



North Dallas Gazette

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'Race is still relevant' post-*Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard*

By Pilar Marrero

Many are vowing to continue the fight to protect diversity in higher education and warn policy makers and educators not to overreach in interpreting the controversial ruling.

Civil rights leaders joined together to denounce last week's Supreme Court decision ending Affirmative Action. Many are warning of the negative effects the ruling will have on students of color.

"Race is still relevant, racial discrimination is still relevant," said Thomas A. Saenz, President and General Counsel of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF).

Saenz pointed to the majority opinion written by Chief Justice John Roberts, which states that college admission programs can consider how race has affected an applicant's character specifically, but that race cannot be a general consideration in admissions.

"That is a clear indication that this is not a mandate or even an invitation to ignore race in the context of higher education," explained Saenz in an interview with Ethnic Media Services.

The June 29 decision overturned 45 years of precedent by ruling that Affirmative Action policies violate the Equal Protection Clause of the



Civil rights leaders are uniting in concern over a recent Supreme Court decision that challenges existing affirmative action measures. (Photo: Andre Hunter / Unsplash)

Constitution.

Saenz and others warned policymakers and higher education leaders not to overreach in their interpretation of the ruling. They also urged students of color not to "adjust their ambitions in any way" because of this decision.

"Policymakers cannot use this decision as some excuse to ignore racial disparity or to ignore the imperative to address it," said Saenz. "This doesn't change regulations under the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964."

Thomas A. Saenz, President and General Counsel of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), notes that race can still be taken into account for college admissions, as it

relates to an applicant's life experience.

Racial gaslighting

Colleges and universities across the country – particularly those states where, before this decision, race was still used as part of the criteria in college and university admissions – should evaluate their practices for equity, said leaders in the higher education access arena.

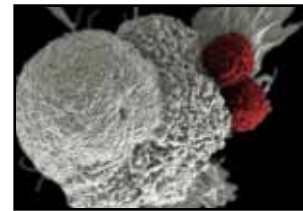
"We know that Affirmative Action was one of the best tools to ensure there was a diverse student body," said Michelle Siqueiros, President of the Campaign for College Opportunity. "SCOTUS should have also banned legacy (admissions), which makes up

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The voices of dissent in SCOTUS

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Blood tests and evaluating lung cancer risk

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City of Dallas lauded for youth engagement

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UNT offers students free music lessons

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CASA hosts the Parade of Playhouses

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People In The News ...



Kellee Murrell



Rev. Dr. S.C. Nash, Sr.

NDG Quote of the Week: "Never underestimate the power of dreams and the influence of the human spirit. We are all the same in this notion: The potential for greatness lives within each of us."
—Wilma Rudolph

Kellee Murrell

Kellee Murrell – The George T. Lee, Jr. Principal of St. Philip's School & Community Center – will present at The National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) Pre-K-8 Conference on Monday, July 10, 2023, in National Harbor, Maryland.



Principal Kellee Murrell will speak during a 60-minute breakout session titled "Delegate to Elevate: Developing an Impactful Leadership Team" at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention

Center at 9 a.m. ET. The professional learning session will guide leaders in nurturing an environment of shared responsibility in their schools.

As Principal of St. Phil-

ip's School and Community Center, Murrell has emerged as a subject matter expert on developing instructional leaders.

"Education is a challenging field with a high level of burnout," said Principal Murrell. "As academic leaders, we must learn to prioritize and delegate within our teams, not only to strengthen and raise the effectiveness of our educators, but also potentially mitigate the loss of talented professionals."

The daughter of two teachers, this Bronx native grew up with a strong connection to education and a

passion for teaching children. With a 12-year career background working in school administration for both public and private schools, Murrell will draw upon her experiences and the lessons learned. "Without implementing changes, we risk losing the next generation of teachers and ultimately shortchanging the students that depend on us."

This yearly conference by NAESP specializes in providing professional learning experiences, networking opportunities, and insight into industry trends for elementary

and middle-level principals. For more information on Principal Murrell or a hi-res image, please contact: Kaitlyn Holmes kholmes@stphilips.com 469.340.3709 www.stphilips1600.org.

Principal Murrell's life's work – and God-given passion – is education. Teaching history at the primary education level was where her journey began. Her gift for inspiring and engaging young minds was recognized quite early, as Mrs. Murrell was one of only five educators awarded the annual STARS Teacher of the Year from the

Richardson Independent School District Board of Trustees. Posts as both assistant principal and principal quickly followed and would lead to her current role as principal at St. Philip's.

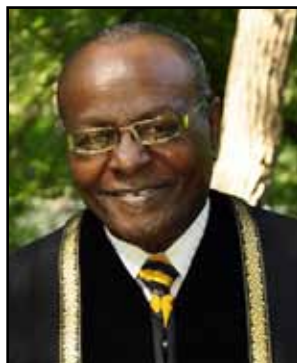
"I am most known for creating innovative instructional programs that exceed expectations for student academic gains and reaching all students at varying academic levels," offers Principal Murrell. "It is a passion of mine to grow and develop instructional leaders."

As one of the chief ar-

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Rev. Dr. S.C. Nash, Sr.

Long time Dallas area clergy and civic leader known nationwide for his prophetic preaching, teaching and writing skills, Rev. Dr. Stephen Charles Nash, Sr., has died after a long illness. Rev. Dr. Nash served as President of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA) of Greater Dallas and Vicinity for over 25 years succeeding the late Rev. S.M. Wright.



Born in Phoenix, Arizona, Rev. Nash grew up and attended public schools in Muskogee, Oklahoma, before attending Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma

where he majored in Vocal Music. His extensive Texas connection started in 1969 as a student at Bishop College in Dallas. From Bishop College (now the site of Paul Quinn College) he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Religion and

Philosophy.

Rev. Dr. Nash earned double Master of Arts Degrees in Biblical Studies and Divinity from Aspen Theological Seminary in Aurora, Colorado. He earned a Master of Arts in Religious Education, Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree in Urban Ministries, and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree in Christian Education. Both degrees were earned from Aspen Theological Seminary in Aurora, Colorado. Rev. Dr. Nash earned the third Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Christian Counseling from Survine Ministries Bible College and Theological Seminary,

Aurora, Colorado. Rev. Dr. Nash received two Honorary degrees: Doctor of Divinity Degree from Aspen Theological Seminary; and Doctor of Divinity Degree from Vision International University (Dallas Chapter) located in Ramona, California.

The Bishop College exposure eventually led to Rev. Nash serving as the Pastor of Mt. Tabor Baptist Church in Dallas where he was Senior Pastor for over 29 years.

"We lost a legend," said Rev. David E. Wilson, Senior Pastor Greater Cornerstone Baptist Church and current President of IMA. "Our membership and the

Dallas community will miss his insight and caring for the community."

An accomplished gospel vocalist, preacher, and teacher, Rev. Dr. Nash was a voracious reader, skilled writer and author. Other preachers at the local, state and national levels often requested the text of his sermons as well as workshop lectures.

His first book entitled, A Stewardship Primer (textbook for the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. Department of Christian Education, course #206 for all levels) was published in 1988. His other works include A Black Man's Place In The Son, Ebony On The

Scene, Positives From The Black Corner, A Major Entrustment, The First Church Black, The Call Back: God First Volume I, The Call Back: God First Volume II, In Light of Biblical History formerly Obama Mania: In Light of Biblical History and an unpublished work entitled "The High Call To Caring". In addition, Rev. Dr. Nash released a gospel recording entitled "Now I'm Saved".

"Dr. Nash was a great President, visionary leader and friend, said Rev. Dr. Kirthell Roberts, President, Baptist Missionary and Education Convention

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Teddy Bridgewater

MIAMI GARDENS (Florida) (Black PR Wire) - The City of Miami Gardens recently announced the dedication of the football field at Bunche Park in honor of the esteemed professional athlete Teddy Bridgewater.



The momentous occasion not only recognized Teddy Bridgewater's exceptional skills on the football field but also celebrated the enduring commitment he and his family have demonstrated in giving back to the community that nurtured his dreams. In recognition of Bridgewater's extraordinary abilities, the City of Miami Gardens dedicated the newly renovated foot-

ball field at Bunche Park in his honor.

Teddy Bridgewater, a professional athlete in the National Football League (NFL), is a skilled and talented quarterback who has captivated fans with his remarkable capabilities on the football field. Bridgewater, who played in his younger

years in the Miami Gardens football program, began his journey to professional football at the University of Louisville, where he displayed his effectiveness as a leader and playmaker.

He was later selected by the Minnesota Vikings in the 2014 NFL Draft and went on to make a significant impact in the league, earning accolades and admiration for his poise under pressure and his ability to rally his team. Currently, a respected member of the NFL community, Teddy Bridgewater's passion, dedication, and undeniable talent continue to shine brightly as he inspires football enthusiasts around the nation.

"Teddy has exemplified the values of hard work, dedication, and giving back throughout his remarkable career. By dedicating this football field in his honor, we aim to celebrate his extraordinary achievements and inspire future generations to pursue their dreams with unwavering determination," said Mayor Rodney Harris.

