



# North Dallas Gazette

"Most respected Voice of the Minority Community"

Visit us online at [www.northdallasgazette.com](http://www.northdallasgazette.com)

## Heroic intervention thwarts attack on another Black church

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National  
Correspondent

In the small Ambridge, Pa., community, a quick-thinking witness and swift police response prevented a potential massacre at Greater Dominion Church on Sunday morning, Aug. 27. Jeffrey Harris, a 38-year-old white man, now faces a litany of charges, including aggravated assault and making terroristic threats, after attempting to enter the predominantly Black church with murderous intent.

The ordeal unfolded just after 9 a.m. on a quiet Sunday morning when multiple concerned citizens called 911 to report a man clad in a camouflage vest brandishing a long gun and menacingly targeting two women outside the church at 4th Street and Melrose Avenue. According to a criminal complaint, the eyewitnesses watched in terror as Harris threatened the women, all while attempting to gain access to the church.

The frantic 911 calls immediately alerted Beaver County Regional Police to Harris's presence on the 300 block of Merchant Street, and they promptly informed Ambridge police. As an officer approached the suspect, Harris menacingly pointed his weapon.

Bishop Kenneth Crumb of Great-



*This incident serves as a grim reminder of America's deeply rooted history of racism and the ongoing racially charged attacks against African Americans, even within the confines of their places of worship. (Photo via NNPA)*

er Dominion Church later spoke to WTAE, revealing the chilling possibility that Harris might have succeeded in entering the church had he arrived just one hour later for his Sunday service. "There is a whole lot of mass murders going on, there are shootings," Crumb emphasized, "particularly in the African American community, people targeting our communities." He added that this incident serves as a grim reminder of America's deeply rooted history of racism and the ongoing racially charged attacks against African Americans, even within the confines of their places of worship.

The horrifying episode at Greater Dominion Church evokes

memories of a painful past, with the killing of nine people at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina, just one of many attacks targeting predominantly Black churches in the United States. Tragically, several past cases involved the burning of churches by Ku Klux Klan members, highlighting the persistence of racial hatred in some parts of the country.

Among these horrific incidents was the burning of the Macedonia Church of God in Christ in Springfield, Massachusetts, shortly after the election of President Obama in November 2008. In Knoxville,

**See ATTACK, Page 8**



### Keeping the state economy moving

- See Page 3



### Segregation and blood lead levels

- See Page 4



### Dems offer bill to end solitary confinement

- See Page 5



### Dallas students step up for the homeless

- See Page 6



### FEMA puts up \$3 billion for climate

- See Page 8



### Night Markets for International District in Dallas

- See Page 9



### BATC opens 30th season with 'Othello'

- See Page 10



### Sister Tarpley: The faithfulness of God

- See Page 14

### Inside...

People in the News ....	2
Op/Ed .....	3
Health .....	4
Community .....	5
Education .....	6
Northside .....	7
Feature .....	8
Entertainment .....	9-10
Marketplace .....	11-13
Religion .....	14-15
Chevrolet .....	16



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

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

For the latest news and events in DFW, follow us online:  
**[www.northdallasgazette.com](http://www.northdallasgazette.com)**

### People In The News ...



**Vivek Ramaswamy**



**Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.**

*NDG Quote of the Week: "The soul that is within me no man can degrade."*

—Frederick Douglass



## Vivek Ramaswamy

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National  
Correspondent

The Congressional Black Caucus has denounced Republican presidential candidate Vivek Ramaswamy for his repeated racist remarks that have furthered the racial divide and exposed even more hate in America's political landscape. Though born in Cincinnati, Ohio, Ramaswamy is the child of Indian Hindu immigrant parents, which has left many questioning his controversial statements'



true intentions and motives as he seeks an unlikely bid for the GOP nomination.

Ramaswamy's non-European American heritage and immigrant background certainly add a layer of

perplexity to his alignment with certain extremist elements within the Republican base, reminding African Americans that true allies remain hard to come by. The candidate's recent town hall event in Pella, Iowa, garnered significant attention for his declaration that "our diversity is not our strength." Such a statement flies in the face of how Ramaswamy and the extreme right in his party have worked against unity and inclusivity nationwide.

Ramaswamy, who has derided former Vice President Mike Pence for not

helping Donald Trump illegally overturn the 2020 presidential election, compared Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley (D-Mass.) to the Grand Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan. He also compared the existence of white supremacy in the United States to that of unicorns.

"I'm sure the boogeyman white supremacist exists somewhere in America. I've just never met him," Ramaswamy stated. "Never seen one, never met one in my life, right? Maybe I'll meet a unicorn sooner. And maybe those exist, too." Within 24 hours, a rac-

ist white gunman shot and killed three African Americans at a Dollar General in Jacksonville, Florida. Indeed, Ramaswamy's provocative analogy, which is deeply offensive and historically charged, raised questions about his understanding of racial dynamics and his willingness to engage in divisive rhetoric.

In 2019, Pressley remarked, "We don't need any more brown faces that don't want to be a brown voice" and "we don't need any more Black faces that don't want to be a Black voice." She explained that she attempted to express

a desire for leaders to use their lived experiences to inform their decisions and policies and not ignore the realities of race.

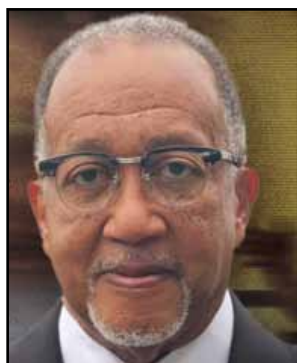
"I stand by what I said to provoke an open and honest discussion in this country," Ramaswamy said, doubling down. "Many Americans today are deeply frustrated by the new culture of anti-racism that's really racism in new clothing, and we need to have that debate in the open." Commentators like Washington Post columnist Philip Bump have noted that Ramas-

**See RAMASWAMY, Page 10**

## Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National  
Correspondent

Inside the hallowed halls of the Audacy Studios at the heart of New York's financial district, National Newspaper Publishers Association President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., a noted Civil Rights Icon, co-founder of the Hip-Hop Summit, and National Director of The Million Man March, formally announced the launch of a new daily radio commentary set to hit the airwaves this fall.



The groundbreaking initiative, titled "The Good News," will be broadcast on Audacy News/Talk and Urban stations, made possible by the underwriting support of The Good News and U.S. Black Chambers,

Inc. Radio Network.

In its inaugural season, "The Good News" will feature Chavis delivering concise, impactful 60-second radio commentaries. During a news conference on Aug. 28, Chavis and his partners said the segments will offer a refreshing and timely outlook on positive stories often overshadowed by the headlines dominating the news cycle. Chavis and U.S. Black Chambers, Inc. President and CEO Ron Busby said the show will cast light on positive developments across America and the world and will also spotlight "the commendable local business

ventures" fostered by the U.S. Black Chambers, Inc. members, a network boasting an impressive 350,000 local chamber participants.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to host 'The Good News,' supported by KMG Networks and the U.S. Black Chambers, Inc.," Chavis asserted during the press conference

that took place as legendary New York radio station 1010 WINS aired in the background. "We aim to amplify those genuine stories that often go unnoticed in mainstream media. We are dedicated to magnifying authentic narratives that serve as inspiration, fostering positive social transformation, equality,

and equity."

The collaboration between Chavis and the U.S. Black Chambers, Inc. marks a turning point, with "The Good News" becoming an integral part of the comprehensive USBC Media Network. The integration will see the highly

**See CHAVIS, Page 6**

## Fani T. Willis

Fanti T. Willis, the first woman to serve as District Attorney for Fulton County, is committed to reducing crime rates for the over one million Fulton County residents, including most of Atlanta and a number of surrounding suburbs.

Willis was elected with a landslide victory over six-term incumbent Paul Howard after Howard faced misconduct allegations, including financial mismanagement and sexual harassment, NNPA reports. Despite initial reluctance, Willis's friends said she embraced the challenge, "motivated by her conviction that it was a call from a higher power,"



they report.

As stated on the county's website, Willis committed to reforming the county's justice system and brought in a team of new attorneys to do so. Willis committed to reforming the office's handling of cases involving the use of force by law enforcement officers, the

website states.

Willis created Fulton's first pre-indictment diversion program, which gives offenders a second chance and a better path forward than one marred by a criminal record. Partnering with community organizations, Fulton County now gives offenders the opportunity to gain life skills and the responsibility associated with community service, the website explains.

Willis graduated from Howard University in 1992 and Emory University School of Law in Atlanta in 1996.

In February, 2021, Willis launched a criminal in-

**See WILLIS, Page 5**

# 180

BANKING

*It all begins with a fresh start!*

Our new deposit account offering allows you to build your banking history while giving you access to more financial opportunities in the future.

**Call us at 972.716.7100 to learn more!**

DALLAS | ADDISON | LAS COLINAS | PLANO | FRISCO

Member FDIC





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

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

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

**Publisher's Office:**

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

**Sales Department:**marketing@northdallasgazette.com  
972-509-9049**Editorial Department:**

editor@northdallasgazette.com

**Online:**

www.NorthDallasGazette.com  
www.twitter.com/NDGEditor  
www.facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette  
www.pinterest.com/NDallasGazette  
www.instagram.com/NorthDallasGazette

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

Allen R. Gray

**Published by**

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

**Contributing Writers**

Jackie Hardy

Lori Lee

Marland Mosely, Jr.

Jacqueline Murphy

Dwain Price

Terri Schlichenmeyer

**Special Projects to****the Publisher**

Stephanie Colunga

**Account Executive**

Sterling R. Bradford

**Production**

David Wilfong

**NDG Obituary Dept.**Vicky Richardson-Stewart  
VP of Operations

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

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

# Keeping Texas' economy moving

By Robert C. Vaughn  
Texas Transportation  
Commissioner

For the first time in its history, TxDOT's 10-year planning and construction program has surpassed \$100 billion in current and future projects.

That eye-catching amount reflects the rapid growth and booming economic activity touching every corner of the Lone Star State. Without a doubt, more people are moving to Texas to live and do business, averaging 1,960 people per day. Because of that, my Texas Transportation Commission colleagues and I made history this month with the approval of a record amount in the Texas Department of Transportation's Unified Transportation Program (UTP), a forecast of potential transportation revenue that may be available to fund projects over the next 10 years, which is updated annually.

Just one year ago, TxDOT set a previous record with the approval of an \$85 billion UTP. A decade ago, the UTP value stood at about \$34.3 billion. These are more than just dollar amounts. These figures represent real improvements to the quality of life for all Texans.

The Commission, under the direction of Governor Greg Abbott, continues to dedicate an unprecedented level of funding that will continue to improve transportation safety, address urban congestion and rural connectivity, and maintain roadways and bridges for Texas drivers. There is an economic benefit as well. The average \$10.1 billion a year in the UTP over the next decade is expected to yield an estimated \$18.8 billion per year in economic

benefits, according to the Texas A&M Transportation Institute.

