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Rebuilding Democratic trust, unity

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Finding new ways to treat cancer

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Angel Reese sets sights on the WNBA

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Allies push for Trump administration's focus on 'anti-white racism' in civil rights interpretation

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

Donald Trump's history is riddled with instances of racism and racially charged remarks, which have only intensified as he faces legal challenges and seeks a return to the White House. Despite his claims to the contrary, Trump's language and actions consistently reveal deep-seated bigotry.

In response to his four criminal indictments and 91 felony charges, Trump has attacked prosecutors and judges, often resorting to explicitly racist language. He's labeled Black prosecutors handling his cases as "animals," "criminals," and "racists," using language that resonates with his supporters and incites further division.

Trump's past is marred by accusations of discrimination, including a lawsuit alleging he refused to rent apartments to Black tenants in the 1970s. He infamously called for the execution of the Central Park Five, despite their subsequent exoneration, and has made derogatory remarks about Native Americans, Latinos, Asians, and other minority groups.

During his presidency, the twice-impeached Trump promoted rac-



In response to his four criminal indictments and 91 felony charges, Trump has attacked prosecutors and judges, often resorting to explicitly racist language. He's labeled Black prosecutors handling his cases as "animals," "criminals," and "racists," using language that resonates with his supporters and incites further division. (Photo via NNPA)

ist narratives, such as suggesting immigrants from certain countries were undesirable and pushing the debunked "birther" conspiracy theory against Barack Obama. He enacted policies like the Muslim ban and targeted fair housing rules, all while using inflammatory language to sow fear and hatred.

Trump's rhetoric has encouraged his supporters, and, despite facing legal scrutiny and condemnation, Trump's influence on far-right movements and conspiracy theories persists, posing a threat to democracy and exacerbating racial tensions.

According to a report from Axios, Trump and his allies are plotting anti-racism protections for white people. The report said the proposed shift would see a redirection of focus from combating discrimination against people of color to what they term "anti-white racism." Underpinning the push is a flurry of legal actions orchestrated by Trump-aligned groups, notably America First Legal, founded by former Trump aide Stephen Miller. Leveraging the language of civil

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People In The News ...



Louis Gossett, Jr.



James A. Washington

NDG Quote of the Week: "The battles that count aren't the ones for gold medals. The struggles within yourself—the invisible, inevitable battles inside all of us—that's where it's at."
- Jesse Owens

Louis Gossett, Jr.

Louis Gossett Jr., the groundbreaking actor whose career spanned over five decades and who became the first Black actor to win an Academy Award as Best Supporting Actor for his memorable role in “An Officer and a Gentleman,” has died.

Gossett, who was born on May 27, 1936, in Brooklyn, N.Y., was 87. Recognized early on for his resilience and nearly unmatched determination, Gossett arrived in Los Angeles in 1967 after a stint on Broadway.



He sometimes spoke of being pulled over by law enforcement en route to Beverly Hills, once being handcuffed to a tree, which he remembered as a jarring introduction to the racial

tensions of Hollywood.

In his memoir “An Actor and a Gentleman,” Gossett recounted the ordeal, noting the challenges faced by Black artists in the industry.

Despite the hurdles, Gossett’s talent shone brightly, earning him acclaim in groundbreaking productions such as “A Raisin in the Sun” alongside Sidney Poitier. His Emmy-winning portrayal of Fiddler in “Roots” solidified his status as a trailblazer, navigating a landscape fraught with racial prejudice.

According to the History-Makers, which interviewed him in 2005, Gossett’s

journey into the limelight began during his formative years at PS 135 and Mark Twain Junior High School, where he demonstrated early leadership as the student body president.

His passion for the arts blossomed when he starred in a “You Can’t Take It With You” production at Abraham Lincoln High School, catching the attention of talent scouts who propelled him onto Broadway’s stage in “Take A Giant Step.” His stellar performance earned him the prestigious Donaldson Award for Best Newcomer to Theatre in 1952.

Though initially drawn to sports, Gossett’s towering 6’4” frame and athletic prowess led him to receive a basketball scholarship at New York University. Despite being drafted by the New York Knicks in 1958, Gossett pursued his love for acting, honing his craft at The Actors Studio under the tutelage of luminaries like John Sticks and Peggy Fury.