The ceremony on Jun. 29, 2023 paid tribute to Teddy Bridgewater's remarkable legacy, and it serves as a powerful reminder to aspiring athletes and individuals that the path to success is paved with perseverance, commitment, and the willingness to make a positive impact on others.

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Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson joins Justices Sotomayor and Kagan in dissent

As she watched the conservative majority declare Harvard and the University of North Carolina's admissions policies disadvantage white and Asian-American applicants and are therefore unconstitutional, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, joined Justices Sotomayor and Kagan, in a dissent.

Speaking to Justice Thomas' argument that the Constitution is color blind due to its amendment abolishing slavery and proclaiming all born in the U.S. entitled to the privileges or immunities of citizenship and equal protection, Jackson explained, "Our country has never been colorblind."

"Gulf-sized race-based gaps exist with respect to the health, wealth, and well-being of American citizens. They were created in the distance past, but have indisputably been passed down to the present day through the generations. Every moment these gaps persist is a moment in which the great country falls short of actualizing one of its foundational principles—the 'self-evident' truth that all of us are created equal. Yet, today, the Court determines that holistic admissions programs like the one that the University of North Carolina (UNC) has operated, consistent with Grutter v.

Bollinger, 539 U.S. 306 (2003), are a problem with respect to achievement of that aspiration, rather than a viable solution (as has long been evident to historians, sociologists, and policy-makers alike)." . . .

"This contention blinks both history and reality in ways too numerous to count. But the response is simple: Our country has never been colorblind. Given the lengthy history of state-sponsored race-based preferences in America, to say that anyone is now victimized if a college considers whether that legacy of discrimination has unequally advantaged its applicants fails to acknowledge the well-documented 'intergenerational transmission of inequality' that still plagues our citizenry.

"It is 'that' inequality that admissions programs such as UNC's help to address, to the benefit of us all. Because the majority's judgment stunts that progress without any basis in law history logic, or justice, I dissent.

"Imagine two college applicants from North Carolines, John and James. Both trace their family's North Carolina roots to the year of UNC's founding in 1789. Both love their State and want great things for its people. Both want to honor their family's legacy by at-

tending the State's flagship educational institution. John, however, would be the seventh generation to graduate from UNC. He is White. James would be the first; he is Black. Does the race of these applicants properly play a role in UNC's holistic merits-based admissions process?" . . .

"Most likely, seven generations ago, when John's family was building its knowledge base and wealth potential on the university's campus, James' family was enslaved and laboring in North Carolina's fields." . . .

"So, at bare minimum, one generation ago, James' family was six generations behind because of their race, making John's six generations ahead. These stories are not every student's story. But they are many students' stories. "To demand that colleges ignore race in today's admissions practices—and thus disregard the fact that racial disparities may have mattered for where some applicants find themselves today—is not only an affront to the dignity of those students for whom race matters. It also condemns our society to never escape the past that explains how and why race matters to the very concept of who 'merits' admission." . . .

"With let-them-eat-cake obliviousness, today, the majority pulls the ripcord and announces, 'color-blindness for all' by legal fiat." . . .

"But deeming race irrelevant in law does not make it so in life. And having so detached itself from this country's actual past and present experiences, the Court has now been lured into interfering with the crucial work that UNC and other institutions of higher learning are doing to solve America's real-world problems.

"No one benefits from ignorance. Race matters in the lived experience of Americans, even if legal barriers are gone. Although formal race-linked legal barriers are gone, race still matters to the lived experiences of all Americans in innumerable ways, to today's ruling makes things worse, not better.

"The best that can be said of the majority's perspective is that it proceeds (ostrich-like) from the hope that preventing consideration of race will end racism.

"But if that is its motivation, the majority proceeds in vain. If the colleges of this country are required to ignore a thing that matters, it will not just go away. It will take longer for racism to leave us."

Honoring our past and looking towards the future

By Asst. Democratic Leader James E. Clyburn (SC-06)

In 2019, my daughter Jennifer and I took part in a Congressional Delegation to Ghana that included my good friend, the late Congressman John Lewis. Our visit was to commemorate the 400 years since Blacks were forcibly taken from the continent of Africa and enslaved in America. During that visit, Jennifer and I

stood silently in the "door of no return," holding hands. I never asked her about her thoughts, and she did not ask me about mine. Last Saturday, she and her husband joined me at the dedication of the International African American Museum (IAAM) in Charleston. It is fitting that IAAM stands on the site of Gadsden's Wharf, where nearly half of all enslaved Africans brought to this continent arrived.

When I was asked by then-Charleston Mayor Joe Riley 23 years ago to chair the steering committee to develop his vision of establishing such a museum in Charleston, I thought of the countless slaves that were stolen from their homeland, stripped of their identities, and brought to this strange land in shackles. But I also thought of the African Americans who rose above the circumstances of their

ancestors and their countless descendants eager to honor their memories. I said during my dedication remarks that IAAM tells the story of perseverance through the middle passage, resistance to enslavement, triumphs over Jim Crow, and significant contributions to the greatness of this country.

In the early days of our

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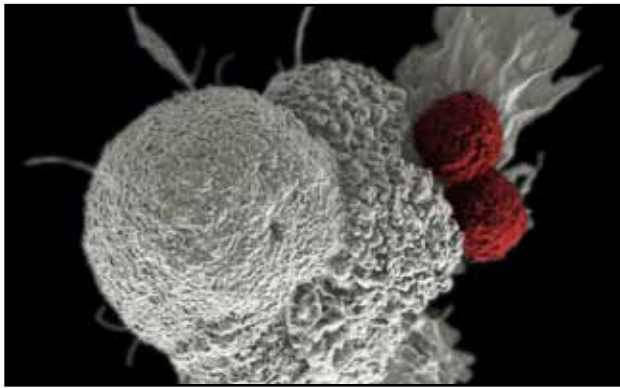
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Blood test aids in predicting lung cancer mortality risk

HOUSTON (NewsWire) — A blood-based test developed by researchers at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center can predict an individual's risk of dying from lung cancer when combined with a personalized risk model.

According to new data published today in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, a blood-based four-protein panel (4MP), when combined with a lung cancer risk model (PLCOm2012), can better identify those at high risk of dying from lung cancer than the current U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) criteria.

These findings build upon previous MD Anderson research demonstrating the combination test more accurately determined who is likely to benefit from lung cancer screening than



Curated protein panel plus prediction model shows potential to lower lung cancer death by identifying need for CT screening. (National Cancer Institute / Unsplash)

the USPSTF criteria.

"This simple blood test has the potential to save lives by determining the need for lung cancer screening on a personalized basis," said co-corresponding author Samir Hanash, M.D., Ph.D., professor of Clinical Cancer Prevention. "Given the challenges associated with CT as a frontline screening method for lung cancer and the fact that most individuals

diagnosed with the disease do not meet current guidelines, there is an urgent demand for an alternative approach."

For this study, MD Anderson researchers analyzed pre-diagnostic blood samples from the Prostate, Lung, Colorectal and Ovarian (PLCO) Cancer Screening Trial, including 552 individuals who later developed lung cancer and 2,193 who did not. Of the

552 individuals diagnosed during the six-year study period, 70% (387) died from lung cancer.

Using hazard ratios, the researchers assessed the relationship between the risk scores generated by the combination model (4MP + PLCOm2012) and the incidence of lung cancer death. The combination showed improved sensitivity, specificity and positive predictive value compared to the 2013 and 2021 USPSTF criteria for predicting lung cancer-specific mortality among individuals who smoked at least 10 pack-years (PYs).

The USPSTF recommends that adults at elevated risk for lung cancer receive a low-dose CT scan each year, which was shown to reduce lung cancer deaths in the 2011 National Lung Screening Trial (NLST). The 2021

USPSTF criteria applies to adults aged 50 to 80 who have at least a 20 PY smoking history and currently smoke or have quit within the past 15 years.

"For individuals who currently are not eligible for lung cancer screening, a positive test may help to identify those possibly at risk for lung cancer death," said co-corresponding author Edwin Ostrin, M.D. Ph.D., assistant professor of General Internal Medicine. "We envision this as a tool that could be deployed worldwide, as the future of early detection of this disease."

Lung cancer causes an estimated 25% of cancer deaths. Early detection improves prospects of survival, but most countries do not screen for it. Fewer than half of all U.S. cases are among people who are

eligible under USPSTF guidelines.

While the blood test could be implemented as a lab-developed test in the near future, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval likely would require evaluation through a prospective clinical trial.

Hanash is an inventor on a patent application related to the blood test. A complete list of co-authors and their disclosures is included in the paper.

This study was supported by the National Institutes of Health and National Cancer Institute (U01CA194733, U01CA213285, U01CA200468, U24CA086368), the Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas, Lyda Hill Philanthropies, and the Lung Cancer Moon Shot, part of MD Anderson's Moon Shots Program.

Biden-Harris launch initiative to improve cancer outcomes in low-income areas

WASHINGTON -- The Biden-Harris Administration last week awarded \$50 million to launch the Persistent Poverty Initiative, an initiative to alleviate the cumulative effects of persistent poverty on cancer outcomes by building research capacity, fostering cancer prevention research, and promoting the implementation of community-based programs. The Persistent Poverty Initiative is the first major program to address the structural and institutional factors of persistent poverty in the context of cancer. It is coordinated by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), part

of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). These awards create five new Centers for Cancer Control Research in Persistent Poverty Areas that will advance key priorities of the Administration's Cancer Moonshot — to reduce inequities in the structural drivers of cancer and prevent more cancers before they start by reducing tobacco use and making sure everyone has access to healthy food.