The renewed focus on infrastructure came at the right time. Since 2013, Texas has added 4 million new residents – an amount roughly equal to the population of the entire state of Oklahoma. Every year, my fellow transportation commissioners and I work hard to evaluate the needs of the state and plan mobility projects for both the current and the next generation of motorists. And we will continue to execute on the mis-

sion to build more capacity to meet those needs. The Commission has focused a large part of its planning and funding efforts on the Texas Clear Lanes initiative, a program designed to address the state's most congested roadways. The program, which focuses on congestion in the state's five largest metro areas, has \$67 billion in non-tolled projects that have been completed, under construction or planned. In the next 10 years, the Commission will also dedicate a record amount for active transportation, such as bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This optionality supports safety, lifestyles, health, and can reduce vehicular traffic. In the Dallas area, motorists have seen the dramatic improvements along Interstate 35E from Colorado Boulevard south to the US 67 split. That \$666

million project, known as the Southern Gateway, improved travel times from 22 mph to 50 mph northbound in the morning and 35 mph to 56 mph southbound in the afternoon. Through the 2024 UTP, TxDOT and the Commission have committed \$11.5 billion for projects planned for construction in the Dallas area, including \$147 million for SH 205 in Rockwall County and \$524 million for the I-30 Canyon project in downtown Dallas. Funding for the vital US 380 corridor in Collin County con-

counties, is considered one of the fastest-growing areas in the nation. Collin County, for example, is ranked third nationally in terms of total new residents added in 2022. The region also is now home to four counties each with a population of more than 1 million: Dallas, Tarrant, Collin and most recently Denton, which surpassed that

mark in 2023. Statewide, Texas has over 30 million residents currently, and that number is expected to grow to more than 40 million people by 2050.

And by 2050, three out of every four Texans is expected to live in the state's five-largest metro areas: Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, Austin, and San Antonio.

The time to act and plan for the future is now. That's why the UTP and our Texas Clear Lanes initiative carries so much importance. TxDOT's record UTP could not have happened without support from the Legislature and Texas voters, who approved Proposition 1 (funding generated from oil and gas production/severance tax revenues) and Proposition 7 (funding generated from sales and use taxes, and motor vehicle sales and rental tax revenues) in 2014 and 2015, respectively. Those approvals infused a reliable stream of revenue that we immediately began putting to use to address the needs of Texans.

With every dollar spent, Texas goods get to their destination more quickly and efficiently, and every motorist can spend more time with their families rather than sitting in traffic. TxDOT and the Texas Transportation Commission are serious about our mission of "Connecting You with Texas."

***Without a doubt, more people are moving to Texas to live and do business, averaging 1,960 people per day.***

Keep up with the news

O N L I N E

www.northdallasgazette.com

# New research establishes enduring connection between racial segregation, childhood blood lead levels

CHICAGO (Newsweek) — Living in a racially segregated neighborhood puts Black children at a higher risk of having elevated blood lead levels, and this association has persisted over more than two decades, according to new research from the Children's Environmental Health Initiative, which is led by University of Illinois Chicago Chancellor Marie Lynn Miranda.

The study, published in *Pediatrics*, analyzed data from the early 1990s and from 2015 from blood lead level tests of more than 320,000 children younger than 7 in North Carolina. Researchers found that while overall lead levels for non-Hispanic Black children decreased over those 25 years, their levels



Santi Vedri / Unsplash

were still higher in both time periods if they lived in segregated neighborhoods. This was true even when adjusting for socioeconomic status, meaning that racial segregation — and the environmental and social burdens that accompany that — creates tangible and long-term health impacts.

“In the United States, you can draw a direct line between slavery, the seg-

regation policies that followed the end of slavery and the distribution of where people live today. There is an enduring legacy,” said Miranda, lead author on the study and a professor of pediatrics at UIC. “Children of color, in particular, non-Hispanic Black children, are exposed to more lead — and racially segregated communities not only have higher levels

of lead exposure, but must contend with other adverse social and environmental exposures going on at the same time.”

In addition to the analysis of lead tests made available by the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, the researchers created a local, spatial measure of racial residential segregation for the entire U.S. based on census tract data. This allowed the researchers at the Children's Environmental Health Initiative to look at the evolution of racial residential segregation and blood lead levels in tandem.

They found that racial residential segregation increased in 68% of census

tracts across the U.S. between 1990 and 2015.

“In North Carolina in that same time frame, we find that neighborhoods that remain highly racially segregated still hold the highest levels of blood lead concentrations among children, especially among non-Hispanic Black children,” said Aaron Lilienfeld Asbun, statistician at CEHI. These results are especially troubling as health impacts of childhood lead exposure include reduced IQ and increased behavioral problems.

These results help shift the focus from viewing health disparities as tied to something unchangeable — a person's race — to a factor that can be modified, in this case the state of a child's home environment

and neighborhood.

The researchers hope the study helps convince pediatricians and public health officials of the importance of ensuring that children from racially segregated neighborhoods get tested for lead, as well as encouraging communities to dedicate resources to lead abatement in these neighborhoods. In addition, pediatricians may provide improved care if they assess patients within the context of where they live and what social and environmental stressors characterize their home environments.

Coauthors of the paper are Joshua Tootoo, director of training and geospatial sciences at CEHI, and Mercedes Bravo, faculty research affiliate at Duke University.

# Sensitive parenting and preschool attendance may promote academic resilience in late preterm infants

ANN ARBOR (Newsweek) — Late preterm infants, or infants born between 34 and 36-6/7 weeks gestation, are the majority of infants born preterm, and are at greater risk for academic delays compared to full term infants.

Certain factors including a low level of maternal education, prenatal tobacco use, twins/multiple gestation and male sex increased the risk for deficits in math and reading by kindergarten for late preterm infants, a new study finds.

However, sensitive parenting and preschool enrollment are two possible ways to counter the risk of being born late preterm, and to promote academic resilience.

“Our findings highlight an opportunity for pediatric



Eye for Ebony / Unsplash

sensitive parenting through the promotion of early relational health, where parents provide a safe, stable and nurturing relationship with their children.

“We found that early sensitive parenting experiences were associated with early academic success for late preterm infants,” Shah said.

The results are published in *Pediatric Research*.

Data for the study was collected as part of the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Birth Cohort. This nationally representative long-term study sponsored by the United States Department of Education has followed thousands of children since birth in 2001.

Researchers tracked academic trajectories for 1,200 late preterm infants over

time using developmental assessments recorded at nine months and 24 months followed by reading and math scores at preschool and kindergarten time points.

Most late preterm infants displayed early reading trajectories at or above the average compared to full term infants but had lower mean math scores at all time points with the greatest performance gap in kindergarten.

While it is unclear exactly why late preterm infants exhibit vulnerability in math development but not reading, researchers suggest the difference could be a result of unique brain development characteristics including structural changes in neural pathways related to visuo-constructive

skills.

Suboptimal academic trajectories among late preterm infants were associated with both psychosocial risk factors — less than high school maternal education — and biological risk factors — a twin or multiple pregnancy, prenatal tobacco use or male sex.

Increased academic risk in late preterm infants could be related to functional differences in neural connectivity or to sex-related differences that contribute to differences in learning and academic achievement. However, the exact mechanism is unclear.

Results suggest that parents of late preterm infants can foster more optimal early academic outcomes with interventions which promote parental sensi-

tivity in early childhood. Preschool enrollment combined with developmental support prior to school entry can also help reduce academic risks, and support early academic achievement.

This is the first study to examine academic trajectories of late preterm infants from infancy to kindergarten along with the associated predictors of academic resilience and risk, says Shah.

“Now that we have identified patterns and predictors of reading and math skill development, we can help inform pediatric guidelines to help late preterm infants, who are the majority of infants born preterm, thrive in the period before kindergarten,” Shah said.



## Check us out on Facebook!

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





# Democrats introduce new bill to eradicate solitary confinement, highlighting racial disparities in the justice system

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National  
Correspondent

A group of House Democrats is spearheading legislative efforts to dismantle the practice of solitary confinement, a punitive measure that disproportionately affects Black and brown inmates within the American penal system.

Rep. Cori Bush of Missouri, a passionate advocate for criminal justice reform, leads this critical initiative. Rashida Tlaib of Michigan, Sydney Kamlager-Dove of California, and Jamaal Bowman of New York are among Bush’s colleagues joining the effort. Together,



*The proposed legislation does not merely seek to banish this punitive practice; it also aims to institute vital due process safeguards for individuals where solitary confinement is the sole recourse.*  
(Hasan Almas / Unsplash)

er, they have introduced groundbreaking legislation to abolish solitary confinement within federal prisons and jails, effectively addressing a glaring issue within the nation’s correctional system.

The proposed legislation does not merely seek to banish this punitive practice; it also aims to institute vital due process safeguards for individuals

where solitary confinement is the sole recourse. Further, the bill offers incentives to states, encouraging them to adopt similar legislation at the local level, fostering a more equitable and humane justice system.

Bush minced no words in denouncing the practice of isolating incarcerated individuals, referring to it as a “moral catastrophe.” She underscored the gravity of the situation, citing United Nations experts who have characterized solitary confinement as psychological torture. “This practice is traumatic for people subjected to it, harmful to communities, and alarm-

ingly, it disproportionately impacts Black and brown individuals, young people, LGBTQ+ members, and other marginalized communities,” Bush passionately asserted.

Rep. Bowman echoed Bush’s sentiments, declaring that such a method of imprisonment has no place in the United States. He emphasized the stark reality that harsh practices like solitary confinement directly target marginalized groups, particularly people of color. “We must put an end to this cruel and traumatic form of punishment for the well-being of all,” Bowman insisted.

Rep. Kamlager-Dove expressed her profound disapproval of solitary confinement, likening it to a grave human rights violation that would be condemned in any other context or country. She also emphasized the necessity of treating incarcerated individuals as human beings, mainly if the goal is rehabilitation and significantly reducing recidivism rates.

“If we aspire for those within the penal system to emerge rehabilitated and less likely to re-offend, we must prioritize treating them as individuals deserving of dignity and respect,” Kamlager-Dove stated.

## Dallas lawyers available to answer legal questions via e-clinic

very Wednesday in September volunteer attorneys will answer legal questions from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. via the Dallas Bar Association’s LegalLine E-Clinic, with no cost. The events are sponsored by the Dallas Bar Association. This

month’s LegalLine E-Clinics are September 6, September 13, September 20, and September 27, and all E-Clinics will take place between the hours of 4:00 and 8:00 p.m.

A volunteer attorney will call the participant to pro-

vide up to 15 minutes of free legal advice for your legal issue.

Individuals may also receive referrals to local, legal, or social service agencies.

Space is limited. Registration will close at noon

on the Tuesday prior.

