jeffries as the party's leader, making him the first Black ever to head a major political party in Congress. "The congressman, who once quoted the late Notorious B.I.G. during one of former President Donald Trump's impeachment hearings and has maintained a vow to oppose

Republican extremism, takes the reins from longtime House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), who earlier this month stepped down from the party leadership role she held for nearly

two decades.

For the second time in as many years, voters in Georgia have delivered a Senate runoff victory for Democrats. Incumbent Raphael Warnock, who won a runoff in January 2021 against Republican Kelly Loeffler, defeated G.O.P. nominee Herschel Walker on Tuesday in a close contest that saw both candidates earn nearly 2 million votes.

Warnock's victory underscored the major disappointment experienced by the G.O.P. after pundits and Republicans anticipated

a so-called red wave that never materialized.

Harvard University has announced Claudine Gay as its new president. The dean of Harvard's Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Gay, becomes the first African American to serve as the university's leader and the second woman president in the institution's illustrious history.

Founded in 1636, the university has graduated Barack Obama, John F. Kennedy, W.E.B. Du Bois, and other famous individuals and leaders.



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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RENT, from Page 12

Florida and even the national RCI score of 59.9. More precisely, most Texas markets were more competitive in the first part of the year, including places such as El Paso, McAllen, Dallas, Fort Worth and Austin. At the same time, San Antonio and Houston got hotter during peak rental season.

In particular, El Paso was Texas' hottest market in 2022 with an RCI of 77.2. More than 96% of apartments here were occupied this year and very few new rentals were built. As such, the area's supply of apartments increased by a mere 0.7% this year. In addition, more than 60% of renters decided to renew their leases, which only fueled competition in the area.

Similarly, McAllen emerged as the state's second hottest market, mirroring trends in El Paso. Although there were only nine renters competing for the same vacant apartment here (which is fewer than in most Texas areas), apartment occupancy averaged 96.2% this year. Moreover, nearly 68% of renters decided to stay put and renew their leases. This

led to an RCI score of 70.2, almost double the state's 44.4 score.

Further north, more than 95% of apartments for rent in Dallas were occupied this year, which was partly due to the fact that nearly 63% of renters decided to renew their leases. As a result, Dallas' RCI score was 56.9.

Nearby, Fort Worth saw similar trends, reaching an RCI score of 52.8. Interestingly, El Paso, Dallas and Fort Worth saw the most interest from renters in all of Texas this year, with an average of 13 to 15 candidates competing for the same vacant apartment.

Central Texas saw the highest shift in competitiveness in 2022. This year, competitiveness fluctuated the most in Central Texas, but El Paso and Lubbock also saw significant shifts. Granted, all three markets became less competitive during the peak rental season, thereby making it easier for renters to secure an apartment. Here, fewer lease renewals and lower apartment occupancies compared to the first part of the year — as well as

a higher share of new apartments built in 2022 — were the main factors that led to the change.

Specifically, Central Texas was 21.2% less competitive in the summer months when its RCI dropped 12.1 points to 50.6. The lease renewal rate for the area went from 62.1% in the first months of the year to 57.1% in peak rental season. At the same time, the occupancy rate declined from 95% to 93.4%, which helped slow things down.

Notably, El Paso — Texas' most in-demand rental market in 2022 — was nearly 18% less competitive in peak rental season versus the first part of the year when its RCI was close to 90. The drop of 15.8 points in its RCI score can be attributed to fewer lease renewals (58.4% versus 61.4% in the first four months of the year); a lower occupancy rate (96% versus 96.7%); and new apartments added to the market (0.7% through August).

Meanwhile, renters in Lubbock faced a market that was 15.3% less competitive in peak rental season. The area recorded similar shifts in occupancy and lease re-

newal rates as Central Texas, plus the lowest number of renters competing for an apartment in all of Texas — eight applicants in the first part of the year and just five in peak rental season. Surprisingly, apartments in Lubbock filled faster during the rental season than in any other market in the state — just 23 days, to be more precise.

San Antonio, Houston were the major Texas markets that got hotter in peak rental season. Houston was 60.3% more competitive in peak rental season than the first part of the year. The extra heat came from the high lease renewal rate — 58.6% in peak season compared to only 49.6% in the first part of the year. Renter interest here was similar to that in Austin, with 12 prospective renters competing for one vacant apartment in peak season.