In 1961, Gossett’s talent caught the eye of Broadway directors, leading to roles in acclaimed productions such as “Raisin in the Sun” and “The Blacks,” alongside legends like James

Earl Jones, Cicely Tyson, Roscoe Lee Brown, and Maya Angelou. Transitioning seamlessly to television, Gossett graced small screens with appearances in notable shows like “The Bush Baby” and “Companions in Nightmare.”

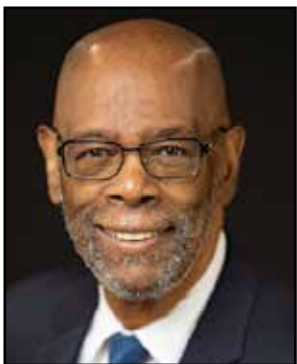
Gossett’s silver screen breakthrough came with his role in “The Landlord,” paving the way for a prolific filmography that spanned over 50 movies and hundreds of television shows. From “Skin Game” to “Lackawanna Blues,” Gossett captivated audi-

See GOSSETT, Page 10

James A. Washington

As the headline in this week’s Atlanta Voice was heartbreaking, it proved fitting. Straight and to the point, an obituary by Donnell Suggs came with the headline, “James A. Washington, 73, a champion of Black press and journalism, passes away.” Washington was straight and to the point, a champion of the Black press, an astute spokesman for journalism, and a rare gem who earned trust on his first words in a conversation.

The president and general manager of the Atlanta Voice, Washington, always displayed a genuine con-



cern for Black America and its longtime voice, The Black Press of America. In 2019 and again in 2021, Washington said he considered a run to chair the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), the trade association of

the more than 250 African American-owned newspapers and media companies in the Black Press of America. In both cases, Washington declined to compete against his friends, Houston Forward Times Publisher, and former chair Karen Carter Richards, who held the post for two terms, and the current chair, Westside Gazette Publisher Bobby Henry. Instead, Washington pledged to support them.

“We’ve got to somehow forge a unity that this organization hasn’t seen in a long time,” Washington confided. “The potential for the NNPA has never been fully realized, but I know one day a light bulb will

turn on among the greater population of the NNPA, and everybody is going to reap bountifully.”

Washington wasn’t your typical optimist; he was as much a realist as anyone. When others complained, Washington pushed to accomplish. When the NNPA began live-streaming pro-

grams during the COVID pandemic, Washington counted among the first guests. During an early broadcast, a business owner announced he had not previously been in touch with the NNPA, and Washington wasted no time educating the individual – an advertising deal resulted.

Washington later repeated his actions when then-Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban appeared on the NNPA’s digital show. In the wake of George Floyd’s police-related death, Cuban was among those who reflected on his lack of

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Dara Reneé

TV stars Daymond John, Dara Reneé, Lance Gross and Sanya Richards-Ross are among the celebrities lending their support to the 100 students taking part in the 17th annual Disney Dreamers Academy at Walt Disney World Resort in Florida.

The celebrities will be joined by well-known DJ Big Tigger and national radio host Rickey Smiley, plus several acclaimed educators, designers, producers and Disney executives, who will spend five days helping the students to dream big.

In addition to being a popular figure on the hit ABC TV series ‘Shark



Tank,’ John is a motivational speaker, entrepreneur and investor who is well-known for launching the successful clothing line FUBU. Gross, an actor and model, had a career-defining lead role in the Tyler Perry hit show ‘House of Payne.’ And Richards-Ross is a four-time Olym-

pic gold medal track star who successfully made the leap from the track to a recurring role on the reality TV series ‘The Real Housewives of Atlanta.’

Reneé, best known for playing Kourtney in the Disney+ Original series ‘High School Musical: The Musical: The Series,’ will serve as the program’s “DREAMbassador” where she will be a mentor and advocate for the students. Reneé will share personal insights, drawing from her own journey of chasing her dreams of becoming a multi-faceted artist on stage and screen as an actor, singer and dancer. She has already appeared in

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Have a wonderful day!
Thurman R. Jones, Publisher
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Embracing Black Men's Voices: Rebuilding trust and unity in the Democratic Party

By Rep. Ron Reynolds

As a Black man deeply committed to the values of equality, justice, and progress, I find myself reflecting on a concerning trend within our political landscape: the departure of Black men from the Democratic Party. This phenomenon is not merely a statistical anomaly but represents a rupture in the relationship between the party and a significant segment of its base. As we navigate this pivotal moment in history, it is imperative that we explore the underlying causes of this departure and chart a path toward reconciliation and renewal.