Please note that the volunteer attorney will remain anonymous. Participants should watch for a call from an unknown number that should be labeled “No Caller ID” or something similar.

No attorney-client relationship will be established, and we cannot guarantee that the attorney will speak any language other than English.

To participate, complete the online form found at <https://tinyurl.com/DBA-LegalLine>.

LegalLine for the upcoming LegalLine.

For legal assistance any time, contact the DBA’s Lawyer Referral Service at [www.dallasbar.org/index.cfm?pg=Lawyer-ReferralService](http://www.dallasbar.org/index.cfm?pg=Lawyer-ReferralService).

## WILLIS, from Page 2

vestigation into attempts by former President Donald Trump to influence Georgia’s governor, attorney

general, and Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, as reported by the New York Times. The following

January, Willis requested a special grand jury to consider election interference charges relating to Trump and his allies, they report. In May, a special grand

jury was asked to submit a report to the judge and to Willis on whether a crime was committed, as reported by CNN.

After hearing from 75 witnesses, the jury completed the reports, parts of which were released on February 16, as reported

by CNBC. Last month, Willis’s office indicted Trump and 18 others on 41 charges, the New York Times reports.

## LEGAL NOTICE

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

Game #	Game Name / Odds	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
2333	\$250,000 50X Cashword - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.56	\$10	8/28/23	2/24/24
2459	Bonus Money - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.22	\$5	9/27/23	3/25/24
2471	Cash Games - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.35	\$5	9/27/23	3/25/24
2497	Cool Cash - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.35	\$5	9/27/23	3/25/24
2407	Payout Multiplier - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.95	\$10	9/27/23	3/25/24
2389	Triple Tripler - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.88	\$5	10/18/23	4/15/24
2425	Super Crossword - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.91	\$5	10/18/23	4/15/24
2410	Monopoly™ - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.80	\$10	10/18/23	4/15/24
2441	\$500,000 Cash Blowout - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.81	\$10	10/18/23	4/15/24
2358	\$1,000,000 Ultimate - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.62	\$50	10/18/23	4/15/24

Texaslottery.com is the official source for all pertinent game information. Game closing procedures may be initiated for documented business reasons. These games may have prizes unclaimed, including top prizes. In addition, game closing procedures will be initiated when all top prizes have been claimed. During closing, games may be sold even after all top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. For help with a gambling problem, [ncpgambling.org](http://ncpgambling.org). © 2023 Texas Lottery Commission. PLAY RESPONSIBLY.

**TEXAS LOTTERY**

## We Buy Ugly Houses



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

**CALL 972-665-0170**

## We Buy Houses ... Fast!



## Dallas students making an impact through Homeless Education Program

DALLAS — In the five years Ashley Marshall has been managing her small team in the Homeless Education Program, she has seen countless examples of students' lives being transformed for the better by the program.

During the 2022-2023 school year, Marshall said about 4,300 Dallas ISD students were coded as homeless, which could mean they were sleeping in hotels, cars, or shelters. The HEP team not only works alongside those students to ensure they have uniforms, hygiene supplies, and backpacks, but they also reach out to the students' families to provide them with education and additional support.



Marshall said her favorite memories come from seeing the impact they make, even when it may "feel small."

She recently worked with a senior who was living in a shelter in Fort Worth and was not connected with his mother. Marshall and the student developed such a

positive connection that he began sending Marshall and one of her teammate's photos of his accomplishments, from his artwork to his football trophies.

"I feel like I am his mom, and now he can say, 'These are two women who can be proud of me when my mom

is not here,'" Marshall said. "Our students just want someone to look at them and say, 'I see you, and I'm going to help you try to get through this.' That means so much to them."

The effect Marshall and her team have had on students and their families over

time is incalculable.

"I'll be the person that cries right away when I tell some of the stories of the kids and the families we've helped," Marshall said. "I don't think anyone really understands until you have a mom saying you are the first people who have tried to help her. They've been trying to get along in daily life and make it through, and we are the ones who help them do that."

Marshall's passion and commitment never waver, something that her colleagues see and appreciate.

"Ashley is one of the most caring, knowledgeable, thinking-outside-the-box, and going-the-extra-mile type of people I know,"

said Yadira Coggins, a case manager with the Homeless Education Program. "She has carried and grown this program throughout her years of service. Because of Ashley's empowerment and growth mindset, our team has done incredible things when working with our students and families experiencing a homeless crisis situation."

While Marshall is proud of her team's achievements, she said the work is never finished. The most important message she wants to spread to the Dallas ISD community is awareness of the Homeless Education Program and the resources available to students and families in need.

## Accommodating too much in school makes children more anxious

ADJER, (Newsweek) — "If you are afraid to speak in class and the teacher lets you be exempt from it throughout secondary school, you will not get better at speaking out loud. You just get more anxious about it."

That is what Åshild Tellefsen Håland says. She is a professor at the University of Agder and a psychologist specialist in the Department of Child and Adolescent Mental Health at the Hospital of Southern Norway.

"Such pupils need a program where they can practice speaking out loud, or other things they fear, in a safe environment. If schools had been better at this, some anxiety disorders would probably have been prevented," she says.

Håland and her colleagues asked all primary school teachers in Kristiansand about how they



accommodate for pupils who are anxious.

This is the first time, both in Norway and internationally, that researchers have mapped how teachers respond to anxious pupils in general. Previous studies have explored how teachers approach pupils who actually have an anxiety diagnosis.

"In the face of anxiety, cognitive behavioral therapy has the best documented effect. The core of it is to face what you are afraid of. But the reality in schools is

that teachers help their pupils to avoid things and that the children get little help to tackle their fears," says Håland.

The survey consists of 35 questions, and asks, among other things, about how often teachers:

- Allow pupils to be exempted from delivering presentations (over 60%)
- Allow pupils to go in and out of classes (almost 70%)
- Have done tasks that are actually the pupil's responsibility (around 50%)

- Have adjusted the class routines due to individual pupils' anxiety (around 50%)

"Excessive accommodation is a serious problem in schools, and it happens to a greater extent than I thought it would. These aren't necessarily pupils with anxiety diagnoses, there are also pupils who are just afraid to do things," Håland says.

244 teachers responded to the survey. The figures are from Kristiansand, but Håland says it is very likely that they are representative of the rest of the country.

Anxiety is one of the most important reasons for school absenteeism. Figures from the Ungdata survey also show that anxiety affects more young people today than in the past. This has also got worse after the pandemic.

At the beginning of May this year, the Hospital of

Southern Norway launched e-RISK. This is an online coping skills course for young people between the ages of 12 and 18 who need help to dare to do things that they avoid doing and are afraid to do.

The tool also contains guidance for teachers and parents on how to support those with anxiety in an appropriate way and has become very popular. Not long after the launch, it had 30,000 unique users, Håland explains. She developed it together with colleague and psychologist Thomas B. Bertelsen at the Hospital of Southern Norway.

Through the continuing education program at the University of Agder, public health nurses and social workers have received training in running low-threshold groups (called Mini-risk) for pupils with anxiety.

By 2024, public health nurses and social workers in all schools in Kristiansand will have received the training. Kristiansand will then be the first municipality in the country to have a low-threshold service for anxious pupils available in all schools.

### The responsibility lies with the school

Håland is clear that the individual teacher is not to blame for excessive accommodation. The responsibility lies with the school.

"If a resourceful father calls and demands that his child be exempt from PE, the teacher might not trust in his own competence or have a plan to solve the issue."

Through low-threshold groups such as Mini-risk and e-RISK, teachers have been given other tools to allow pupils to confront things they are afraid of.

## RAMASWAMY, from Page 2

anticipated USBC Radio Network seamlessly join forces with its media counterpart, creating a dynamic and influential platform.

"For our debut season, 'The Good News' and the USBC are investing in

important News/Talk and Urban stations, including WCBS/NY, KNX/LA, and KCBS/SF, and other leading News/Talk and Urban Contemporary stations across the U.S. to kickstart his very important audio

commentary to a national radio audience," said Gary Krantz, CEO of KMG Networks.

Busby also added his excitement about the partnership. "We're thrilled to present the debut program on the USBC Radio Network, 'The Good News,'

with Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr. As we reveal this inaugural show, it marks the initial stride in a compelling series that aims to inspire, educate, and enthrall," Busby stated. "Our enthusiasm extends to the forthcoming array of impactful programming, set

to connect deeply with a diverse range of audiences. Our partnership with KMG Networks has us poised not only to make a significant impact in the realm of media but to transcend its boundaries."

"The Good News" promises to be "a beacon of pos-

itivity, celebrating stories that deserve the spotlight," Busby continued. "With its far-reaching impact and the support of influential partners, the show is positioned to uplift and engage listeners nationwide, fostering a renewed sense of inspiration and unity."



# Plano's Parks for Pollinators Bioblitz gives park-goers opportunity to participate in pollinator research

PLANO -- Charge your smartphone, don your bug spray, and sign up for Plano Parks and Recreation's annual Parks for Pollinators Bioblitz this September! Hosted by the National Park and Recreation Association (NRP), this national campaign relies on local action for finding and documenting area pollinators and pollinator-friendly plants using the iNaturalist app. The result is a snapshot of the community's biodiversity.

Plano's Bioblitz focuses on Arbor Hills and Oak Point Park nature preserves,



Courtesy photo

which are certified wildlife sanctuaries. Participants connect with nature while building awareness for the crucial role pollinators play in our communities.

Pollinators are essen-

tial to our ecosystem. In fact, more than 75 percent of the world's flowering plants and 35 percent of the world's crops rely on pollinators like bees and butterflies. Not only are they es-

sential for food production, they also support healthy ecosystems.

"Bioblitzes make engaging with science easy and fun while giving the public an opportunity to contribute to a genuine scientific survey," said Kelley Crimmins, community outreach specialist for Plano Parks and Recreation. "We look forward to sharing our findings with researchers and the community at-large this fall to see the many different kinds of pollinators that call these places home."

People can participate by downloading the iNatural-

ist app and creating a profile, joining the Plano Parks for Pollinators Bioblitz project page at iNaturalist.org. Then, get outside, and observe an individual organism, and pick something wild and take a clear, full frame photo, add an observation to the project page.

Kids can also opt to use Seek to share their findings. This child-safe app developed by iNaturalist allows kids to discover the natural world by identifying plants and animals while earning badges along the way! Learn more about Seek and

get monthly National Geographic challenges <https://www.nationalgeographic.org/projects/bioblitz/>.

The iNaturalist app is a joint initiative by the California Academy of Sciences and the National Geographic Society. Please review the Community Guidelines before participating.

Visit the Parks for Pollinators webpage for more information and join the project at <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/plano-parks-for-pollinators-bioblitz-2023>.

## Congress returns with looming showdowns, legal woes, and lame duck speaker

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National  
Correspondent

As Congress reconvenes this week, the nation watches in anticipation of what America's future holds while bracing for an intense battle of political wills, all while former President Donald Trump's legal entanglements loom over the legislative process.