And, although the number of new apartments that opened in Houston during its hottest months was higher than the first part of the year (1.8% through August versus 1% through April) this did not affect competitiveness.

Next up, San Antonio ranks seventh, right after Austin as far as rental com-

petitiveness in Texas in 2022. The market was one of four Texas areas that got hotter during rental season after a 7% increase in its RCI score. This, despite its increased share of new apartments that were added to the market through August (1.7% compared to 1% through April).

That said, a vacant apartment in San Antonio was snatched up faster in rental season — after 29 days versus 33 days in the first part of the year. However, the number of renters competing for an apartment stayed the

same throughout the year — 12, the same as in Austin.

Conversely, Dallas was hotter in the first part of the year when its RCI reached 55.7. A higher apartment occupancy rate and more lease renewals than in its rental season kept competition high in the first four months of 2022. Later, the fast pace of apartment construction (Dallas' total supply of rentals increased by 2.1% through August) helped slow things down during peak season, when the metro was 2.2% less competitive.

DANCE, from Page 10

of the creative choices, the tech team recreates Houston's most iconic videos with perfect lighting, composition and cinematography (Barry Ackroyd, Jason Bourne). The production design (Gerald Sullivan), makeup (Jackie Ageuce), art direction (David Offner) and costumes (Charles Antoinette Jones) are solid too. Reconstructed shoots of "I Wanna Dance...", "I Will Always Love You" and "How Will I Know" mirror the originals.

It's all very entertaining, though not as gritty as one might hope. Some scenes feel melodramatic, like parts of Starz's "Power". E.g., Whitney confronts her duplicitous father. Dad: "I'm the manger here." Whitney: "I know you are, you work for me!" Fortunately, emotions get a bit rawer and deeper when

Bobby and Whitney have their volatile clashes.

Also, though the dialogue is serviceable, it isn't what it could be. When Whitney says: "I'm tired of being the good girl," it feels like the words of a screenwriter. As a tough Jersey girl, wouldn't she have said something saltier? Like: "Why do I always have to be the mother----g good girl?"

Ackie reimagines the icon deftly with her very thoughtful interpretation. She walks, talks and lip-synchs her way through a 2h 26m homage, never letting the audience down. She's gleeful, hopeful and wallowing in megastardom one minute. Then doing drugs, drinking and leading a low life the next. You never question Ackie's performance. Nor that of Tucci as Davis or Tunie as Cissy.

If Whitney Houston fans long to feel her essence again, this movie and its illusions gives them a chance. But not like an extraordinary biofilm. More

like a condensed diary with lots of wonderful music.

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The Liar in the Red Suit

By James L. Snyder

Around this time of the year, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I revel in our family memories.

Unlike me, she has some wonderful memories because of her large family. I came from a very small family and therefore don't have that many memories let alone wonderful memories.

This reminded me of my first encounter with what my parents called Santa Claus.

Growing up, we didn't have television, and the teachers at the school I attended were mostly Menonites. They didn't celebrate Santa Claus, and there was no mention of him in our classes. Christmas was focused on the birth of Christ.

In a small town like ours, there weren't any shopping malls, so there was no place for Santa Claus to set up his little booth and greet all the

little children during the Christmas season.

Then one Christmas, Santa Claus and his entourage set up in our downtown square. Everybody was invited to come and see Santa Claus.

I mentioned this to my father and asked him about Santa Claus.

"Well," my father said, "you go see Santa Claus, sit on his lap and tell him what you want for Christmas."

When I heard that my eyes just lit up in great delight. "You mean I can tell Santa Claus what I want for Christmas?"

With a smile on his face, my father shook his head most energetically. I believed him; after all, fathers don't lie.

All I ever wanted for Christmas when I was young was a pony. Now, with Santa Claus in town, I had the opportunity to request a pony for this Christmas. I can't tell you how excited I was.

My parents took me and

my siblings downtown at the square to meet Santa Claus. I was excited, and so were my siblings. We chattered and chattered all the way the Santa's place. We told each other what we wanted Santa to bring us for Christmas.

I remember that first experience with Santa Claus. As I walked up and sat in his lap, I was a wee bit nervous. Then the thoughts dancing in my head was that this was my opportunity to get my long-awaited pony for Christmas

"Ho, ho, ho, and what would you like for Christmas this year, little fella?"