Persistent poverty areas are defined as those where, for the past 30 years, 20% or more of the population has lived below the federal poverty line. People who live in such areas have a

higher incidence of cancer, experience delays in cancer diagnosis and treatment, and are more likely to die from cancer than people who do not live in poverty. However, there has been limited research on how to improve cancer outcomes in persistent poverty areas.

"Persistent poverty is a place-based and community phenomenon that reflects a failure of the structures and institutions in society, including health care," said Shobha Srinivasan, Ph.D., senior advisor for health disparities and health equity in NCI's Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences. "Conduct-

ing research to understand the connections between institutions — such as social, economic, and health systems — and persistent poverty is the only way to inform changes to social conditions and determinants of health that will ultimately improve overall health, cancer control, and cancer outcomes."

Each center will work with targeted low-income communities to implement and measure the effectiveness of structural interventions for cancer control and prevention, follow-up care, and survivorship. These centers will conduct research in areas such as

reducing obesity, improving nutrition, increasing physical activity, helping people quit smoking, and improving living conditions through supplemental income. In addition, the centers will help train a pipeline of early-career investigators to work with underserved communities in conducting multilevel intervention research.

"By involving the community and making the community an essential part of this effort, we are building a sustainable model," Dr. Srinivasan said. "The idea of structural change then becomes much more built into the system."

The launch of this Persistent Poverty Initiative complements several other Administration priorities, including its efforts to end hunger and reduce diet-related disease (link is external), and is essential toward achieving the clear goals that President Biden and the First Lady set when they reignited the Cancer Moonshot in 2022: prevent more than 4 million cancer deaths by 2047 and improve the experience of people who are touched by cancer.

The awards are spread over the next five years

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MURRELL, from Page 2

chitects of community-centric initiatives like the SOAR Program and the STAAR Assessment, Principal Murrell is widely regarded as one of North

Texas' most visionary thought leaders in primary education. Moreover, it is her innate ability to imbue in her students the skills that inspire and engage. Principal

Murrell's leadership is the elemental component of the 'St. Philip's Way.'

Delegate to Elevate: Developing an Impactful Leadership Team is the education management protocol designed by Principal

Murrell that helps teachers unlock the untapped reservoir of potential so many have. The primary education community has fervently embraced Delegate to Elevate, resulting in a seemingly con

of inquiries, requests for speaking engagements, podcast appearances and expert quotes.

St. Philip's parent Anne Brandyberry characterized Principal Murrell in this way: "It's really hard to

nd genuine people nowadays, but Ms. Murrell is just that. She's truly genuine. She cares deeply for the student of St. Philip's, but it doesn't stop there. She cares deeply about the families of St. Philips."



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City of Dallas wins 74th annual All-America City Award for Creating Thriving Communities through Youth Engagement

DENVER — The National Civic League honored Dallas on Sunday, among ten 74th Annual All-America City recipients. The achievement recognizes cities that demonstrate outstanding collaboration, innovation and community engagement. This year, the City of Dallas stood out for its exceptional efforts to engage youth in meaningful ways through the Dallas Youth Commission, the Welcoming Strategic Plan and the Dallas Cultural Plan.

By involving youth in key initiatives and providing platforms for their voices to be heard, Dallas is cultivating an inclusive environment where youth are contributing to the betterment of the City.

“We are elated to be named an All-America



By involving youth in key initiatives and providing platforms for their voices to be heard, Dallas is cultivating an inclusive environment where youth are contributing to the betterment of the City. (Joe Ciciarelli / Unsplash)

City by the National Civic League, especially this year because our youth are leading the way,” said Assistant City Manager Liz Cedillo-Pereira. “Youth leaders and our amazing community partners helped us tell the story of how Big D is seeking to center youth leader-

ship. “Winning the All-America City Award is a testament to the incredible dedication and collaboration of our community, especially our youth. Dallas is a city that believes in our young people, and we are committed to empowering them

to become active participants in shaping our city’s future,” said City Manager T.C. Broadnax. “This recognition is a testament to the great strides we are making in fostering a thriving community for all.”

At the City of Dallas, initiatives to promote youth engagement that were highlighted in the All-America City Award include:

- Dallas Youth Commission strategic plan providing council-appointed young individuals with a platform to engage with local government officials, community leaders, and policymakers.
- Welcoming Dallas Strategic Plan celebrating contributions of immigrants, promoting equitable access to government services, building trust with law enforcement, and increasing

access to ESL and legal services; and

- Dallas Cultural Plan, which improved access to arts and culture by engaging residents and stakeholders in a robust cultural planning and arts engagement

“This honor for the city of Dallas is a shining affirmation of the work that has been done and a clear message to whom we should look to as our most powerful assets in what’s ahead – our young people,” said Big Thought CEO Byron Sanders. “The best cities make space for the youths’ ideas, energy, and imagination. This win, our first in over half a century, shows when we elevate youth as equal partners, we get real solutions that can make us the city that our highest ideals call us toward. Big

Thought was honored to play a part in helping represent the work that so many phenomenal people make come alive in Big D!”

The City of Dallas winning the 74th Annual All-America City Award serves as an inspiration for other communities across the nation. By prioritizing youth engagement and providing opportunities for young individuals to thrive, Dallas has created a model for building stronger, more inclusive communities.

“Thank you to the National Civic League, this award truly goes to show that the hard work we are doing every day in Dallas does not go unnoticed” said Dallas Youth Commission Chair, Ricardo Corpus, a Class of 2023 DISD graduate attending Texas Christian University in the Fall.

Art Connections submissions open July 14 at Irving Arts Center

Since 2001, each summer Irving Arts Center has held a non-juried exhibition featuring art created by its Art Connection members. During this show, artwork by students, professional and non-professional artists hangs side by side in the beautiful Main Gallery and the adjoining Focus Gallery.

Existing and new Art Connection members are invited to submit up to two works of art. Awards will be given in three categories (Youth, Nonprofessional and Professional) as well as an overall Best of Show.

Art Connection members may drop their work on Saturday, July 15 from

1pm-5pm or Sunday, July 16 from 1pm-5pm at Irving Arts Center.

Out of town Art Connection members are welcome to ship their artwork to arrive at Irving Arts Center by July 14. Artwork received after 5pm on July 14 will not be considered for the exhibition.

Fees & Entry are \$5 entry per piece with a maximum of two pieces per Art Connection member. Entry fees will be waived for Art Connection members who have a Patron Level membership or above. All fees are non-refundable. The 2023 awards judge is soon

to be announced.

The work resulting from the competition will be on display at Main & Focus Galleries from July 22 to August 26. A reception will follow entitled “Meet the Artists and Bonus Summer Funday” on July 23, 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Irving Arts Center’s galleries are open for viewing free of charge during regular gallery hours Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 5:00 p.m.

For information about Art Connection, please visit irvingartscenter.com/programs.

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

Game #	Game Name / Odds	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
2422	7 Overall Odds are 1 in 3.65	\$10	6/24/23	12/21/23
2311	Triple Red 777 Super Ticket™ Overall Odds are 1 in 3.64	\$10	7/3/23	12/30/23
2439	\$5,000 Cash Blowout Overall Odds are 1 in 4.97	\$1	8/16/23	2/12/24
2469	Lucky Shamrock Overall Odds are 1 in 4.43	\$2	8/16/23	2/12/24
2433	Mega Loteria Overall Odds are 1 in 3.54	\$10	8/16/23	2/12/24

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UNT provides free virtual music lessons for Dallas ISD students

When the University of North Texas began offering free virtual music classes to Dallas ISD, James Madison High School, was one school that saw immediate results.

"I saw leaps and bounds with the students," said Andrea Diggs, choral director at Madison.

The Virtual Private Music Lessons program began last fall, offering a one-on-one 30-minute session per week to each participating student. The lessons, taught



Dallas ISD students benefiting from UNT's virtual music lessons (Courtesy photo)

by UNT graduate students and faculty members, are offered via an online plat-

form and an iPad supplied by the district.

In Madison High

School's case, the school hadn't had a choral program in 10 years, and most of the students were new to choir, with the exception of those with some choir experience in middle school. During the virtual lessons, students either worked on a song assigned by their teacher or on their own repertoire.

Enabling the private lessons added to the foundation that Diggs was laying, allowing students to have a good singing technique,

while teaching the students how to read music and how to blend within a choir.

Diggs attributes part of their successful year to the lessons, as they received superior and excellent ratings in both concert and sight reading during UIL competitions. Four of the nine students who competed advanced to the state level.

"The voice lessons played an important role in making that happen," said Diggs.

According to Casey Goldman, associate director for Community Outreach and Collaboration at the College of Music at UNT, over 10,000 free lessons have been collaboratively provided through the Virtual Private Music Lessons program with Dallas ISD.