The critical issue is the passage of a short-term spending bill to stave off a looming government shutdown scheduled for October 1. The high-stakes standoff sets the stage for an unpredictable showdown between conservative hardliners and those who seek a more pragmatic path.



*The White House and senators from both sides of the aisle advocate tying the short-term funding bill to critical provisions such as \$24 billion in aid to Ukraine and an additional \$16 billion for communities devastated by natural disasters. However, a vocal faction of House conservatives opposes swiftly passing additional aid to Ukraine. (Photo via NNPA)*

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, caught in the crossfire of a political maelstrom, finds himself in a most precarious position. According to CNN, during a private conference call last week, McCarthy urged his colleagues to support a

short-term spending deal to avert an impending shutdown. He proposed postponing the larger funding fight until later in the fall, a strategy that some view as prudent to ensure the government continues to function.

The House and Senate face substantial differences in their funding proposals, with McCarthy's prior deal with the White House crumbling under the pressure of demands from the conservative wing of his party. As a result, the two chambers are hundreds of billions of dollars apart, increasing the urgency to find a compromise.

To further complicate matters, Congress must tackle other pressing end-of-the-month deadlines, including extending federal aviation programs and potentially initiating an absurd, nasty, and vindictive impeachment inquiry against President Joe Biden in the House.

The White House and

senators from both sides of the aisle advocate tying the short-term funding bill to critical provisions such as \$24 billion in aid to Ukraine and an additional \$16 billion for communities devastated by natural disasters. However, a vocal faction of House conservatives opposes swiftly passing additional aid to Ukraine.

The procedural hurdle of securing a rule vote in the House adds another layer of complexity. Some hard-right conservatives have declared their willingness to block the rule vote for the spending bill if their demands are not met.

All of this leaves McCarthy at a crossroads. He must decide whether

to align with conservative hardliners, risk a head-on collision with the White House, or forge a compromise with Democrats, passing the spending bill by a two-thirds majority. The latter option could force McCarthy to make concessions to Democrats, jeopardizing his standing among his party's far-right members and the possibility of his being removed as Speaker. The vociferous if not powerful MAGA wing has continued their defense of the former President and are seeking to use as leverage anything they believe could potentially halt Trump's prosecutions.

However, GOP Rep.

**See CONGRESS, Page 12**

## Dallas named a premier American city at The Monocle Quality of Life Conference

Dallas Mayor Eric L. Johnson last Friday participated in a panel discussion with Mayor Matúš Vallo of Bratislava, Slovakia. The panel, "Lessons from City Leader," moderated by the editor in chief of Monocle magazine, Andrew Tuck, was held at the Monocle Quality of Life Conference in Munich, Germany.

Mayor Johnson was one of 20 leaders identified to participate in panel discus-

sions and in-depth interviews focused on building a better future in life and business. Johnson joined 200 international delegates specializing in business, culture, urbanism, and current affairs in Munich for the eighth edition of the conference.

"Dallas is a growing, international city that represents urbanism at its best," Mayor Johnson said. "It is a privilege to showcase Dal-

las as a premier American city on the world stage."

Mayor Johnson and Mayor Vallo discussed changing a city's ambitions and lessons learned from leading a large US metropolis and a compact European city. Mayor Johnson spoke about his journey to becoming Dallas' 60th mayor and Dallas as a welcoming city of opportunity. He touted Dallas' continued success in lowering violent crime and

said one of his top three priorities is to lead Dallas further down the path toward becoming the safest major city in the United States.

"Mayors are in the security business," he said. "Public safety will remain my number one priority because if Dallas residents don't feel secure, our city's other objectives are guaranteed to fail."

Dallas is the only major American city to record

year-over-year declines in every category of violent crime tracked by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 2021 and 2022. A new Gallup poll recently revealed that Americans rate Dallas the safest among America's 16 largest cities.

In addition to public safety, Mayor Johnson said he is prioritizing increasing Dallas residents' access to parks and providing property tax relief.

"I also want Dallas to become the major city with the best park system in Texas and the lowest tax rate in the North Texas region," he said. "Steady progress toward my administration's top three goals will lead to a safer, greener, more prosperous city."

The three-day conference featuring debates, panels, interviews, and networking opportunities concluded on Sept. 2.



# FEMA announces nearly \$3 billion in funding selections to drive resilience to climate change, extreme weather

DENTON — On Monday, August 28, FEMA announced the selections for nearly \$3 billion in climate resilience funding through two competitive grant programs to help communities across the nation enhance climate and disaster resilience.

In FEMA Region 6, this includes 9 BRIC national competition selections for \$120.5 million and 68 community-wide selections for \$333.1 million in Flood Mitigation Assistance. These projects have met the basic eligibility requirements and will enter the next phase of the awards review process.

The nationwide funding includes \$1.8 billion for critical resilience projects funded by the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) national competition and \$642 million for Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) community-scale flood mitigation projects.

The top five primary hazard sources of the projects selected in the national competition include flooding, infrastructure failure, fire, drought, and dam or



Henry B. / Unsplash

levee break hazards.

For the first time, Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas were selected for BRIC awards for a combined total of \$120.5 million in BRIC national competition selections.

- Arkansas: \$2,511,537 (1 project)
- Louisiana: \$50,872,254 (2 projects)
- Texas: \$67,129,048 (6 projects)

These are large mitigation projects and activities—six of which use nature-based solutions—to reduce natural hazard risks for states, local communities, tribes and territories. Nature-based solutions are sustainable planning, design, environmental management and engineering practices that weave natural features or processes into the built environment

to promote adaptation and resilience.

The Danville School District in Arkansas plans to construct a safe room at their Elementary School Campus. The safe room will accommodate more than 1,100 faculty, staff and students. Currently the Danville School District has no protection for their students and staff during severe wind and tornado events and this project, constructed to meet the new State-wide Building Codes, will protect and save lives.

Another example is the construction of a regional stormwater detention facility for Edinburg, Texas, located in Hidalgo County. Edinburg experiences frequent flooding due to its flat terrain, low soil infiltration capacities, and intense rain events.

Hidalgo County plans to excavate land, create a detention pond, widen existing drainage ditches, and install concrete pipes to provide 50-year flood protection. Through this nature-based solution, the proposed South Lateral Regional Detention Facility will reduce the depth of flooding and safeguard more than 5,700 residents that live in the county.

Learn more about these and additional projects at the BRIC webpage.

Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas received Flood Mitigation Assistance selections for a total of \$333.1 million.

- Louisiana: \$141,635,374 (45 projects)
- Oklahoma: \$1,171,926 (1 project)
- Texas: \$190,291,883 (22 projects)

This funding will go towards community-wide elevation, acquisitions and mitigation reconstruction of repetitively flood-damaged buildings insured by the National Flood Insur-

ance Program (NFIP).

In Louisiana, East Baton Rouge Parish plans to elevate 84 properties and demolish seven others to create green space and prevent future damage.

In Oklahoma, Tulsa County plans to acquire and demolish four single-family residential structures in the floodplain that have flooded numerous times over the years. This is part of a comprehensive floodplain buyout program Tulsa is implementing to buy and demolish homes in Special Flood Hazard Areas.

Learn more about these and additional projects at the Flood Mitigation Assistance webpage.

These are the final selections for this grant cycle bringing the total to nearly \$3 billion. In May, FEMA announced \$160 million in smaller-scale selections to support mitigation projects and planning, project scoping and the adoption and enforcement of hazard resistant building codes.

President Biden has

continued to provide additional funding to FEMA's annual resilience grant programs, increasing them from \$700 million to \$1.16 billion during his first year in office to nearly tripling it in the 2022 funding cycle, \$900 million of which came from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The increased amount allows FEMA to diversify its geographic scope in funding selections and get more federal funds to communities needing it the most to become safer from the effects of climate change.

The law provides FEMA nearly \$7 billion to invest in communitywide mitigation to proactively reduce their vulnerability to flood, hurricanes, drought, wildfires, extreme heat and other hazards.

FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters. Follow us at [twitter.com/FEMARegion6](https://twitter.com/FEMARegion6) and at [linkedin.com/showcase/fema-region-6/](https://linkedin.com/showcase/fema-region-6/) and like us at [facebook.com/FEMARegion6](https://facebook.com/FEMARegion6).

## ATTACK, from Page 1

Tennessee, in January 1996, a fire destroyed the Inner-City Baptist Church, which had racial slurs painted on its walls. Similarly, in February 1996, a group of churches within a six-mile radius in Louisiana were set ablaze on the anniversary of the sit-in in Greensboro, North Carolina.

On June 21, 1995, four former Ku Klux Klan members set the Macedonia Baptist Church on fire in Manning, South Carolina. The fire was one of many that plagued predominantly

Black churches across the South during that period, and Macedonia Baptist was awarded \$37.8 million in a decision against the Klan. A jury believed that the Klan's rhetoric had motivated the men to commit this heinous act.

This week, U.S. Rep. Chris Deluzio, D-Pa., wrote to the Department of Justice, asking for a federal investigation into the event to see whether Harris had violated any civil rights laws and, if it was determined he committed federal crimes, to pursue him to

the maximum degree possible, according to a press release.

"With hate crimes on the rise across the country, including against Black Americans, it is understandable that any community would be concerned by an armed individual terrorizing a place of worship," Deluzio wrote to the federal authorities. "A community not too far away from the massacre at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, the Greater Dominion congregation knows too well the harm that an armed individual filled with hate can do."

**Is it  
THE FLU,  
A COLD  
OR COVID?**

Parkland has the playbook for you to have the best defense to avoid these diseases.

Learn more about the importance of getting vaccinated at [www.parklandhealth.org/yourteam](https://www.parklandhealth.org/yourteam)

**#OurTeamIsHereForYourTeam**



Parkland

Care. Compassion. Community.

**Let us hear from you!**

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



# Night markets slated in Dallas International District

The City of Dallas will host a Night Market in the Dallas International District on Sept. 9 and Dec. 9 from 4 to 11 p.m. This one-of-a-kind event will celebrate the diversity of Dallas' food, culture, and art. The event will feature over 50 vendors, live music and entertainment.

The Dallas International Night Market is produced by Dallas residents Elle Congelli and Sarah Chung in partnership with the Dallas International District and City of Dallas. The Dallas International District, located on the former site of the Valley View Mall and an area near the Galleria, is to become a vibrant, multicultural, in-



Kelvin Balingit / Unsplash

novative and eco-friendly live-work-play-visit community.

Anchored by Dallas International Commons, an iconic 20-acre park, the area is already home to numerous international restaurants and a dynamic residential community.

The redevelopment will transform the 450-acre areas into a regional downtown that will include a Pre-K to 12th grade International STEAM Academy, as well as hotels, vibrant retail and residences. All are to be connected by pedestrian, bike and public

transportation.