I wanted to hear that all my life. I then explained to him that all I wanted for Christmas was a pony. Any color pony would do as long as it was a pony. So I explained to him what I would do with a pony and how it would change my life and everything.

As he listened to me, he was chuckling, "Ho, ho, ho."

When I finished my request, he said, "Young man is that really what you want for Christmas? If so, you'll have to be nice and not naughty because if you're naughty, I can't do it."

With a hearty nod and a smile on my face, I promised I would never be naughty.

As I left dear old Santa's lap, all I could think of was how this little pony he would bring me on Christmas day would change my life. That's all I could talk about on the way home that day.

I did notice that my father and mother were looking at each other but not smiling and I did not catch what was happening.

On Christmas Eve, as we got the Christmas tree all ready, I was excited, and I made a little space under the tree for the pony Santa would bring me that night.

It was hard to sleep because I was listening for the reindeer to land on the roof with my pony for

Christmas. Eventually, I fell asleep and dreamed of that wonderful little pony all night.

I couldn't wait to get up that morning, and I ran into the living room where the Christmas tree was. I shouted excitedly, "Where's my pony?"

My father tried to explain that perhaps I had been on Santa's "naughty list," and he couldn't bring me that pony for Christmas this year.

I shed tears all day, and the following days were terrible.

For the next three Christmases, I did the same thing. Every Christmas, Santa promised to bring me a pony for Christmas as long as I was not naughty.

Christmas after Christmas and no pony. I tried to have my father explain to me what Santa's definition of naughty was. He tried to explain, but I couldn't understand what he was talking about at the time.

I could not believe that

that wonderful person called Santa Claus could ever lie to someone like me. So what did I ever do to get on his naughty list?

I never went back to sit on Santa's lap ever again. But, later in life, I realized that the guy in the red suit was lying to me, and he wasn't really Santa Claus.

Thinking about this I remembered what the Angels told the shepherds on that glorious day. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." (Luke 2:11-12).

The real purpose of Christmas is celebrating the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. My life changed when I received him as my Lord and Savior. Yours can too.

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

See SUIT, Page 16

← CHESS, from Page 6

played each game, said Tyne Thompson, South Oak Cliff High coach.

"My students are eager to compete and learn from their opponents, while also sharing their knowledge and love for the game," Thompson said.

At the end of the second-

ary tournament, 30 gold medals, 10 silver medals and 87 bronze medals were awarded to 6th through 12th graders who competed that day.

Following the secondary tournament, students in kindergarten through fifth grade got the chance to dem-

onstrate their strategic chess moves at the elementary chess tournament held in early November. This was the first year that kindergarten through second grade students were invited to compete in the districtwide chess program. Shattering attendance records, 1,265 students from 103 schools attended the elementary

chess tournament at Barack Obama Male Leadership Academy.

For many, it was their first time participating in an in-person competition. Lu-

cie Tims, a 5th grader from Alex Sanger Preparatory School said "it was cool to see all the chess boards set up to play in one room." More than 600 chess boards

had been set up the previous night, spread across two gyms and the cafeteria, to be able to accommodate all the students who competed in the tournament.

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Dwell In God's Secret Place



Sister Tarpley
NDG
Religion
Editor

At this time in a person's life, especially after the Christmas holidays with kids at home from school and a new year, stress can be high. But, I have good news for every individual; Psalms 91:1 and 2, particularly, but the entire book of **Psalm 91.**

"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God in Him will I trust."

The Book of Psalms could be life changing for many people. Society says that the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays are the worst for some individuals, when really they should be



the happiest.

The Lord said, *"I will go before thee and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron: And I will give thee treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places,*

that thou mayest know that I, the Lord, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel." **Isaiah 45:2-3.**

When you trust God completely, I believe that He takes you to a depth of soul experience, and you should be alert to new truths and new perspectives, even if

you don't fully understand what God is doing in your life at the time.

Having faith in God often leads individuals to amazing new discoveries. It can be a storehouse of unexpected pleasures and riches for your soul.

Whatever is going in your life at this time, you must believe in God and live each day to the fullest. Don't find yourself living in the past or in the future. Live in the 'present' moment that God gives you.

When you need deliverance, God will come through for you on His time, where God has placed you.

When you find yourself going through a trial or adversity, understand that God is performing radical surgery on your life. The purpose of God's surgery is not to destroy you, but to give you a new heart.