"It aligns with the clarion call of educating all students for success while helping to fulfill the UNT

See UNT, Page 12

Garland ISD wins 'Top Transportation Teams' award among six school districts

Transfinder, the leader in school transportation management software, announced the first-ever Top Transportation Teams award recipients. Six outstanding winners from Indiana, Michigan, New York, and Texas have been recognized for their exceptional contributions to the transportation industry.

Transfinder is providing a full scholarship, including travel and hotel costs, to attend the STN Expo to one

representative from each of the winning teams. Representatives from each of the winning teams will also be featured on a leadership panel discussion at the STN Expo. They will discuss what makes a "Top Transportation Team."

Transfinder established two categories: departments with less than 100 employees and those with more than 100 employees. In the category of departments with over 100 employees, Gar-

land ISD, along with Franklin Township Community School Corporation in Indiana and Klein ISD in Texas, were the winners!

"We are beyond elated to receive this recognition," said Annamarie Banner, GISD Director of Transportation. "This past year, we have worked in depth to change the culture and the meaning of family in our transportation department. We love what we do, and together we make a differ-

ence!"

"Garland ISD's Transportation Department deserves this award and then some," said Dr. Shelley Garrett, GISD Assistant Superintendent of Safety & Operations. "I have never seen a team more focused on creating something great as I have in the leaders, drivers, mechanics, and monitors of this department. It has been inspirational."

Garland ISD extends heartfelt appreciation to its

diligent transportation department for its unwavering commitment to the safety and welfare of students throughout their journeys to and from school. The recognition received through the Top Transportation Teams award is a testament to their exceptional performance and dedication.

Winners were selected solely on the anonymous survey responses of their teams, with those districts scoring the highest in employee sat-

isfaction receiving the Top Transportation Teams designation. The teams were comprised of transportation supervisors, routers, dispatchers, drivers, and others considered core to the transportation department. Survey questions covered various areas, including morale within the department, leadership, safety, and benefits.

To learn more about this prestigious honor, please visit: <https://www.toptransportationteams.com>.

ADMISSIONS, from Page 1

more than a quarter to a third of the class at some selective institutions, including Harvard."

She added the practice of granting admission to the sons and daughters of alumni, along with early decision admissions and the extensive use of standardized tests, "do not expand opportunities to low-income Black, Latino and Asian American Students."

Several groups in Boston filed a complaint with the Education Department on Monday requesting that it review the practice of legacy admissions, arguing it discriminates against students of color by favoring the children of alumni at elite schools, most of whom are white.

Author and education scholar J. Luke Wood described the ruling as "racial gaslighting at its best." Wood is the incoming president at Sacramento State

University.

"If they are concerned about discrimination, they should move away from standardized testing, which is a better indication about a student's resources" and not his or her capacities. "This will definitely have an impact on access to colleges and universities by students of color," said Wood.

Sending a message to students of color

Marita Etcubanez, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives with Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAJC), discusses the Asian American response to the ban on affirmative action and notes that Asian Americans did not initiate the lawsuit, nor were there any student plaintiffs in the case.

All of those interviewed said they worried about students getting the wrong message from the ruling and the impact this could

have on students of color already in higher education institutions.

"We want to make sure that students of color know that they still belong, that we will be fighting for you, and we encourage you to apply to the school of your choice, don't be scared off by this opinion," said Marita Etcubanez, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives with Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAJC).

Etcubanez, like other Asian American civil rights leaders, also expressed concerns about arguments that Affirmative Action policies unfairly discriminated against Asian students. "This is simply false," she said.

"The District Court examined all the evidence and found no evidence to support the claim that there was discrimination against Asian Americans," said Etcubanez. "I also want to make sure people know that Asian Americans were not

behind this case."

In fact, the case was brought forward by a group called Students for Fair Admissions led by conservative activist Ed Blum, who Etcubanez noted "has engaged in a campaign to systematically take down Affirmative Action for years. This was not an organic case to right a wrong."

Blum is a Republican financier who was also behind the 2013 Shelby v. Holder decision, which gutted Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, eliminating the requirement that states with a history of racial discrimination targeting voters of color seek federal pre-clearance for any changes to their election laws.

In a scathing dissent to the majority's ruling, Justice Sonia Sotomayor wrote: "The three Justices of color on this Court graduated from elite universities and law schools with race-conscious admissions programs, and achieved

successful legal careers, despite having different educational backgrounds than their peers."

In her opinion, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, who joined Sotomayor in her dissent, offered a fiery exchange with conservative justice Clarence Thomas, who is also African American and leads the ultra-conservative wing of the court.

'We will be watching'

Michele Siqueiros, President of The Campaign for College Opportunity, says affirmative action advocates will continue to fight for fair admissions to colleges and to ensure that campuses remain diverse.

"Thomas went to Yale Law School, my alma mater, at a time when almost certainly the law school was using an Affirmative Action system that benefited him," said Saenz from MALDEF. "This indicates how much of a limitation this could be for our future. Future justices, future leaders, elected

leaders, and future professionals will be diminished in their ranks by the court's wrongheaded decision."

Michelle Siqueiros, President of the Campaign for College Opportunity, said that her organization and many others would fight to counteract the effects of this ruling as they have done in California and other states where local laws limited the use of race in admissions over the years.

"We won't accept a return to the 1940s and 1950s when colleges blatantly discriminated against women, African Americans, Jewish Americans, Latinos, and Indigenous folks at their campuses," said Siqueiros.

"We will be watching," she added, noting that at a time when more than 50% of students in K-12 schools are students of color, "we are hopeful that college leaders know and support and value providing opportunity for all Americans."

Dallas CASA's Parade of Playhouses opens at NorthPark on July 14

Dallas CASA's beloved annual event Parade of Playhouses returns to NorthPark Center July 14 to 30. The event features custom-designed and built children's playhouses available to win by raffle. Parade of Playhouses raises critical funds and awareness for Dallas CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) as the agency seeks to protect children and restore childhoods.

This year's Parade of Playhouses, Dallas CASA's 28th parade, is presented by Crest Cadillac / Crest INFINITI / Crest Volvo. Parade Grand Marshal is KDC. NorthPark Center has graciously hosted the event since it began in 1996, with playhouses displayed throughout the center.

Currently, there are 14 planned playhouses, with architects and builders finalizing plans before opening day July 14. Designs include a two-story playhouse with a rock wall, a playhouse designed to look like a city skyline, a hobbit house with a secret escape hatch, a NASA spaceship, a playhouse inspired by art-



Custom-designed playhouses available to win by raffle, raising funds and awareness for Dallas CASA in its efforts to protect children and restore childhoods. (Courtesy photo)

ist Piet Mondrian, a movie theater complete with ticket booth and curtained theater, a playhouse designed to look like a Dallas Mavs player's shoe and more.

Dallas CASA trains and supervises community members to serve as advocates for children who have experienced abuse or neglect and are living in the protective care of the state. For many children in foster care, their Dallas CASA volunteer is the only consistent, caring adult during a frightening time.

Parade of Playhouses allows Dallas CASA to raise funds, recruit more volunteers and share information with the community about child abuse and ne-

glect. "Every year, we are delighted and amazed by the wonderful creativity found in these playhouses," said Kathleen M. LaValle, president and CEO of Dallas CASA. "But what really impresses me is that every designer, builder and craftsman is donating their time and energy to benefit children in foster care. They understand and support our mission."

In an overwhelmed child welfare system, Dallas CASA's volunteers serve as a line of defense for children who've entered a complicated and strained child welfare system. In 2022, 1,324 volunteers served 2,611 Dallas County children. They advocate

in homes and courtrooms and with families and case-workers for every need a child might have – medical, emotional, educational and more.

"Our incredible volunteers do whatever they can to bring safety, healing and permanency to children," LaValle said. "The work they do is often quiet, behind-the-scenes work, but the difference they can make in the life of a child is profound. They allow children's voices to be heard above all else and give children a lifeline they desperately need." "Everyone at Crest looks forward to Parade of Playhouses," said Crest Auto Group Managing Partner Mike Brosin. "For us, these houses repre-

sent secure and safe futures for children who have experienced abuse or neglect."

"NorthPark Center is pleased to be a longtime host partner for Dallas CASA's Parade of Playhouses, raising important funds for the organization's mission of keeping children in our community safe," said NorthPark's Director of Marketing Kristen Gibbins. "For more than 25 years, these whimsical playhouse creations have brought joy and delight to all who come across them, and we look forward to their return each summer."

"While KDC has long been committed to serving the community, working with Dallas CASA's Parade of Playhouses has brought

new meaning and insight into what we do and why we're doing it," said KDC President Toby Grove.

"The children served by Dallas CASA don't know what tomorrow might hold, and that strikes at all our hearts. We're happy to partner with Dallas CASA as they seek to protect children, restore childhood and help child victims of abuse or neglect reach their full potential."

Raffle tickets to win a playhouse can be purchased during the event for \$5 each or five for \$20 on the Dallas CASA website at dallascasa.org or at NorthPark Center. Winners will be randomly selected on the final afternoon of the event, July 30.

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Another win for voting rights as Supreme Court rules against Gerrymandering

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

The U.S. Supreme Court declined to impose new restrictions on state courts regarding election-related matters.

The decision came as the Court ruled against Republicans in North Carolina fighting for a congressional district map that favored their candidates.