"I'm glad Dallas has created the International Night Market to highlight various cultures and regions around the world," District 11 City Council Member Jaynie Schultz said. "By attending, residents and visitors have the opportunity to interact with people from across the globe and learn about different cultures through food, entertainment, hands-on activities, and more."

Congelli and Chung are both passionate about promoting the diversity of Dallas and are involved in many local social and philanthropic organizations. They believe that the night market will be a great

way to showcase the city's international community in a new and unique way while also introducing the DID and future plans to develop another special Dallas neighborhood to North Texas and beyond.

"We are both honored and excited to create the first Dallas International Night Market hosted in the Dallas International District," said Congelli. "This event will be the perfect opportunity for people to come together and celebrate the truly diverse, vibrant, and inclusiveness of our Dallas community."

The Dallas International Night Market will be a great opportunity to experience the diverse culture

of Dallas, and will feature a variety of food vendors from all over the world. There will also be a variety of local artisans selling handmade goods, as well as live entertainment and performances.

"We hope that the Dallas International Night Market will become a staple in our community that cultivates a desire for not only repeat events, but builds on the need for a larger international festival," said Chung. "An international festival we anticipate hosting in the Dallas International District in 2024."

The event is free to attend and open to all ages. Details at [dallasinternationaldistrict.com/events](http://dallasinternationaldistrict.com/events).

## Terence Blanchard In Dallas at The Meyerson Symphony Center

KERA and the Dallas Symphony Orchestra today announce the premiere and air dates for Terence Blanchard in Dallas, a new broadcast program documenting the seven-time GRAMMY® winner and twice Oscar-nominated composer Terence Blanchard's appearances at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center in February 2023. The hour-long program features the Dallas Symphony Orchestra performing selections from Blanchard's opera *Fire Shut Up in My Bones*; a jazz set with Blanchard on trumpet, his E-Collective band and the Turtle Island Quartet; and conversations with Blanchard, soprano Karen Slack and bassist David Ginyard. The broadcast will premiere on Tuesday, September 5 at 8:00PM on KERA TV and will re-air on Friday, September 8 at 11:00PM and Sunday, September 10 at 12:00PM. KERA will distribute Terence Blanchard in Dallas to PBS stations across the country this fall, through American Public Television.

"The Dallas Symphony was honored to welcome Terence Blanchard back to Dallas for this incred-

ible two-night show this past spring," said Kim Noltemy, Ross Perot President & CEO of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. "We are thrilled to partner with KERA to present this remarkable program spotlighting the genius of Terence Blanchard with our orchestra and in our beautiful hall to audiences throughout North Texas and beyond."

"Collaboration and community is an integral part of KERA's mission, which is why we are delighted to partner with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra for this incredible program featuring the legendary Terence Blanchard," said Bill Young, Vice President of Television at KERA. "Terence Blanchard in Dallas celebrates world-class artists from around the world and right here in North Texas. We're excited to share this important program with audiences."

Terence Blanchard in Dallas includes selections from Blanchard's groundbreaking opera *Fire Shut Up in My Bones* as well as jazz performances from his album *Absence* with the E-Collective and the Turtle Island Quartet. *Fire Shut Up in My Bones* premiered at The Metropolitan Op-

era in September 2021 and marked the first time the New York institution staged an opera by a Black composer in its 138-year history. The Washington Post hailed the work as "A watershed moment for American opera...A starting point for something new, a refresh of where opera can take us." The Chicago Sun Times called it "a major, compelling work by one of the most important, new composing voices in opera." The New York Times columnist Charles M. Blow's widely acclaimed memoir of his traumatic youth in Louisiana is the source for this extremely moving story. Librettist Kasi Lemmons, director of such remarkable films as *Harriet* and *Eve's Bayou*, adapted Blow's text for the opera. Baritone Nicholas Newton and soprano Karen Slack joined the DSO and Assistant Conductor Maurice Cohn for these performances in Dallas.

For the jazz selections, Blanchard was joined by his band, the E-Collective and the Turtle Island Quartet. Blanchard formed his revolutionary jazz band E-Collective in 2015. The group is creatively proficient at layering grooves fueled by

funk, rock, R&B and the blues. On their latest album, the double- GRAMMY®

-nominated *Absence*, the groups pay tribute to saxophonist Wayne Shorter.

Blanchard's projects contin-

See BLANCHARD, Page 11



**Join us September 16, 2023**

**NAACP Garland 32nd Annual**

**Freedom Fund Brunch & Silent Auction**

**10:00 am**

**Moving Forward Together**

**"Revived, Restored and Rejuvenated"**

**Silent Auction Online**

**09/10/2023 - 09/16/2023 @ 11:00am**

**SPEAKER**



**Dr. Demond Dawkins**

Pastor of  
Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, Fate, TX

**MISTRESS OF CEREMONY**



**Dr. LaKisha Culpepper**

Garland ISD Liaison to the  
African American Community

**Brunch Table: \$550 (Seats 10)**

**Individual Tickets: \$55**

**CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS!**

**Hyatt Place Dallas/Garland/Richardson**

**5101 N President George Bush Hwy**

**Garland, TX 75040**



**For more information please call the NAACP Garland Unit at (972) 381-5044, Box #5**



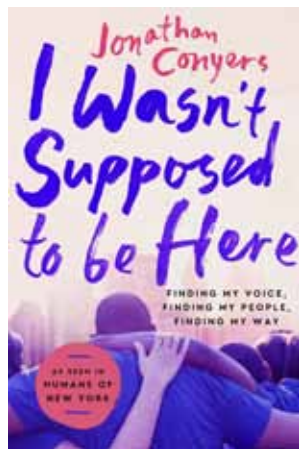
# NDG Book Review: 'I Wasn't Supposed to Be Here' is a feel-good gift

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Something's all wrong about this scenario.

It doesn't even look right. It's a mess, which isn't how you expected it to be. No, you should've turned around the minute you saw it, walked out the door, and denied all responsibility but now you're involved. And in the new memoir "I Wasn't Supposed to Be Here" by Jonathan Conyers, making things good is going to take some work.

For most of his earliest life, Jon Conyers was never totally sure where he'd wake up the next weekend. His parents were both ad-



dicted to crack, and moving from apartment to shelter and back and from state to state happened all the time for him and his siblings.

"I just knew I never felt safe," he says.

Despite that his childhood was "tinged with trauma," Conyers' parents insisted on one good thing: that their five children get an education. That was the family beacon, an unwavering base that never changed. Conyers says his parents were often high but they still showed up to parent-teacher conferences, without fail, and his older brothers each attended college.

Conyers, however, struggled. He did well in school while the family lived in Virginia, but back in New York, the streets were often more appealing than a classroom.

He says that the old African proverb is correct, though: it does take a village to raise a child. He saw, early-on, that if you don't have a village, you need to build one yourself – and that's what he did.

When he had trouble staying in school, a mentor held him accountable. Others saw past the righteous anger that surfaced from him sometimes, and they pushed him to study at a Harlem high school that helped him channel his energy and succeed. He was further encouraged to apply for a summer program that expanded his horizons.

Conyers says "I was go-

ing to learn all I could, be successful, and come back to help the people in my community."

And then his dream was almost derailed by one small thing...

Does this story sound familiar? If you're a fan of Humans of New York on social media or in books, then you might have read bits of author Jonathan Conyers' story. In "I Wasn't Supposed to Be Here," you'll get the rest of it.

And you'll see the grace inside this story, so much grace that it almost makes you weep.

Starting before he was born, Conyers writes,

it seemed as though the universe was conspiring against him: he was almost aborted, he was sometimes hungry, and sometimes homeless. His education was often in question, as was his life, but there's no real complaining in the telling of any of this. Readers just get the facts, in a voice that uplifts as it conveys awe at the presence of angels in a "village."

While this book seems aimed at adults, it could be a wonderful, meaningful gift for older teens, too. If anyone needs a feel-good, "I Wasn't Supposed to Be Here" is all kinds of right.

## Bishop Arts Theatre opens 30th anniversary season with Franky Gonzalez's adaptation of Othello

Bishop Arts Theatre Center (BATC) is thrilled to kick off its 30th Anniversary season with an adaptation of Othello by BATC's playwright-in-residence Franky D. Gonzalez. This production will begin October 19 – November 5, 2023, for three consecutive weekends.

The play follows the tragedies surrounding Imani Othello, a passionate football fan on the coaching staff of the nation's most beloved team, whose life is irrevocably changed when she is named head coach. Executive Artistic Director/Founder Teresa Coleman Wash comments, "It's been years since we've had Denise on our stage in a performance. We've partnered with her nonprofit Visions

For Change on several events, but we're thrilled to have her in her element, breathing life into Imani Othello. She's a national treasure right here in our backyard."

Denise Lee is an award-winning actress and singer whose powerful voice, warm and friendly demeanor, and brassy performance style has charmed theater, nightclub, film, and television audiences for more than three decades.

She is the founder and Executive Producer of the Denise Lee Onstage Cabaret Series and the Dallas Cabaret Festival featuring the best in Dallas-based and National Cabaret Artists.

As an actress, she has performed in almost every

theater in the metroplex, most recently as 'Willetta Mayer' in Dallas Theater Center's Trouble in Mind. In April of last year, she brought her show Pressure Makes Diamonds home to Circle Theater after premiering it to rave reviews at Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma.

For her one-woman shows Divas of American Music and Too Old, Too Fat, Too Black – Songs I'll Never Sing On Broadway, she was awarded BroadwayWorld Awards for Best Cabaret Performer.

She is also the recipient of the Sammons Center for the Arts Cabaret Artist of the Year and multiple Dallas Theater Critic Forum and Dallas Readers Voice Awards.

Lee has recently added

'playwright' to her list of accomplishments. Her first play, Funny, You Don't Act Like A Negro had its World Premiere at the historic Theatre Three in February 2020. In addition to her career as an Artist, Denise Lee is a fierce Social Justice activist.

She established 'Community Conversations' through her non-profit organization Visions For Change, Inc. Since 2016, these monthly gatherings have brought people together for respectful, open, honest dialogue in order to heal racial and community tension.

VFC also hosts and sponsors Anti-Racist and Diversity Workshops for arts organizations, schools, and corporations. For these ef-

forts, she has received several awards, including the Black Tie Dinner's 2022 Dale Hansen Ally of the Year Award, the 2019 Cathedral of Hope's Hero of Hope Award.

She also serves as the Social Justice Strategist for the Dallas Children's Theater and is on the Board of Directors for the AT&T Performing Arts Center.