The decision of many Black men to disengage from the Democratic Party is rooted in a complex interplay of historical disenchantment, unmet promises, and a sense of disillusionment with the political establishment. For too long, the voices and concerns of Black men have been marginalized and overlooked within the Democratic Party, leaving

many feeling unheard and undervalued. As a result, a growing number of Black men have begun to seek alternatives, searching for political homes where their perspectives are acknowledged and their interests are prioritized.

To address this rift and revitalize the Democratic Party's relationship with Black men, we must embark on a journey of introspection and transformation. This journey begins with acknowledging and confronting our society's systemic injustices and inequalities. It requires a commitment to dismantling institutional barriers and creating opportunities for economic empowerment, educational advancement, and social mobility for the Black community.

Moreover, it calls for a fundamental shift in how the Democratic Party engages with Black men. We must foster genuine connections and meaningful dialogue instead of token gestures and superficial outreach efforts. We must create spaces where Black

men feel valued, respected, and empowered to contribute their insights and experiences to the political process.

Central to this endeavor is recognizing that Black men are not a monolithic group but a diverse and multifaceted community with a wide range of perspectives and priorities. As such, our approach must be intersectional, considering the intersecting identities and experiences that shape the lives of Black men, including race, gender, sexuality, and class.

Furthermore, we must actively work to address the unique challenges and vulnerabilities faced by Black men, including the disproportionate impact of mass incarceration, police violence, economic inequality, and lack of access to healthcare. By centering the needs and concerns of Black men in our policy agendas and advocacy efforts, we can rebuild trust and unity within the Democratic Party.

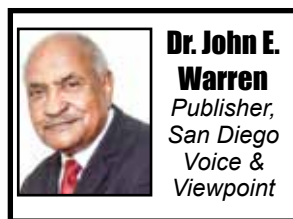
In conclusion, the exodus of Black men from the

Democratic Party represents a wake-up call for all committed to justice and equality. It is a reminder that political loyalty cannot be taken for granted but must be earned through genuine engagement, meaningful action, and tangible results. As we confront this challenge, let us seize the opportunity to create a more inclusive and just political landscape where every voice is heard, and every individual is valued.

It is time for the Democratic Party to embrace Black men's voices and reclaim its legacy as a champion of progress and social justice. It starts with prioritizing federal voting rights legislation, including the Freedom to Vote Act and John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, passing the George Floyd Policing Act, and raising the minimum wage to a livable wage.

The path forward may be challenging, but it is also filled with promise and potential. Let us rise to the occasion together and build a brighter future for all.

Remembering Dr. King, and Adam C. Powell



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

related to Dr. King's, occurred exactly four years, four months, and four days after the death of Dr. King. Both men represent great losses to humanity and to African Americans in particular.

We know of Dr. King's achievements and sacrifices but so much of Adam Clayton Powell's record, which has gone unnoticed. Powell is the member of Congress that President Lyndon Baines Johnson went to in order to pass the Voting Rights Act, the Civil Rights Act and the War on

Poverty under the Economic Opportunity Act.

He is responsible for the Arts and Humanities Endowment Act, Elementary and Secondary Education, Higher Education Act, the Title VI Public Accommodations provision of the Civil Rights Act and the Equal Employment Opportunity Act.

In all he authored more than 60 major pieces of legislation in his six years as Chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee on which the late Congresswoman Shirley

Chisholm also served. He authored the Older Americans Act and the Black Lung Legislation for those suffering from years of working in the nation's coal mines and he was a voice for all Black Americans in particular, whether or not they lived in New York's Harlem as his Congressional District.

Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. died of cancer. Martin Luther King, Jr. died of an assassin's bullet. We must never forget either even as we honor others who came before and after them.