The justices voted 6-3, stating that the North Carolina Supreme Court had acted within its authority by deeming the map a partisan gerrymander under the state Constitution.

The ruling rejects the “independent state legislature” theory, an obscure legal argument made by Republicans.

The theory argues that state courts have limited power to strike down election laws enacted by state legislatures.

However, the Supreme Court’s decision refused to adopt this broad interpretation, much to the relief of voting rights groups and Democrats concerned about potential limitations on state court authority.

Former President Barack Obama expressed his approval of the Court’s decision, tweeting, “Today the Supreme Court rejected the fringe independent state legislature theory that threatened to upend our democracy and dismantle our system of checks and balances.”

The “independent state legislature” argument centers on the language of the Elections Clause in the Constitution, which states that election rules “shall be prescribed in each state by the legislature thereof.”

Proponents of the theory claim that this language gives state legislatures ultimate power over federal election rules under state law, potentially overriding any constraints imposed by state constitutions.

Chief Justice John Rob-



The justices voted 6-3, stating that the North Carolina Supreme Court had acted within its authority by deeming the map a partisan gerrymander under the state Constitution. (Photo via NNPA)

erts, writing the majority opinion, agreed that state courts could apply state constitutional restraints when legislatures exercise the power granted by the Elections Clause.

However, he noted that state courts should be within the bounds of ordinary judicial review when conflicts with federal law arise.

Federal courts can intervene in such cases, according to the Court’s conclusion.

The North Carolina Supreme Court had previously issued the ruling.

Still, following the midterm elections, the court composition changed to Republican control, and the decision was recently overturned.

That development raised questions about whether the Supreme Court needed to decide the case at all.

Justice Clarence Thomas, joined by fellow conservative justices Samuel Alito and Neil Gorsuch, dissented, arguing that the case was moot.

Thomas expressed concern that the decision would create confusion in lower courts, potentially leading to more cases resembling the controversial Bush v. Gore ruling in 2000 and ultimately resulting in Republican George W. Bush becoming president.

In a separate opinion, Justice Brett Kavanaugh hinted that the Court might address the scope of state court authority in a future case.

He emphasized that the Court had established a general principle for fed-

eral court review of state court decisions in federal election cases.

He suggested that a more specific standard would be distilled in due course.

Although the congressional map in North Carolina will be redrawn before the 2024 election due to a state law provision, the Supreme Court’s ruling suggests that the new map is likely to favor Republicans heavily.

Had the Court embraced the “independent state legislature” theory, it would have impacted redistricting disputes and other election-related rules, including issues like mail-in voting and voter access to the polls.

This theory could have also called into question the power of governors to veto legislation.

Chief Justice William Rehnquist had endorsed a version of the theory in the 2000 Bush v. Gore case.

During the recent oral arguments, several justices referenced Rehnquist’s opinion to support the notion of constraining state officials, including judges, from making changes to election laws enacted by legislatures without proper legal grounding.

Supporters of former President Donald Trump cited the “independent

state legislature” theory in various cases related to the 2020 presidential election.

Republicans, including Tim Moore, used the theory after the North Carolina Supreme Court invalidated the congressional district map last year. They argued that the state court had exceeded its authority.

The Supreme Court agreed to hear the case but maintained an interim map for the 2022 midterm elections, in which Democrats and Republicans each won seven seats.

The Supreme Court had previously declined to intervene in election-related cases involving the theory. However, during the litigation, four conservative justices indicated some level of support, fueling hopes among proponents of the theory.

The argument had vari-

ous versions, some of which sought to limit the authority of state courts in specific circumstances, while others aimed to provide state legislatures with virtually unchecked power.


Prominent figures supporting the theory included John Eastman, a lawyer involved in Trump’s efforts to overturn the 2020 election results.

Eastman argued that then-Vice President Mike Pence could block the certification of President Joe Biden’s victory on January 6, 2021.

Conservative groups advocating for stricter voting restrictions and claiming widespread voter fraud also supported the theory.

Democrats and voting rights activists had raised concerns about the case,


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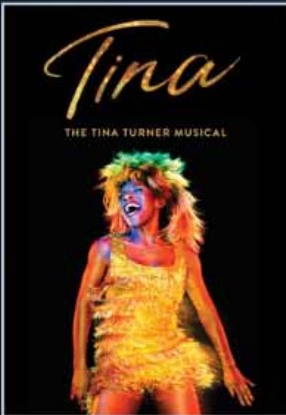
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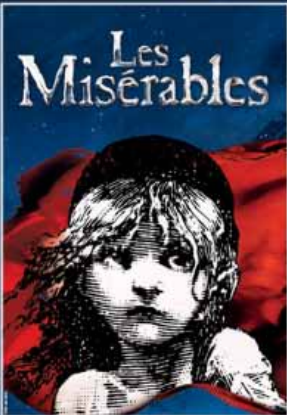
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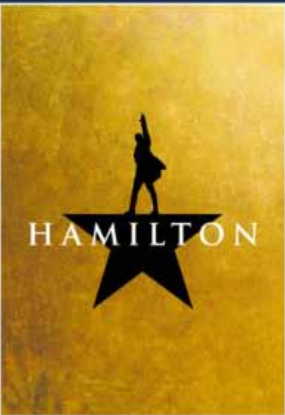
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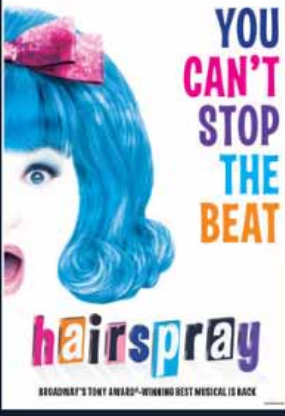
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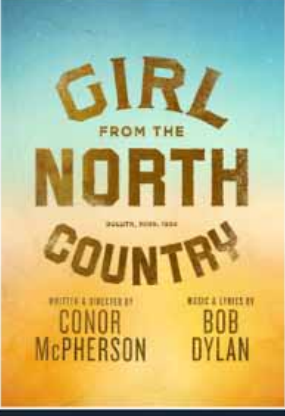
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Women's military memorial 'Color of Freedom' exhibit runs through July 29 at African American Museum

In partnership with the Veteran Women's Enterprise Center (VWEC), the African American Museum, Dallas will present the Women's Military Memorial "Color of Freedom" exhibit opening today and running through July 19, 2023. With Texas having the country's largest population of women veterans, the display includes the stories of various service-women of color and explores the impact that these women made while serving in various branches of the U.S. military. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

Women have served in the military since the Revolutionary War, but their true history and contributions often go untold. "Color of Freedom" aims to shine a light on servicewomen and veterans through education, validation and commemoration of their heroic history and contributions.

The opening of the exhibit falls just a day after Women Veterans Day in Texas, marking 75 years since President Harry Truman signed The Women



In partnership with the Veteran Women's Enterprise Center, the exhibit sheds light on the stories of various servicewomen of color and the impact these women made while serving in the U.S. military (Library of Congress / Unsplash)

Armed Services Integration Act on June 12, 1948, allowing women to serve as regular members of the Armed Forces.

Guests will also have access to a sampling of the stories from the women

represented in the Memorial's 1,400-plus file oral history collection. In addition, local women veterans are encouraged to submit their stories to the Women's Military Memorial.

"These are my sisters-in-

arms, and I am wholeheartedly committed to creating opportunities for women veterans to connect, collaborate and celebrate our service, sisterhood and continued comraderies," said VR Small, founder/CEO of the VWEC.

The mission of the Veteran Women's Enterprise Center (VWEC) is to empower entrepreneur women associated with the military – inclusive of veterans, active duty, reservist and military spouses – to scale for success.

"Color of Freedom" will serve as an educational tool on the sacrifices and contributions of the diverse individuals who paved the way to allow for women of all backgrounds to serve in the U.S. military. One such woman highlighted in the exhibit is Women's Army Corps (WAC) Private First Class Sarah Keys, who stood up to discrimination in 1952 by refusing to give up her seat on a bus to a white passenger three years before Rosa Parks' iconic act.

"The history of minority women in the military is often untold or under-represented," says Britta Granrud, Director of Collections and Curator for the Memorial. "In keeping with the Memorial's mission to educate and inspire, the 'Color of Freedom' exhibit highlights narratives of determination to overcome discrimination on multiple fronts. Diversity is our strength, and women of color have been, and continue to play integral roles in our nation's military and beyond."

The project also seeks to be a catalyst for continued discussions on racial and gender disparities within the armed forces. Despite recent improvements, minority servicewomen continue to experience higher rates of discipline while serving and remain under-represented in career fields that historically lead to leadership positions, according to a 2021 Department of the Air Force report.

The African American

Museum, Dallas is located at 3536 Grand Ave. in Dallas' historic Fair Park. Hours are Tuesdays through Fridays from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free self-parking is available in nearby lots.

For more information, go to aamdallas.org or call 214-565-9026. For the latest updates, follow the Museum on Instagram and Facebook.