Franky D. Gonzalez is a Latino playwright based in Dallas and L.A. His work has appeared with The Lark, Sundance Institute, the Ojai Playwrights Conference, NNPN, LTC Carnaval, Latinx Playwrights Circle, Urbanite Theatre, Great Plains Theatre Conference, Goodman Theatre, The New Harmony Project, The Workshop Theater,

LAByrnth Theater Company, Ars Nova, and Dallas Theater Center among others. He has also received commissions from MTC/Sloan and the Charles Rowan Beye New Play Commission. A

staff writer on Season Four of 13 Reasons Why, Franky most recently won the Judith Royer Award for Excellence in Playwriting, the Risk Theatre Modern Tragedy Grand Prize, the Crossroads Project Diverse Voices Playwriting Initiative Award, was a co-winner of the MetLife Nuestras Voces Latino named the 4 Seasons Resident Playwright, a Sony Pictures Television Diverse Writers Program Fellow, a

See BATC, Page 11

## RAMASWAMY, from Page 2

wamy's discourse encapsulates a distilled form of Republican race rhetoric. For example, Bump noted that when Ramaswamy announced his candidacy earlier this year, he invoked Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech during the March on Washington in 1963.

"That was the speech where he said, 'I hope my

four children grow up in a country where they are judged not on the color of their skin, but on the content of their character,'" Ramaswamy declared his candidacy in a video. "That dream stuck with me. It meant something to me."

In that video, and since then, Bump noted how Ra-

maswamy explained what that quote meant to him. "In keeping with an inordinate amount of Republican rhetoric in recent years, the candidate sees King's words not in the broader context of his full speech or the historic moment in which it was given but as a sort of Uno-reverse for the race card: that any recognition of racial disparities is at odds with King's vision,"

Bump wrote.

Ramaswamy seems to selectively interpret King's words, using them as a shield against acknowledging the persistent racial disparities in the nation despite evoking his legacy and his vision of a world where character rather than skin color is the determining factor. His assertion that "reverse racism is racism" echoes sentiments

that have resonated within segments of the Republican Party in recent years. The notion, a cornerstone of Trump's appeal, positions white individuals as victims of discrimination, often sidelining the historical context of systemic racism faced by Black and Hispanic Americans.

Such statements continue to raise alarm bells about the candidate's commit-

ment to addressing issues of racial injustice. "Vivek Ramaswamy's comments against Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley do not provoke 'open and honest discussion' on race in America. Rather they reveal the depths of his own dishonesty," members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) wrote in a statement on Tuesday, Aug. 29.



# Two stock trading experts create fun online game to teach African Americans how to trade options

African Americans lag behind others drastically when it comes to investing and trading in the stock market, which accounts for much of the wealth gap between the Black population and that of whites.

While many American may perceive the stock market as too complex, time-consuming, and expensive to get involved in. J.R. and Eric are trying to change that by teaching beginners a non-complicated, and non-intimidating way to learn the stock market and to become active traders, while having a good time.



Ricardo Tamayo IV / Unsplash

Through "FLip that Option," an easy, and interactive online game to teach beginners how to trade options, Trading Options offers the unique ability to make money daily and weekly which can be used to pay for bills, travel, or anything else one wants to use the money for. Once

a player learns to play the game, it takes less than 5 minutes to place a trade during the day on a laptop, tablet, or smartphone.

The game teaches what is an option, how to make money trading options, how to open a special account to trade options, how to find options to trade, and

various option strategies, all while using the latest technology to trade.

Additionally, they have a private online community that includes live weekly training, teaching modules, live chat, and daily "thought bubbles," which are live commentaries about trading opportunities each day.

The program amounts to training for anyone who has ever wanted to learn about the stock market and trading options.

J.R. Fenwick (known as "The Stock FLipper") and Eric V. Johnson (known as

"The Options Professor") recently collaborated to create the game designed to help people learn to trade options. The two have been trading in the stock market for over 15 years. After meeting each other over eight years ago and becoming fast friends and business partners, they have helped over 35,000 people learn about the stock mar-

ket.

"This is a skillset you can use the rest of your life and we are committed to teaching as many of our people as possible the valuable and life-changing skill of trading options," says J.R. and Eric.

To learn to play the FLip That Option Game and generate income, visit FLipThatOption.com.

## Building opportunities for minority farmers through the McGovern-Dole Food for Education Program

After decades of alleged discrimination by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) against Black farmers, the department's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) has been working to encourage and help secure opportunities for minority farmers to gain traction in international trade, while growing and promoting their businesses.

Under the Inflation Reduction Act, of the \$5.3 billion dedicated U.S.



Ricardo Tamayo IV / Unsplash

farmers, \$3.1 billion will target distressed borrowers in paying off farm debts,

while \$2.2 billion is allocated for farmers who've suffered discrimination

through USDA farm programs, NNPA reported.

See FARMERS, Page 13

**SOCIAL SECURITY**

**DISABILITY APPEALS**

Bill Cohn - Since 1976

Dallas / Frisco

---

Other Lawyers Turned You Down? Call Me!

**(972) 994-9393**

**NO FEES - Unless You Win!**

## BATC, from Page 10

Playwrights Center Core Writer, and the Bishop Arts Theatre Center Playwright-in-Residence.

The Tragedy of Othello begins October 19 – November 5, 2023, for three consecutive weekends at the Bishop Arts The-

atre Center at 215 S Tyler Street, Dallas, TX 75208. Tickets for The Tragedy of Othello can be purchased online at [www.bishoparts-theatre.org](http://www.bishoparts-theatre.org) or by calling the box office at 214.948.0716 Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Prices range from \$18 - \$50, and seats are general admission. Discounts are available for seniors, students, and groups of 15 or more.

The Tragedy of Othello is presented by the Jean Baptiste "Tad" Adoue III Fund at The Dallas Foundation.

## BLANCHARD, from Page 9

ue to explore issues of racial injustices and the collective conscience. The 2015 album Breathless takes its title from the last words uttered by Eric Garner – "I can't breathe." The group presented the world premiere of a multi-disciplin-

ary version of Breathless at the DSO's 2018 SOLUNA Festival. Caravan: A Revolution on the Road made its debut at Dallas's Majestic Theatre. He responds, "You get to a certain age when you ask, 'Who's going to stand up and speak out for

us?' Then you look around and realize that the James Baldwins, Muhammad Alis and Dr. Kings are no longer here ... and begin to understand that it falls on you." Through these expressions and explorations of social injustices, he continues to musically and technically innovate.



**ED BELL**  
CONSTRUCTION

**Ed Bell**  
**Construction**  
**Company**

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*

September 1, 2023

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

We are currently hiring for the following positions:

- **Form setter (Paving)**
- **Boom Mobile Crane (CDL)**
- **Concrete Finishers (Paving)**
- **Laborer (Paving, Earthwork)**
- **Loader Operator (Earthwork)**
- **Batch Plant Operator (Concrete)**
- **Excavator Operator (Earthwork)**
- **Concrete Paving Operator (Paving)**
- **Motor Grader Operator (Earthwork)**
- **Barricade Servicer (Must have valid DL)**
- **CDL Drivers (Water Truck, End Dump, Belly Dump)**

Available: multiple openings  
Rate: Negotiable  
Must have own transportation.  
Years of Experience required will vary, from 6 months to 2 years (depending on position)

**Physical and Drug Screen Required**  
**Must have a Clear Background**  
**Must be at least 18 years old (CDL Driver, 21 yrs.)**

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

**Please visit our website: [www.edbellconstruction.com/careers](http://www.edbellconstruction.com/careers)**  
**Or email your resume to: [careers@edbellconstruction.com](mailto:careers@edbellconstruction.com)**



# Disclosing 'true normal price' to protect consumers from deception

(Newswise) — Fifty years ago, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) stopped enforcing deceptive pricing regulations, assuming that competition would keep retailers honest. Since then, competition

has increased significantly — yet the practice of posting false, inflated comparison prices alongside sale prices has continued unchecked.

Think of an advertisement from a furniture store

that touts a \$599 sale price for a couch as an \$800 savings from a promoted regular price of \$1,399. The problem is that the store may have never offered the couch for sale at the higher price.

This practice, called “fictitious pricing,” is ubiquitous in the retail trade. One recent investigation tracked the prices of 25 major retailers and found that “most stores’ sale prices ... are bogus discounts” because

the listed regular price is seldom, if ever, the price charged for the products.

“Competition and the Regulation of Fictitious Pricing” is forthcoming in the Journal of Marketing from Joe Urbany, professor

of marketing at the University of Notre Dame’s Mendoza College of Business, along with Rick Staelin from Duke University and Donald Ngwe, a senior re-

**See PRICE, Page 13**

## FARMERS, from Page 11

Last year, FAS started working closely with Arkansas River Rice, the only black-owned rice mill in the United States.

Through his work with FAS, Arkansas River Rice owner, PJ Haynie, was introduced to global trade through his participation in an agribusiness trade mission. Haynie traveled to Nairobi, Kenya, and Zanzibar, Tanzania, alongside Former USDA Deputy Secretary Dr. Jewel Bronaugh and FAS Administrator Daniel Whitley.

“It was such an eye-opening experience to have boots on the ground and see how what we grow can make a difference in the lives of people we’ve never met,” Haynie said. “It allowed me to think about the logistics of shipping internationally and the ways

we can incorporate that into our daily operations.”

Inspired by the trade mission, Haynie applied for Arkansas River Rice to become one of the suppliers for the McGovern-Dole Food for Education Program. The program helps FAS boost food security, education, and child development in low-income countries experiencing a worldwide food shortage.

“At Arkansas River Rice, we are fortunate to have a state-of-the-art, two-grade facility that can process up to 22 metric tons of rice per hour,” Haynie said. “This level of rice production allowed us to secure our first contract through FAS to export 180 MT of rice to Kyrgyzstan through the McGovern-Dole Program in the spring of 2023. It was incredibly historic, and we are excited to be a part of

that.”

“FAS is fully committed to keep increasing the inclusivity of our programs, and our work with Arkansas River Rice is an incredible example of the impacts black farmers can make on the U.S. trade and global food security,” said FAS Administrator Daniel B.

Whitley. “Our joint work brings the benefits of international trade to many black farmers and will inspire future generations of growers to foster and promote U.S. agriculture around the world.”

Recent reports reveal great losses to Black farmers, including a May 2022

study showing over \$326 billion in land value losses during the 20th century, as NNPA recently reported. This, following a 2021 ProPublica report illuminating systematic discrimination by federal agencies, including the USDA’s restriction of access to federal funds through discriminatory

loan denials and deliberate delays in financial aid, they report.

To learn more about getting involved with FAS, visit: <https://www.fas.usda.gov/programs>.

To learn more about Arkansas River Rice, visit: <https://www.arkansasriver-rice.com/>.

## CONGRESS, from Page 7

Mike Simpson of Idaho, who chairs one of the appropriations subcommittees, acknowledged the need for Democratic support in short-term and longer-term funding bills. He warned that McCarthy may find himself in a precarious situation as compromise becomes the order of the day in Washington.

“The challenge for McCarthy, and I’ll be real honest with you, is that if he works with the Democrats, obviously, the Democrats are not going to do it for free. They want something. So, it’s going to be a compromise — one of those really bad words in Washington for some reason,” Simpson told CNN. “Then you’re going to find a resolution

introduced on the floor to vacate the chair.”