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Johns Hopkins investigators develop novel treatment for T-cell leukemias and lymphomas

(Newswise) — A novel treatment for leukemias and lymphomas that arise from immune system T cells, developed by investigators at the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center and its Ludwig Center and Lustgarten Laboratory, was found to be effective at killing these cancers in mice bearing human T-cell tumors.

The therapy, an antibody-drug conjugate (ADC), combines an antibody that targets a protein called TRBC1 expressed on the surface of T-cell cancers with an anti-cancer drug, called SG3249. The ADC works by using the antibody to seek out the cancer cells that express TRBC1. Then, those cancer cells ingest the ADC, where SG3249 is released and kills the cancer cells. A description of the work was published March 27 in Nature.

Each year, about 100,000 patients worldwide are affected by T-cell leukemias and lymphomas. Adults with relapsed T-cell cancers have limited therapeutic options and five-year survival rates of 7–38%.

“Developing treatments for T-cell leukemias and



Researchers Tushar Nichakawade (left), Suman Paul (middle) and Jiaxin Ge (right) in the lab. (Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center / Courtesy)

lymphomas is much more difficult than for leukemias and lymphomas arising from immune system B cells,” explains senior study author Suman Paul, M.B.B.S., Ph.D., an assistant professor of oncology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Effective therapies for B-cell cancers wipe out both cancerous and noncancerous B cells, but patients still do well even without the immune system B cells that help fight infections. However, if

similar approaches are used and a treatment wipes out both normal and cancerous T cells, it would leave patients without a functioning immune system and at high risk of dying from infections.

“Not much drug development has happened in this space of T-cell leukemias and lymphomas,” Paul says. “We need new therapies for these cancers, but whatever therapies we develop in the space have to be cancer-specific. We have to preserve some of

the normal T cells and wipe out cancerous T cells at the same time.”

T-cell cancers express either TRBC1 or TRBC2, while normal T cells express a mix of TRBC1 and TRBC2. Therefore, selective targeting of TRBC1 can potentially eradicate the normal and cancerous T cells expressing TRBC1 while preserving normal T cells expressing TRBC2. A recent clinical trial conducted elsewhere attempted to target TRBC1 cancers using chimeric

antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy. These CAR T cells are genetically engineered T cells that bind to and kill TRBC1 cells. CAR T-cell therapies are FDA-approved treatment options used in several B-cell cancers. However, after administering the TRBC1-targeting CAR T cell therapy in human patients, trial investigators reported that the CAR T cells were not persisting inside the patients. Such persistence is required for effective cancer cell-killing. Interested to understand why, Paul and colleagues found that the CAR T cells targeting TRBC1 could be killed by normal T cells, limiting their persistence.

This lack of CAR T-cell persistence led the team to try TRBC1 targeting with the use of antibody-drug conjugates. Paul and colleagues tried two different formulations of ADCs in mouse models of T-cell cancers. After a single injection of one formulation of the treatment, the cancers initially regressed but then recurred. After a single treatment with the anti-TRBC1-SG3249 ADC combination, investigators observed signs of cancer

elimination within seven days and the cancers were eventually undetectable, with no recurrences. “The tumors didn’t come back, and we followed the mice for more than 200 days,” Paul explains.

The treatment was able to eliminate the cancer while preserving half of the remaining normal T cells. “The residual normal T cells should be sufficient to maintain some immune system protection against infectious diseases,” Paul says.

“Witnessing the successful elimination of T-cell cancers while sparing normal T cells in preclinical models was truly gratifying,” adds Jiaxin Ge, a co-author of the study and third-year Ph.D. student in the Ludwig Center. “We believe this approach has the potential to address a critical unmet need in oncology, and we’re committed to advancing it through further research.”

Tushar Nichakawade, first author on the study and a fourth-year Ph.D. student at the Ludwig Center, says, “There are so many lessons to learn from the clinic and

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UT Southwestern Research: Food allergies, weight-loss surgery, and more

(Newswise) — Millions of children have food allergies, many of which can cause severe illness or death. In a study published in the New England Journal of Medicine, a team of researchers, including those from UT Southwestern, shows in a phase three clinical trial that an antibody-based therapy called omalizumab may inhibit food allergy reactions when delivered repeatedly over time. The researchers tested this treatment in a group of children with allergies to peanuts as well as at least

two other foods such as cashews, milk, eggs, walnuts, wheat, and hazelnuts. Two-thirds of the participants received omalizumab injections every two to four weeks over 16 to 20 weeks. A third of the patients received a placebo. Results showed that 67% of those receiving this drug were able to tolerate approximately two or more peanuts after initially reacting to less than approximately ½ of a peanut at study entry, with similar results for other foods, suggesting omalizumab could offer some

protection against common food allergens. The therapy does not eliminate food allergies, but it helps reduce allergic reactions in cases of accidental exposure, scientists say.