The African American Museum, Dallas was founded in 1974 as a part of Bishop College. The Museum has operated independently since 1979. For more than 40 years, the African American Museum has stood as a cultural beacon in Dallas and the Southwestern United States. Located in Dallas' historic Fair Park, the African American Museum is the only museum in the Southwestern United States devoted to the collection, preservation and display of African American artistic, cultural and historical map-

See MUSEUM, Page 10

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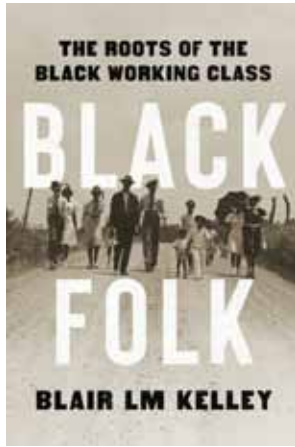
***NDG* Book Review: 'Black Folk' is a compelling historical journey**

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

At least you won't have to move.

You keep telling yourself that, ever since the boss decided to downsize this year, workplace and all: a reduced staff and work-from-home options means a smaller office and big change, which is fine with you. In the new book “Black Folk” by Blair LM Kelley, your ancestors never had it this good.

In the years immediately following Emancipation, former slaves were shut out of nearly every job other than domestic and sharecropping and they “still faced circumstances almost



as degrading as those of slavery.” Hoping for better lives, Black workers first headed from farm to big city, in the hope of landing good jobs.

“My work as a historian has always begun with the stories of my ancestors,”

says Kelley and she opens this book with an angry man, his son, and the story of Henry, who was “born in bondage” and ultimately became a blacksmith. Kelley admits that she doesn’t know much about Henry’s earliest life but in adulthood, he became a voter and “he was part of a community” – something that Kelly “found time and again” had given “Black folks [a] sense of self.”

Like many Black women in the 1920s, Sarah Hill was a washerwoman hired to launder white folks' clothes. It was an honorable job, one of the few available to Black women, but while it didn't pay well,

it paid enough for Sarah to put a little money aside. It allowed her some control over her own life then.

Callie House helped washerwomen organize. Cottrell Dellums belonged to an organization of Black Porters. As a young teenager, Minnie Savage was “near the front of a grand exodus north” when she snuck away from her parents home. To her great irritation, Minnie could only find domestic work in Philadelphia. And after moving north, Hartford Boykin landed a job but his past kept returning to him.

"From his mother, Hart-

ford learned that Black freedom was precarious.”

Remember how totally dry your high school history books were? Yeah, this is nothing like those. "Black Folk" lets readers get to actually know people who lived a century ago or more. It's like being carefully handed a living, breathing story to hold.

In using her own family tree as a launching point, author Blair LM Kelley lends detail to tales she's heard all her life and knows well. This is no small thing: it assures readers that there's authenticity inside every anecdote, that they're

not told with guesswork but with real first-hand knowledge. Alongside that, Kelley uses her experience as a historian to show how her ancestors represent most of the Black working class between roughly 1865 and 1940, and how their journeys were like so many others in the Great Migration.

On this, readers will be happy that both men and women stand tall here.

This is one of those books that's meant to savor, to explore and enjoy. For historians and anyone who had a Great Migration ancestor, reading "Black Folk" is a good move.

MUSEUM, from Page 9

terials that relate to the African American experience. The African American Museum incorporates a wide variety of visual art forms and historical documents that portray the African American experience in the United States, Southwest, and Dallas. The Museum has a small, but rich collection of African art, Af-

rican American fine art and one of the largest African American folk-art collections in the United States. Learn more at aamdallas.org.

The Military Women's Memorial, a 501c3 non-profit organization, is the only historical repository documenting all military women's service. The year

2022 commemorates the twenty-five years since the Military Women's Memorial was dedicated and opened to the public in October of 1997 – still America's only major memorial to honor and tell the stories of all of the nation's women who have served in and with our military, beginning with the American Revolution. Find out more about us at womensmemorial.org.



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Study shows similar economic outcomes for Black families exposed to neighborhood disadvantage versus those who were not

(Newsweek) — For many, neighborhoods that offer children access to better resources, less crime and less violence often result in better opportunities for healthier and more prosperous lives. Indeed, researchers studying the effects of moving to “opportunity neighborhoods” argue that very point, and many policymakers have taken notice.

However, so far, researchers have only accounted for the neighborhoods where children grow up, ignoring the long-term effects that parents’ childhood neighborhoods have on children’s adult economic well-being.

Expanding on the relatively short-term and single-generation body of research, University of Notre Dame assistant professor of sociology Steven Alvarado used 35 years of data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth from 1979

to 2014 to study what happened when multiple generations of Black, white and Latino families lived on one side of the tracks versus the other.

Somewhat surprisingly, Alvarado and his co-author, Alexandra Cooperstock, a doctoral candidate in sociology at Cornell University, found that Black families — regardless of where they lived — still ended up in similar economic circumstances as they moved into adulthood and entered the workforce.

In their study, “The Echo of Neighborhood Disadvantage: Multigenerational Contextual Hardship and Adult Income for Whites, Blacks, and Latinos,” which was recently published in the journal *City and Community*, the researchers concluded that race was the chief factor in contributing to one’s economic success in the U.S. over multiple generations.

“Any benefits accrued by growing up in more advantaged neighborhoods may be undercut by enhanced discrimination in the labor market and society at large,” the researchers wrote. “Race, not class origins, is the dominant factor governing the economic mobility of Black individuals.”

Alvarado explained that neighborhood mobility does not work as well for Blacks in the United States as it does for whites and Latinos in terms of economic development.

“When comparing Black families who were exposed to multiple generations of neighborhood disadvantage versus Black families who were not, they both end up having the same economic outcomes in adulthood,” he said. “Race still trumps class origins in America when it comes to the labor market.”

Alvarado said his study

employed a novel technique not used in previous studies of the effects of neighborhood processes on economic outcomes: the examination of inter-generational associations rather than just using a single generation. The researchers linked exposure to neighborhood disadvantage in both mothers’ and children’s childhoods with the adult income of the children — which, researchers wrote, “will provide a more complete picture of neighborhood influence and expand our understanding of how inequality forms and is maintained over time.”

The longitudinal survey data allowed the researchers to link neighborhood conditions with economic outcomes across multiple generations for white, Latino and Black families.

“When comparing Black families who were exposed to multiple generations of

neighborhood disadvantage versus Black families who were not, they both end up having the same economic outcomes in adulthood. Race still trumps class origins in America when it comes to the labor market.”

One of the more compelling findings of their study, researchers said, was that Latino families experienced the most positive growth in adult earnings. These findings suggest that Latinos

— especially non-Black Latinos — are likely to benefit more in the long run, economically speaking, than whites or Blacks when removed from their disadvantaged neighborhoods.

“There’s definitely a lot more room for neighborhood-level opportunity to manifest into economic success for Latinos than for Blacks,” Alvarado added.

See **ECONOMIC**, Page 12

NASH, from Page 2

of Texas. “A good man leaves an inheritance for his grandchildren; Dr. Nash went the extra mile by leaving a leadership road map,” Roberts added.

Rev. Dr. Nash served as President Emeritus of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Greater Dallas & Vicinity; President Emeritus of the Baptist Missionary and Education State Convention of Texas; he served as Executive Committee Member and Board Member, National Baptist Convention USA,

Inc.; Moderator Emeritus of the Northwestern District Baptist Association.

“Rev. Nash served as an active member of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. Board and part of my Executive Leadership Team,” said Rev. Dr. Jerry Young, President of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. “We will miss his devotion and leadership.”

Besides serving as a former Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce Board Director, he has received

numerous certificates, recognitions and awards. Survivors include daughter Angela Nash, son Rev. S.C. “Chuck” Nash, Jr. and their mother Brenda K. Lynch, Ed.D., and six grandchildren; plus, a host of relatives and friends.

In lieu of flowers tax-deductible contributions can be made to Horeb Home Care CDC, P.O. Box 1146 DeSoto, Texas 75115. Horeb Home Care is a non-profit community preservation outreach organization that exists to assist seniors and other low-to-moderate income homeowners with minor home repairs.

SCOTUS, from Page 8

particularly in light of attempts to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election.

It is worth noting that many high-profile Republican candidates who questioned or denied Biden’s victory lost in the 2022 midterm elections.

“This 6-3 decision should put an end to the radical theory that state legislatures can operate without being bound by state constitutions or judicial review,” said Dr. Jennifer Jones of the Union of Concerned Scientists.

“The fight to end parti-

san gerrymanders is still ongoing, and politicians in North Carolina and other states may still try to lock in their power through biased maps, but today’s decision confirms that those legislators’ power is not absolute. Today’s decision is a relief for everyone concerned with free and fair elections.”

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Student loan forgiveness decision is a devastating blow to Black Americans

The Supreme Court has blocked President Joe Biden’s ambitious student loan forgiveness program, which aimed to provide up to \$20,000 in relief to millions of borrowers.

The decision comes as a blow to the Biden administration’s efforts to alleviate the burden of student debt on struggling individuals.

President Biden, determined to support student loan borrowers, plans to announce new actions during his upcoming address later today.

The source reveals that while the White House strongly disagrees with the Supreme Court’s ruling, they had been preparing for such an outcome.

Considering the decision, the administration intends to emphasize to borrowers and their families that Republicans are responsible for denying them the much-needed relief that President Biden has been fighting to deliver.