While the short-term funding crisis dominates the current congressional agenda, the House will also consider its homeland spending bill, offering conservatives a fresh opportunity to influence their party’s border policy.

Meanwhile, Democrats are already positioning themselves to pin any potential government shutdown squarely on the House GOP. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer emphasized their focus on funding the government and preventing what he called “House Republican extremists” from causing a shutdown when the Senate returns next week.

**Job Title: Electrical Engineer**  
**Wage: \$68,952.00/year**  
**Position Type: Full time**

### Duties and position description:

Develop power system one-line diagrams using SKM, ETAP, or other equivalent software; travel to customer sites and coordinate with on-site personnel to gather and field verify necessary electrical system information to develop the one-lines.

### This includes, but is not limited to:

- Gathering as-built documentation such as riser one-line diagrams, floor plans, etc.
- Gathering equipment nameplate information for transformers, motors, generators, switchgear, MCC's, panelboards etc.
- Gathering protective device data for devices such as circuit breakers, fuses, relays, etc. Data includes model/type, size, settings, and other necessary information
- Gathering cable sizes, lengths, and types, Gathering CT information where applicable,
- Gathering Utility source information
- Complete power system study for short circuit, coordination, and arc flash hazard analysis using SKM, ETAP, or other equivalent software
- Develop Time Current Curves (TCC's) for coordination and arc flash hazard reduction analysis
- Produce final written report to support power system study analysis
- Return to site to apply the arc flash hazard labels to applicable equipment

### Required Qualifications:

- Bachelor's of Electrical Engineering
- Proficiency with Microsoft Outlook, Word and Excel
- Must be able to clearly communicate in English via verbal and written methods, and effectively communicate directly to customers and co-workers
- Must be able to pass a pre-employment drug test and periodic, unannounced random drug tests
- Must be able to pass a pre-employment criminal background check
- Must be available to work overtime and travel out of town periodically
- Must be able to lift to 50 pounds, climb ladders, stand for extended periods, drive regularly, with or without reasonable accommodations
- Must be able to pass a fit for duty physical exam
- Must have a valid driver's license, and currently have and be able to maintain a good driving record
- Must be available for periodic domestic travel (Travel would likely be within Texas)

### Desired Qualifications. Considered an Asset:

- Prefer educational focus in Power Systems studies
- Prefer candidate who have passed the FE Exam
- Experience in short-circuit, protective device coordination, arc-flash and power quality studies a plus
- Experience using SKM, ETAP, ASPEN, EasyPower, or other power system modeling software a plus

**About Shermco Industries Inc.:** Shermco is North America’s largest and fastest-growing electrical testing organization accredited by the International Electrical Testing Association. Trusted since 1974, Shermco has you covered when it comes to electrical testing, maintenance and industry requirements. Shermco brings a comprehensive understanding of international electrical power standards and industry requirements combined with decades of customer experience. With more than 700 skilled engineers and technicians, Shermco meets every need for reliable electrical power solutions. From engineering solutions to in-shop motor repair, your trusted partner for electrical testing services is a resource for anything you need in the electrical power system. That’s why we say... if it’s in the electrical power system, Shermco does it.

Backed by Gryphon Investors, a leading private equity firm focused on profitably growing and competitively enhancing middle-market companies in partnership with experienced management, Shermco is poised for the next decade and beyond.

### Our Mission

To provide a level of service that exceeds our customers’ expectations. We will maintain a healthy work environment and advance a culture of safe work practices wherein management and employees work together as a team seeking excellence in safety.

To apply, please visit [www.shermco.com/careers](http://www.shermco.com/careers), JOB ID # 3270. This is an in-person position, and the candidate must be geographically located to attend our facilities or willing to relocate to the Irving, TX area to be considered. No relocation assistance will be provided.



# Investor decisions likely to push out Black families

(Newswise) — Buying a home is one of the main ways the American middle class can accumulate wealth. However, home ownership has declined over recent years.

Between 2007 and 2016, home ownership declined by 5.5%, hurting the middle class and revealing a great divide when it comes to race—Black home ownership being 41.7% and white ownership, 71.7%.

More recent trends show home ownership has increased slightly in the White population, at a 3% growth rate since 2017, yet recent affordability challenges

have hit minority home buyers particularly hard, said Jessica Lautz, chief economist and vice president of research for NAR.

Large Investors have been purchasing houses at a steady rate since the last recession, even acquiring up to 76% of for-sale, single-family homes in some neighborhoods.

Although smaller investment groups buy homes, it is large private investment firms that have the greatest market impact. Such investors often buy and renovate homes, then rent said homes at a higher price. On average, large investor purchas-

es increased from around 0% in 2007 to over 12% in 2013.

Just how much does such investment affect availability in the housing market for different segments of the population? New research from the Georgia Institute of Technology shows institutional investments (investments made on behalf of clients) have a greater impact on Black families and are more likely to push out Black, middle-class homeowners from their neighborhoods.

Data from 800 neighborhoods in the metro Atlanta between 2007 and 2016 re-

veal major investors bought homes in majority-minority neighborhoods far from downtown and in lower-income areas. The neighborhoods, predominantly Black, included undervalued homes that remained desirable with good market value.

Such large investment decisions effectively cut Black families out of home ownership and caused the loss of more than \$4 billion in home equity for Black families over a 10-year period, according to the research. This is likely a conservative estimate, explained Brian An, assistant professor in

the School of Public Policy, representing home values that would have gone to individual homebuyers had large institutional investment firms not purchased them.

With a language processing tool called OpenRefine, which cleans and groups textual data, Professor An combed through millions of observations, then analyzed the data using the Herfindahl-Hirschman Index (HHI), a measure of market concentration that can determine diversity. An then used transaction data, like buyer names and mailing addresses, to determine who

the involved property owners were.

Considering neighborhood dynamics, An found a significantly greater concentration of investments in Black neighborhoods effectively drove down home ownership rates for Black families.

Professor An presented his findings in the paper, “The influence of institutional single-family rental investors on homeownership: Who gets targeted and pushed out of the local market?” His research was published in the Journal of Planning Education and Research in June.

## PRICE, from Page 12

searcher at Microsoft.

The paper critically evaluates two assumptions underlying the FTC’s decision to halt deceptive pricing prosecution.

The first is that inflated reference prices are largely ignored by consumers, who focus primarily on the sale prices, leading to price competition that pushes selling prices lower and renders reference prices harmless.

However, dozens of empirical studies in marketing and psychology reveal that advertised reference prices — even those exaggerated to unrealistic levels — have significant impact on consumer decision-making. This is explained by the natural value that consumers place on getting a good deal, labeled “transaction utility” by Richard Thaler in his Nobel Prize-winning body of work.

In contrast to the FTC’s second assumption that competition drives out economic incentives to cheat, a number of recent economic models show the opposite. Competition in fact increases the chance that a firm will offer noisy information in an attempt to shield itself by looking different to customers. As a result, deception is found to be more profitable as competition increases.

These are fundamental

forces that encourage the use of fictitious pricing. They also explain why state-level regulatory efforts and even a growing number of class action lawsuits have done little to discourage the practice.

“There are limits to enforcement by litigation,” Urbany said. “It allows only a relatively small number of meaningful actions in a given time period, leading to limited visibility and impact on widespread practice.”

The authors propose instead a disclosure solution in the form of requiring firms that use comparison prices in their sales promotion to additionally post the item’s true normal price (TNP). The TNP is the most frequently offered price for that product in a given period.

For example, let’s say a price-promoting furniture retailer actually offers the sofa for sale at \$1,399 for the first two weeks in a quarter (making zero sales), and then advertises the sofa on sale at \$599, promoting \$800 in savings for the other 10 weeks. Under the TNP disclosure proposal, the retailer would need to post \$599 as its true normal price for the product in any subsequent sales promotions that included statement of a “regular price.”

Through a controlled

experiment with 900 participants, the authors found that providing TNP information largely eliminates the effect of an advertised regular price, which otherwise significantly raises the chance a consumer will buy.

To gauge the likely response of firms to the TNP disclosure concept, the au-

thors also interviewed a dozen senior retail executives, each with extensive experience in pricing.

“Our interviews revealed that some practitioners are very supportive of efforts to rein in what is perceived to be an ‘out-of-control’ promotional environment,” Urbany said. “At the same time, they and others of-

fered more sobering insights about the realities of likely resistance to intervention.”

The paper concludes with conjectures about how TNP provision would mo-

tivate greater honesty in pricing, likely having an impact on average market prices, promotion frequencies and firm profits. Important research directions are highlighted.



**GARLAND**  
TEXAS MADE HERE

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

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

[www.garlandpurchasing.com](http://www.garlandpurchasing.com)

**972-205-2415**

## TISEO PAVING COMPANY

**419 E. Hwy. 80, Mesquite, TX 75150**

**Tel: (972) 289-0723 Fax (972) 216-5637**

[www.tiseopaving.com](http://www.tiseopaving.com)

**Performing Concrete Street Paving  
in the Metroplex Area**

**We Accept Subcontracting Bids**

**For All Public Works Projects**

**in the Dallas Area.**

**We Are Accepting Applications for Concrete Mixer Drivers and Heavy Equipment Mechanics**

**Equal Opportunity Employer**



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

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

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

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

[www.cityofirving.org](http://www.cityofirving.org)

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



# How Many Coughs is Enough For One Day

By Dr. James L. Snyder

This past week started rather rough. At least rougher than others.

It started with a cough. A cough is not that serious if it's just one cough or maybe two. But it is not good when it is one cough after another and another.

One day last week, right after this coughing spell began, the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I enjoyed a fine supper, and I sat back in my chair as we started watching TV and relaxing after a busy day.

Then, my coughing spree began. I coughed and coughed and coughed almost uncontrollably. I've

had a coughing fit, and then I sneezed my brains out. That's snot good.

I was hoping to get this under control and quite soon.

Looking at me, the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage said, "What's all that coughing about?" She said it as though I had control over my coughing.

"Oh, nothing," I said, "I think I just swallowed a fly." Then I smiled.

"What," she exclaimed, "you swallowed a fly? Didn't you have enough at supper?"

Now, I'm in trouble. I had no explanation that she would accept.

Then, I had another

coughing spell that seemed worse than before. I tried to stop but just could not.

At my age, you would think I could control the things in my life. I tried, but I have yet to be successful.

Now, Miss-Nurse-Am-I stepped in. She had a thermometer to take my temperature, and it was high. She gave me a Covid test, and I passed, much to her chagrin and my smile. She then took my blood pressure, and it was high. Imagine 2 out of 3!

When all her testing was finished, she looked at me seriously. This was on Saturday, and she said we had to cancel our Sunday morning service. I tried to pro-

test, but I was coughing too much to respond.