God is making a funda-

mental change in who you are and who you will be. And He will always reveal treasures from these secret places if you are willing to walk through the process patiently.

As you are going through your trials and tribulations thank God for His Word of life. Thank Him for the Holy Bible that is full of wisdom, examples guidance, instructions, promises, enlightenment and life-giving knowledge.

Thank God for His Word that is an encouragement when you need it and a

chastisement at other times in your life. If you ask God, His Word will help you to find answers to life questions that arise and it will give you peace when you are confused.

God's Word will teach you about His power and love; it will reinforce the importance of following His Son Jesus, and to be a living testimony for your family, in your neighborhood and in your work place.

(Editor's Note: This column originally ran in January 2014.)

VOTE, from Page 8

a song that I have known since I was a boy, but in my flustered state, I mixed half of one verse with half of another. I finally stopped the music.

"Maybe we should try that again," I said.

One little eight-year-old girl raised her hand. When I called on her, she asked, "Are you going to be our new music teacher?"

"Yes," I replied. The little girl rolled her eyes. "That really stinks,"

she said. "You mess things up."

And with that, I thought, "I hope heaven has more confidence in me than I do."

Daris Howard is an award-winning, syndicated columnist, playwright, and author.

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NDG Book Review: 'Trauma, Tresses & Truth' weaves great essays

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

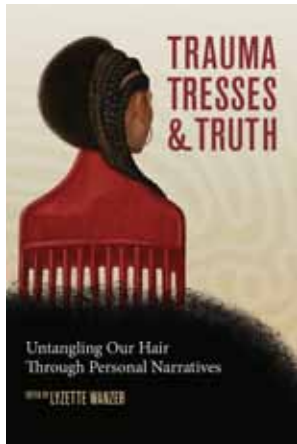
Your application was accepted.

The phone interview went well; the person you spoke with seemed impressed with your credentials, your education and experience. You laughed at the same jokes. Knew some of the same industry people. At the in-person interview, they told you that the job was yours – if you'd change one thing. "Trauma, Tresses & Truth," edited by Lyzette Wanzer, combs through this irritation.

Nearly four years ago, then-senator Holly Mitchell of California wrote and sponsored what she called the CROWN Act, which prohibits discrimination based on hair style and texture. That summer, California passed the law and since then, other states and municipalities have followed suit. And yet, hassles happen on behalf of hair.

In times of slavery, hair was hidden to "restrict the appearance" of marketable women and to enforce conformity, and preference was given to slaves that had straighter hair and lighter skin. A century ago, advertisements for "hair dressing" promised to tame "kinky, snarly, ugly" hair. The availability of Madame C.J. Walker's products showed that "Black women... take [their] nappy hair and figure it out."

Sometimes, though, it feels like "the Black body is a war zone and the Black skull, the helmet." It happens to men, when people question their braids in professional settings, or they stereotype men with locs. It happens when a white person touches your hair or even asks to touch it. Worst of all, pelo malo (bad hair) are words that follow babies and small children



who are too young to shout the word "no" or to choose for themselves.

As for work, says one essayist, "A 2017 study confirms that Black women face bias in the workplace when wearing natural hairstyles." It might happen with lowered tips at a restaurant job, a lack of promotion or a raise, or the loss of a job altogether – and for what?

Says another essayist, "My hair doesn't do my job. I do."

A quick flip through "Trauma, Tresses & Truth" suggests that this book isn't going to tell you anything that's new. It is, in fact, quite a bit of preaching to the choir, since most people who will pick it up are living it. And yet, there's appeal in these pages, and support, as though you've just entered a town hall meeting for Black women's hair.

While it's a fact that men are slightly represented in this book, the essayists that editor Lyzette Wanzer has pulled together are mostly Black and Puerto Rican women who write about earlier hairstyles in a manner that can make you sit back, sigh in remembered happiness, and let your shoulders relax. It's not all good, though: some essayists recall tender-headed pain, Jheri curl messes, and embarrassment from long

ago or last week. These memories, these exasperations, serve to weave cama-

raderie into each tale.

Clearly, this is a book for women but Black men may

likewise find words that'll make sense to them, too. If you're tired of hair harass-

ment, read "Trauma, Tresses & Truth." It'll make your toes curl.



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SUIT, from Page 14

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