The White House said it remains committed to its mission of easing the financial strain on Americans burdened by student loans.

Democrats for Education Reform DC (DFER DC), an organization dedicated to improving education policies, issued a statement expressing disappointment in the Supreme Court’s ruling.

Jessica Giles, Executive Director of DFER DC, condemned the conservative justices for what she perceived as their alignment with Republican political interests.

Giles argued that the decision has not only disrupted the lives of over 40 million student loan borrowers but has also dealt a particularly devastating blow to Black Americans.

She asserts that the ruling will exacerbate the racial wealth gap, push numerous borrowers into financial hardship, and erode public trust in the Supreme Court.

African American students are more likely to borrow than other groups, and they are more likely to default on their student loans, reports the American Council on Education. African American parents of the age to have children enrolling in college have a median income of 70 percent of the overall median, meaning fewer available financial resources for Black students, they report.

In response to this setback, DFER DC urged Mayor Bowser and the D.C. Council to take proactive measures to expand existing programs aimed at reducing student loan debt and fixing the flaws within the higher education system.

The organization said it believes that local initiatives can help mitigate the negative impact of the Supreme Court’s decision and provide much-needed support to borrowers in the absence of federal relief.

ECONOMIC, from Page 11

And Black residents’ incomes, the researchers said, “continue to be immune” to whether their family lives in a good neighborhood or a bad neighborhood, across generations.

“Moving Blacks to better neighborhoods could procure positive outcomes — such as improved cognitive development and behavior and decreased illicit drug use during childhood

and adolescence,” Alvarado concluded. “But once it gets to the labor market, it’s a whole different story.”

The researchers argued that structural change is needed in the way that Black individuals are treated in the U.S. labor market to increase their economic success. Efforts to simply move Black residents to better neighborhoods “are unlikely to have a significant impact on racial income gaps,” they said.

UNT, from Page 6

College of Music’s mission by serving our diverse musical culture with excellence, integrity, and imagination,” said Goldman.

Goldman also says that it’s fitting the program supports the ongoing successes of Dallas ISD music students as the district realizes its vision of becoming the best school district in the United States.

In April, UNT hosted a high school showcase, where they invited teachers, parents and students to get a firsthand look at how the program worked. Attendees had the opportunity to ask questions and see performances.

Marc Cervantes, band director for L.G. Pinkston High School, said students must have the foundation to be able to play an instrument to fully benefit from the program. Whether you’re an experienced musician or just starting out, private lessons can help you become a better musician, he said.

“This program helps our students get the opportunities they wouldn’t have otherwise to receive private lessons at no cost to the school,” said Cervantes.

Cervantes, who has approximately 30 students in the band program at Pinkston, said that he has seen great improvements in his students due to the lessons.


For example, one clarinet player could barely be heard when she played her instrument, but after some lessons, she was able to more fully project.

He also said that one of the benefits is that students are able to receive lessons from a specialist in their instrument. For example, trumpet players are taking lessons from a trumpet player.

Some of Cervantes’ students who were graduating this year, were also able to take what they learned in their lessons and apply it to their audition music for college.

One of the biggest takeaways, Cervantes said, is that it’s helping the students overcome their fear of asking for help.

“Not only does the program help them become better musicians, but they also are learning to advocate for themselves—a life skill that will help them in the future,” he said.



McKinney Housing Authority

Amendment to the 2023 ANNUAL PLAN & SIGNIFICANT AMENDMENT TO THE FIVE YEAR PLAN

PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

The Quality Housing & Work Responsibility Act of 1998 requires the McKinney Housing Authority to submit an Agency Plan each year.

The PHA Plan is a comprehensive guide to public housing agency (PHA) policies, programs, operations, and strategies for meeting local housing needs and goals. There are two parts to the PHA Plan: the 5-Year Plan, which each PHA submits to HUD once every 5th PHA fiscal year, and the Annual Plan, which is submitted to HUD every year.

Below is a list of meetings that are scheduled to review and discuss the Agency Plan documents for the 2023 fiscal year. Residents, the public and staff are encouraged to attend the meetings.

Autoridad de Vivienda McKinney

PLAN ANNUAL MODIFICADO

2023 & ENMIENDA SIGNIFICATIVA AL PLAN DE CINCO AÑOS

REUNIONES DARSE CUENTA

La Ley de Vivienda y Responsabilidad Laboral de Calidad de 1998 requiere que la Autoridad de Vivienda de McKinney presente un Plan de la Agencia cada año.

El Plan PHA es una guía completa de las políticas, programas, operaciones y estrategias de las agencias de vivienda pública (PHA) para satisfacer las necesidades y los objetivos de vivienda locales. Hay dos partes en el Plan PHA: el Plan de 5 años, que cada PHA presenta a HUD una vez cada quinto año fiscal de PHA, y el Plan anual, que se envía a HUD cada año.

A continuación hay una lista de reuniones que están programadas para revisar y analizar los documentos del Plan de la Agencia para el año fiscal 2023.

Se alienta a los residentes, al público y al personal a asistir a las reuniones.

Tuesday June 27, 2023	4:30pm	Board of Commissioners Meeting	Merritt Homes Community Center	1200 N. Tennessee St. McKinney, TX 75069
Tuesday July 25, 2023	4:30pm	Board of Commissioners Meeting	Merritt Homes Community Center	1200 N. Tennessee St. McKinney, TX 75069
Tuesday August 22, 2023	4:30pm	Board of Commissioners Meeting	Merritt Homes Community Center	1200 N. Tennessee St. McKinney, TX 75069

A draft of the proposed Amended ANNUAL Plan and Significant Amendment to the Five Year Plan is available for review at the MHA main office located at: 603 N. Tennessee St. McKinney, TX.

Comments can be submitted by hand delivery, mail, or email to McKinney Housing Authority Main Office; 603 North Tennessee Street; Attn: Roslyn Miller; McKinney, TX 75069 or info@mckinneyha.org. The final public hearing for plan adoption will be held on Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 4:30pm – Merritt Homes community center.

Workforce Dallas assists 500+ job candidates during inaugural 'incubation' year

Dallas Mayor Eric L. Johnson and Workforce Czar Lynn McBee, updated business and community leaders on the progress of Workforce Dallas, an initiative that helps working-age adults connect with jobs and upskilling opportunities that will lift them, their families and their communities.

Workforce Dallas was launched a year ago as the result of recommendations made in a landmark report commissioned by Mayor Johnson and produced by Cicero Group, released in

November 2021.

In the last 10 months, Workforce Dallas has utilized private donations to fund work to develop best practices for job matching, implement navigator support, remove obstacles to upskilling, and identify key partners and collaborators. In its inaugural year, Workforce Dallas conducted hiring events with more than 700 participants, held over 200 meetings with stakeholders and partners, and advocated alongside nonprofit partners to ensure the needs of under-

served communities were being addressed.

"Workforce development remains one of my top priorities," Mayor Johnson said. "Our city's collaborative focus on upskilling has already yielded impressive results, but our work is not done. Renewing our commitment to this endeavor will unlock more opportunities for Dallas residents to improve their quality of life and for our city to attract and grow businesses, sustain our remarkable economic growth, and win the

future."

Mayor Johnson announced on Thursday that he will allocate \$275,000 of his discretionary American Rescue Plan Act funds to support four full time workforce navigators for one year. "Workforce navigators are critical to the success of Workforce Dallas," he said. "New navigator positions will help increase job and upskilling placements exponentially."

Workforce Dallas staff has been able to synthesize information gathered

through community outreach to create a database with more than 300 job and upskilling opportunities, while interviewing and onboarding more than 500 job candidates into its system.

"We've gained a deep knowledge of this work that only comes from talking to people, hearing their stories and at times helping people one at a time," said Lynn McBee. "Our goal over the coming year is to build this out on a greater scale, to move from helping hundreds of workers

to helping thousands. I'm confident that with the backing of Mayor Johnson, our city and the many corporate, nonprofit and educational partners in our corner we will accomplish this goal."

The ultimate goal of Workforce Dallas is to help collaborators across the city place workers in higher paying jobs, create more opportunities for upskilling, and provide vital support for workers needing guidance and assistance as they work to increase their earning potential.

FUTURE, from Page 3

efforts, there was significant debate about the focus of the museum. But I knew we had to do justice to all 400 years of the Black experience in America. On the day we broke ground on IAAM, another good friend, Congressman Elijah Cummings, was being funeralized in Baltimore, Maryland. Elijah was the great-great-grandson of Scipio Rhame, who, until he was freed in 1868, worked the same land as Elijah's parents, who were sharecroppers.

Because of his parents' participation in the great migration, Elijah was born and grew up in Baltimore, Maryland, where Elijah was placed in special education classes. He overcame that profiling and graduated college, Phi Beta Kappa. He became an accomplished lawyer, rose to serve in the United States Congress, and became Chairman of the powerful Oversight Committee. IAAM tells the story of the ancestors and descendants of Scipio Rhame, and countless others with similar backgrounds and experiences.

Those stories are about more than the institution of slavery—they are uplifting experiences that epitomize the varying possibilities of who we are and what we can—and have—become. In that spirit, IAAM has

established a one-of-a-kind center dedicated to African American genealogy research.