Not having the church service on Sunday morning is a great downer for me. I love nothing more than Sunday church. And there was no replacement, so the service had to be canceled. That made me cough even more with a sour ending.

Then, the law was laid down. "I'm calling the doctor," she said, "on Monday and schedule an appointment. You're sick."

In my position, I had nothing to do but cough.

There is nothing more that I like doing than seeing my doctor to begin the week. He loves seeing me, and we all know why. It

ain't my charming, good looks, that's for sure.

There is no Sunday I like less than not going to church and wearing pajamas all day. I did try to get dressed, but Miss-Nurse-Am-I caught me and said, "Don't you dare get dressed. You're spending the day in bed. You're sick."

Well, if I want to object to Miss-Nurse-Am-I, I had better make plans for my funeral.

I did not know how long a Sunday is when I'm in my pajamas, not permitted to do anything but cough. And cough, I did.

I tried to take advantage of these coughing

spells and sometimes faked some. Don't let her know, but a fake cough can have a soothing element to it, along with a smile.

Then Monday came, as it always does. The appointment was made for the morning, thanks to a cancellation. And I was getting ready to go to the doctor and get his report on my condition. I wasn't that anxious, but I had no choice then.

My appointment was at 10:15, and I arrived just before 10:00. I like to be early. I was lucky, and I got to see my doctor at 11:10. This is why doctors call us

**See COUGH, Page 15**

## A Wonderful Day

By Daris Howard

My mother is 92 and has been without my father for about twelve years. Most of her friends have passed away, and even though she lives with my sister or is with other family for part of the year, she still feels lonely without my father, her friends, and her parents and siblings who are gone.

With the Labor Day holiday coming up, she said she would love to do something different from the normal routine of her life. That was when I got the idea of having us all take her on an hour and a half drive to where she was born and raised. One of my daughters suggested that we have lunch at a buffet restaurant, too. It all sounded like a great day. The only problem was I had so much to do, and I wondered if I could make it all work.

On Labor Day, I was up at 5:30 in the morning helping the scouts put flags up in front of every home in our rural community. When I got home, I did my homework for my doctoral classes, and before I finished, my mother was more than ready to go.

We were soon on our way, and as we drove along, my mother told us stories.

"Over in that house was a friend of mine. Her name was Linda. Actually, it wasn't exactly that house. That is a new one. But that's where it was."

I handed my wife my phone and whispered for her to turn on the recorder. For an hour and a half, we drove there and recorded stories, interjected with her exclamation of how much something had changed since she had last been there. We went to the cemetery, and even though it was big, we quickly found where her family members were buried.

While my daughters and I cleaned around the tombstones, my mother continued to tell stories of each person, and my wife kept the recorder going. Once the grass was cleared from the graves, we drove by the university where my mother had gone to school. Considering how much it had changed, we were surprised how many buildings she knew, and she told stories about the pharmacy and the friends she would there.

We stopped at the buffet,

and everyone over ate—I know I did. My mother said she enjoyed the meal more than any she had in a while and wouldn't need to eat for awhile.

Our next stop was the home where she was born. I had never been there before, and the house was not there. In its place was a new home, but she told lots of stories of living there until she was seven. Then the depression came, and her father lost his job. The home was mostly paid off, and only had \$400 left owed on it, but without an income, her parents lost it.

Our last stop was the farm her family moved to after they lost the first home. The house they built still stands. She told stories about growing up there as we drove slowly by. She didn't want to hurry, and indeed, even though I had a lot to do, I was willing to take even more time. But Mom was getting tired and needed some rest, so we finally headed home.

On the way home, Mom said very little. Some of the family were asleep, but she wasn't, and looking in the mirror, I could see she was deep in reminiscent thought. She had worked

hard all her life, helped many people, and had ten children and raised nine of them. Life had sometimes been hard, but there was lots of love and good times, too.

When we got home, she held onto my arm as I carried her oxygen. Exhausted, she slumped into her favorite chair. It's then

she shared her deepest thoughts of the day.

"Daris," she said, "it has been a wonderful day. I know I will soon go to be with my parents and your father. But I can't keep wondering what they will think of the life this old girl has lived."

I assured her they would be pleased, and as I left her

to rest, I considered that it had been a wonderful day and time well spent.

*Daris Howard, award-winning, syndicated columnist, playwright, and author, can be contacted at [daris@darishoward.com](mailto:daris@darishoward.com); or visit his website at <http://www.darishoward.com>, to buy his books.*

### Cemetery Space Broker will make you offer on your cemetery plot



Dennis Jarvis / Flickr

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

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

**Call Us Today!!!!!!!**  
**972.665.0170**



# The Faithfulness of God



**Sister Tarpley**  
NDG  
Religion  
Editor

**Things to Ponder:** Excerpts from a message by the late Elder Philip White of Love Chapel COGIC in West Dallas.

“God is not a man that He should lie; neither the son of man that He should repent: hath He said, and shall He not do it? Or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?” **Numbers 23:19**

Reference verses: **Psalms 30:5; Job 5:19; and John 13:7.** The late Pastor White emphasized that everything starts and ends with God’s Word, therefore we must: Pray, Believe, and then Receive.

He further stated that God said, ‘If I’m not faithful—I cease to be God.’ Moreover, he said that as Christians we should be living in the FOG—Favor of God.

It has been said that, “God is never late, seldom early, but always on time,” that is why we should thank Him for His schedule, for Him being on time.



And, thank Him for the lessons that we learn through waiting, through suffering, through the storms, the valleys in our life and for His faithfulness to us.

**Words to Ponder:** Joy runs deeper than despair. — **Corrie Ten Boom.** What is most characteristically human about us is the tension between the desire to be “free”—self-identifying and self-choosing—and to be “related” to love and be loved. — **Paul Tillich.**

We cannot change our past. We can not change the fact that people act in a certain way. We can not change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude. —

**Charles Swindoll.**

Wisdom is knowledge applied. Head knowledge is useless on the battlefield. Knowledge stamped on the heart makes one wise. — **Beth Moore.**

Peace does not dwell in outward things, but in the heart prepared to wait trustfully and quietly on Him (God) who has all things safely in His hands. — **Elisabeth Elliot.**

The sea enters the rivers before the rivers can run into the sea. In like manner, God comes to us before we go to Him; and Heaven enters into our souls before we can enter into Heaven. — **Peter Drelincourt.**

Wishing will never be a substitute for prayer. — **Ed Cole.** Love is not conso-

lation, it is light. — **Simone Weil.**

The best things are nearest: breath in your nostrils, light in your eyes, flowers at your feet, duties at your hand, the path of God just before you. — **Robert Louis Stevenson.**

No matter what you have, you could always give back a little and gain so much more, — **Beverly Mitchell.** I have but one candle of life to burn, and I would rather burn it out in a land filled with darkness than in a land flooded with light. — **John Keith Falconer.**

None of us are saints, none of us are heroes...But I’ve learned to accept what goes wrong, and to turn it into a gift. — **Krista Tippet.**

I see my relationship with my Heavenly Father, with God in Heaven—as someone to look to if I want to look for guidance, to feel comfortable with my thoughts and my actions, someone to be accountable to. — **Blair Underwood.**

**What About Believing In Dreams—**Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.

It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, ‘Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented fabulous?’

Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world.

There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won’t feel insecure around you. We are

all meant to shine, as children do.

We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It is not just in some of us; it is in everyone.

And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others. — **Marianne Williamson.**

(*Editor’s Note: This column originally ran in September 2016.*)

**Inspiring Body of Christ** IBOC  
Pastor Rickie G. Rush

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

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

## COUGH, from Page 14

patients. We have to have patience to see the doctor.

Finally, the doctor was ready for me. First, I had to see his nurse to get the information for the medical evaluation. She took my temperature, my blood pressure, and all the rest.

Thirty minutes after she was finished, the doctor finally came. At that time, I was thinking of slipping out and go home and tell the wife the doctor said I was fine. As I was finishing this thought, guess who walked in?

I greeted him with a series of coughs.

“Not doing well,” the doctor asked.

“That’s why I’m here, Doc.”

He looked through the

nurse’s information and then checked my lungs.

After checking the statics and asking me questions, he finally concluded.

Looking at me, he said, “You have acute bronchitis.”

I glared back at the doctor and said, “Doc, this bronchitis is not cute to any degree.”

I then coughed in his direction three times.

After the doctor’s visit, the worst part of the day, I had to return to the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and tell her what the doctor said was wrong with me and that she was right. She said I had bronchitis.

Looking at my watch, I saw I had enough time to stop and get some personal

medication, an Apple Fritter. What she doesn’t know gets me in no trouble.

While recovering from my sickness, I read something interesting in the Bible. “But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick” (Matthew 9:12).

As I get older, I realize that there are times when I do need to see a doctor. Even Jesus believed that.

*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.*

## Have Medicare questions? I have answers.

I’m Lamonica Thomas, a licensed sales agent in Dallas-Fort Worth. When it comes to Medicare, it’s important to consider all of your options. What works well for your neighbor may not be the best fit for you. I know the ins and outs of Medicare, and I’m ready to answer your questions and help you find a plan that fits your needs.

### It’s time to take advantage.



**Lamonica Thomas**  
Licensed Sales Agent  
lathomas55@gmail.com  
www.MyUHCagent.com/lamonica.thomas  
**(972) 249-8907**  
TTY 711

Plans are insured through UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company or one of its affiliated companies, a Medicare Advantage organization with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in the plan depends on the plan’s contract renewal with Medicare. ©2022 United HealthCare Services, Inc. All rights reserved. Y0066\_23SPRJ55189\_C



SPRJ55189





# EXPERIENCE THE JOURNEYS OF THE CHEVROLET DTU FELLOWS

Watch as these talented HBCU students Discover The Unexpected!



**Jordan Jennings**  
Florida  
A&M University  
-  
Chevrolet  
Marketing Fellow



**Jada Tullos**  
Alabama  
A&M University  
-  
Chevrolet  
Marketing Fellow



**Carmen Graham**  
Delaware State  
University  
-  
Chevrolet  
Marketing Fellow



**Janiya Pearson**  
Hampton  
University  
-  
Chevrolet  
Marketing Fellow



**Eshe Ukweli**  
Howard  
University  
-  
NNPA Fellow



**Antonio Sweeney**  
Morehouse  
College  
-  
NNPA Fellow



**Jacob Bellevue**  
Howard  
University  
-  
NNPA Fellow



**Brielle Smith**  
Howard  
University  
-  
NNPA Fellow



**Robertney Harlan**  
Howard  
University  
-  
NNPA Fellow



**Solomon Hayes**  
Morehouse  
College  
-  
NNPA Fellow

GO TO [NNPA.ORG/CHEVYDTU](https://nnpa.org/chevydtu)  
TO EXPERIENCE THE DOCUSERIES

f t i y #TheDTUExperience