Contributing to the study were Drew Bird, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics and Internal Medicine, Interim Chief of the Division of Pediatric Allergy and Immunology at UT Southwestern, and Director of the Food Allergy Center at Children’s Health, and Christopher Parrish, M.D., Associate Professor of Pe-

diatrics and Internal Medicine at UT Southwestern and Clinical Co-Director of the Dallas Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Diseases and Esophagitis Program at Children’s Health.

Weight-loss surgery support offered for teens
Metabolic and bariatric surgery (MBS) can be a safe and efficacious way to treat severe obesity in adolescents, but no standardized program exists to successfully support preparation for surgery and

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Federal government providing nearly \$80 million to combat violent crime in U.S.

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent



Of the funding, Garland announced the immediate availability of \$78 million to be distributed to organizations actively engaged in reducing violent crime and fostering community trust. (Photo via NNPA)

U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland has announced a multifaceted strategy to bolster law enforcement and community-based initiatives to combat violent crime in America. Speaking at a conference for federal grantees in Chicago, Garland highlighted the need to double down on recent progress and stem the tide of violence gripping many American cities.

Garland noted the recent significant drop in homicides, hailing it as the largest one-year drop in half a century. He pointed to Chicago's 13% decrease in violent crime as a tangible

example of the positive impact of targeted interventions. The Attorney General credited much of the progress to the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, which empowered federal prosecutors to crack down on gun trafficking and straw purchasing while allocating

\$250 million in grants for community-based violence prevention initiatives.

Of the funding, Garland announced the immediate availability of \$78 million to be distributed to organizations actively engaged in reducing violent crime and fostering community trust.

He emphasized that these funds would directly support grassroots efforts to address the root causes of violence and promote safer neighborhoods nationwide.

In November, the DOJ announced nearly \$217 million in funding to hire 1,730 entry-level officers at 394 agencies in 48 states through the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services hiring program.

Meanwhile, officials said violent crime decreased across some of the nation's biggest cities last year. According to federal numbers, Philadelphia, and Baltimore each saw 20% reductions in homicides between 2022 and 2023. In his recent State of the Union address, President Joe Biden highlighted

that the nation reported historically low murder rates in 2023, with violent crime dropping to one of the lowest levels in 50 years.

According to a Forbes magazine study, South Carolina ranks eighth among the most dangerous states in America, with a crime rate of 4.91 violent crimes per 1,000 residents. However, an annual report by the South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division found that overall violent crime dropped by 2.6% from 2021 to 2022, including a 12% decrease in homicides.

Crime in New York City's transit system has increased by roughly 7% in 2024 compared to the same period in 2023. The rise in-

cludes a series of recent violent attacks and shootings, leading New York Governor Kathy Hochul to deploy the National Guard to the subway system this month.

For Black Americans nationwide, particularly young men, the risk of becoming victims of violent crime remains disproportionately high. While Blacks make up 14% of the U.S. population, they account for 60% of those killed by firearm homicides annually, according to an analysis published by the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence.

Hate crimes are also on the rise across the country, according to a report from

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Biden woos Haley voters and salutes transgender people

By Herb Boyd
New York Amsterdam News

President Joe Biden's campaign team, perhaps heeding the advice of many pundits, recently released an ad featuring words he used to defeat Nikki Haley in his Republican presidential nomination race. Trump charged that Haley was a "birdbrain" and "not presidential material."

More meaningful for Biden is the Trump ad that

said, "If you voted for Nikki Haley, Donald Trump doesn't want your vote" and that "Haley supporters will be permanently barred from the MAGA camp," which Trump posted on Truth Social.

"Save America. Join us," the Biden ad declares.

According to the Biden team, the ad will cost them \$1 million and is earmarked to appear in battleground states such as Michigan, Wisconsin, and Pennsyl-

vania for the next three weeks.