The Center for Family History hosts a growing collection of photos, historical documents, and family histories that the public can comb through to find more information about their family trees.

To help bolster their records, the IAAM Center for Family History has issued an open call for obituaries, photos, family histories, and other historical documents. It is not lost on me that at the site where some researchers say half of all African Americans arrived in this country will sit a museum committed to reunifying their descendants with lost histories.

There is significant currency in the museum's acronym, "IAAM." In my office is a statue of a sanitation worker holding a sign with a simple message: "I am a man."

This statue tells the story of the 1968 Memphis Sanitation Workers' strike, born out of anger over the deaths of Black sanitation workers Echol Cole and Robert Walker, who were killed on the job by malfunctioning equipment.

The primarily Black sanitation force demanded recognition of their union, improved safety standards,

and a living wage. It took nearly 2 months and the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., but in the end, their demands were met. The museum's acronym, "IAAM," serves to recognize their struggle and ultimate success.

I often quote George Santayana's admonition, "Those who do not remem-

ber past lessons are condemned to repeat them." African American history encompasses far more than the horrors of those who were enslaved. Their countless descendants include history-making visionaries, and IAAM honors and preserves their struggles and accomplishments and dares us to look toward the future.

I must admit that there were times during my chairmanship, especially in those early days, when I was not sure we would get this project across the finish line.

I am proud that after

more than 20 years of hard work and dedicated commitment, we are celebrating its opening, and future generations can learn fuller and more accurate stories of America's greatness.



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We Weren't Expecting That

By Dr. James L. Snyder

Sometimes things happen that you never expected. When those unexpected things happen, if they are good, that is a blessing, if they are bad, that's a different story.

I learned this expectation of good from my good old Uncle Ted. He was a truck driver, and boy, did he have the stories to tell.

The one story I never believed was about him having lunch at a restaurant. According to his story, he would order a nice lunch, and when almost done, he would take out a hair he had brought along, put it on his plate, and called the waitress.

"Look at this hair on my plate," he said to the waitress.

Of course, she was surprised because that doesn't happen much in a restaurant. She was so frustrated that she called the manager and introduced him to my uncle. He didn't know what he was in for.

"There's a hair on my plate, which disgusts me."

The manager looked at it and did not know what to say, but finally, he said to my uncle, "I'm so sorry for this and to compensate your lunch is on the house today."

He had somewhat of a scow on his face. He looked at the manager and then looked back at the waitress and finally said, "Okay, I'll let it go this time, and I thank you for taking care of this for me. I appreciate that very much."

For many years I thought this was just one of his stories, but he, my father, and I went to a restaurant together once. I'm not sure of the occasion, but it was always fun to get together for lunch.

When Uncle Ted was just about done with his lunch, I saw him pull from his inside pocket an envelope, and when he opened it, there was a variety of hairs inside. He pulled a rather large one out and laid it on his dish. He didn't say anything but just called for the waitress.

"Look at this hair on my plate! Can you explain it?"

Of course, she couldn't, so she called for the manager to come to our table.

When he arrived, he said, "Is there anything I can do to help you men?"

"There sure is," my uncle said. "Look at this hair on my plate. Can you explain it?"

The manager was stunned when he saw the hair and, at first, did not know what to say.

"I'm so sorry for this. Please accept my apology and lunch is on the house today."

With his familiar scow, my uncle looked at the manager, then looked back at the waitress, and then back at the manager and said, "Okay, I accept your apology and thank you for your understanding."

As my dad and I sat at that table, we did not know what to do. Was this a joke or what?

The waitress returned and told us that everything was taken care of and we didn't have to worry, and she apologized again.

When we got into our car to go home, my uncle gave

a little snicker and said, "You know, that works all the time." And then he laughed.

I had forgotten about that until last week. Some of our family had gotten together to celebrate Father's Day at a very nice pizza restaurant. There were five of us plus the Princess of the Family, our six-month-old great-granddaughter. Of course, she was the center of our lunchtime, even though it was a Father's Day lunch.

We had a wonderful time, and the pizza was just delicious. It's one of our favorite pizza restaurants in town.

As we finished, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage sighed deeply and said, "Oh no. It can't be?"

We did not know what she was talking about, and then she called the waiter over and showed him that in the crust of her pizza was a human hair. It was baked into the crust, and only The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage would ever be able to see that.

The waiter came, and she showed him the hair, and

he was rather stunned and said, "I'll go get the manager."

The manager came out, and we could tell the hair did not belong to him because he was bald. Not even facial hair.

He looked at the hair to ensure it was what she said it was. She turned out to be right, as usual.

"I don't know how that happened, and I'm very sorry. Could I bring you a free pizza?"

We told him we were full and could not eat any more pizza. Then he surprised us.

"I'm so sorry for this, and let me say right now that your lunch is on me today. This will not cost you anything."

He wouldn't take no for an answer, so we accepted his generosity.

I know The Gracious

Mistress of the Parsonage can do anything and everything, but I never realized that she also could clone my uncle.

On the way home I couldn't help but think of Ecclesiastes 2:15, "Then said I in my heart, As it happeneth to the fool, so it happeneth even to me; and why was I then more wise? Then I said in my heart, that this also is vanity."

Instead of judging other people for what they do, I need to pay close attention to what I'm doing daily.

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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CANCER, from Page 4

across all centers, pending availability of funds:

- Acres Homes Cancer Prevention Collaboration: Led by the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, this center will work with primarily Black/African American and Hispanic communities in northwest Houston to evaluate interventions in nutrition and physical activity to help prevent obesity and obesity-related cancer.

- The Center for Cancer Control in Persistent Poverty Areas: Led by the University of Alabama at Birmingham, this center will work with Black/African American communities in Jefferson County, Alabama, to evaluate interventions aimed at reducing cancer

disparities by improving living environments and promoting healthy activities. The center will also test diet and exercise interventions for cancer survivors.

- The Upstream Center: Led by Stanford University, Palo Alto, this center will work with Hispanic and Asian American communities in Santa Clara and Yolo Counties in northern California to assess how state programs for guaranteed basic income affect cancer outcomes. It will also test whether the earned income tax credit promotes the adoption of healthy behaviors related to reducing colorectal cancer risk.

- The Center for Social Capital: Led by Weill Cornell Medicine and Colum-

bia University, New York City, this center will work with Black/African American, Caribbean American, and Hispanic communities in the South Bronx, north-central Brooklyn, Washington Heights, and Western Queens in New York City to test the effectiveness of cancer education and tobacco cessation programs in promoting multigenerational health.

- HOPE & CAIRHE 2gether: Led by the Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, this center will work with primarily Hispanic communities in Utah and American Indian communities in rural areas of Montana, Oregon, South Dakota, and Wisconsin to test interventions for commercial tobacco cessation and obesity prevention.

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God is in Control



Sister Tarpley
NDG
Religion
Editor

When I think about conditions in our world today: images of terrorist bombings, sniper shootings, war, bank robbing, gun killings, and violence permeating our society; I think about a song that I love to try and sing (I'm so glad that God said to make a joyful noise) and I am reminded that there has not been a time in my life that I haven't needed God in my life.

The song says, "In times like these we need an anchor, just be sure your anchor holds and it grips that solid rock, that rock is Jesus, He's the one, He's the only one."

"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of



whom shall I be afraid?" Psalm 27:1.

As people in this world today we need to hear and know that God is still in control. We need to hear that it's not over until HE says so.

We need to hear that life's mishaps and tragedies are not a reason to bail out. They are simply a reason to sit tight.

Corrie Boom used to say, "When the train goes through a tunnel and the world gets dark, do you

jump out? Of course not! You sit still and trust the engineer to get you through ..."

The next time that you're disappointed, don't panic. Don't jump out. Don't give up. Don't be afraid. Just be patient and let God remind you that HE'S still in control.

"For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed,

saith the Lord and hath mercy on thee." Isaiah 54:10.

Christian: When a person says, "I am a Christian," they are not shouting that they are clean livin'; they are whispering, "I was lost now I'm found and forgiven."

When a person says, "I am a Christian," they are not speaking of this with pride; they are confessing that they have stumble and need Christ to be their guide.

When a person says, "I am a Christian," they are not trying to be strong; they are professing that they are weak and need God's strength to carry on.

When a person says, "I am a Christian," they are not bragging of success; they are admitting that they have failed and need God to clean their mess.

When a person says, "I am a Christian," they are not holier than thou; they

are just a simple sinner who received God's Good Grace. .

Beautiful Alphabetic: Although things are not perfect; Because of trials or pain; Continue in thanksgiving; Do not begin to blame; Even when the times are hard; Fierce winds are bound to blow; God is forever able; Hold on to what you know; Imagine life without His love; Joy would cease to be; Keep thanking Him for all the things; Love imparts to thee; Move out of "Camp Complaining"; No

weapon that is known; On earth can yield the power; Praise can do alone; Quit looking at the future; Redeem the time at hand; Start every day with worship; To "thank" is a command; Until we see Him coming; Victorious in the sky; We'll run the race with gratitude; Xalting God most high; Yes, there'll be good times and yes some will be bad, but . . . Zion waits in glory . . . where no one is ever sad!

Author Unknown.
(Editor's Note: This column originally ran in July 2016.)

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