The ad campaign is a follow-up to Biden's State of the Union address where he promised to target seven battleground states that will be critical in the November election.

If Trump doesn't want Haley voters, Biden appears to be glad to welcome them aboard.

Meanwhile, Trump is hawking Bibles. "Happy Holy Week! Let's Make

America Pray Again!" Trump announced in his latest scheme to appeal to his base and raise desperately needed cash. The bible is endorsed by Trump and sold through a website, GodBlessTheUSABible.com, for \$59.99. It's another iteration of his hustling mentality, reminiscent of his trading cards and sneakers, both of which were mocked but sold out almost immediately.

Extending an invitation to Haley supporters seemed a no-brainer, and it was equally expected that Trump would lash back at Biden for proclaiming Transgender Day of Visibility on Easter, although the celebration was created in 2009. In a statement issued last weekend, Trump's national press secretary called it "appalling and insulting" that Biden "formally proclaimed Easter Sunday as

'Trans Day of Visibility.'" Biden's comments, the statement added, were an example of his administration's "years-long assault on the Christian faith."

Trump's response, although unintended, will give more attention to a date that was established to honor transgender people and bring more awareness of the discrimination they face that in no way has decreased.

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2526	777 Multiplier Overall Odds are 1 in 3.70	\$5	5/22/24	11/18/24
2529	\$100 Grand Overall Odds are 1 in 4.09	\$5	5/22/24	11/18/24
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2486	DIAMOND 7s Overall Odds are 1 in 3.50	\$20	5/22/24	11/18/24

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Tennessee State University board disbanded by MAGA loyalists as assault on DEI continues

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

Tennessee State University (TSU), the state's only public historically Black college and university (HBCU), faces a tumultuous future as Gov. Bill Lee dissolved its board, a move supported by racist conservatives and MAGA Republicans in the Tennessee General Assembly, who follow the lead of the twice-impeached, four-times indicted, alleged sexual predator former President Donald Trump. Educators and others have denounced the move as an attack on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DE&I) and a grave setback for higher education.



Recent legislative actions in Tennessee, such as repealing police reform measures enacted after the killing of Tyre Nichols, underscore a troubling trend of undermining local control and perpetuating racist agendas. The new law preventing local governments from restricting police officers' authority disregards community efforts to address systemic issues of police violence and racial profiling
(Photo Tennessee State University via NNPA)

Critics argue that TSU's purported financial mismanagement is a manufactured crisis rooted in decades of underinvestment

by the state government. They've noted that it continues a trend by conservatives and the racist MAGA movement to eliminate op-

portunities for Blacks in education, corporate America, and the public sector.

Gevin Reynolds, a former speechwriter for Vice

President Kamala Harris, emphasizes in an op-ed that TSU's financial difficulties are not the result of university leadership because a recent audit found no evidence of fraud or malfeasance.

Reynolds noted that the disbanding of TSU's board is not an isolated incident but part of a broader assault on DE&I initiatives nationwide. Ten states, including Tennessee, have enacted laws banning DE&I policies on college campuses, while governors appointing MAGA loyalists to university trustee positions further undermine efforts to promote inclusivity and equality.

Moreover, recent legislative actions in Tennessee, such as repealing police

reform measures enacted after the killing of Tyre Nichols, underscore a troubling trend of undermining local control and perpetuating racist agendas. The new law preventing local governments from restricting police officers' authority disregards community efforts to address systemic issues of police violence and racial profiling.

The actions echo historical efforts to suppress Black progress, reminiscent of the violent backlash against gains made during the Reconstruction era. President Joe Biden warned during an appearance in New York last month that Trump desires to bring the nation back to the 18th and 19th

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RENEE, from Page 2

various on-screen roles, including ABC's 'Black-ish,' and 'Grey's Anatomy,' and is set to star in the upcoming

Disney Original movie 'Descendants: The Rise of Red,' streaming this summer on Disney+.

"There are few things that I'm more passionate about than nurturing the lives of young people, especially talented ones who just need a little inspira-

tion," said Renee. "Being the DREAMbassador for Disney Dreamers Academy this year is the perfect way for me to help engage with these young minds

and hopefully offer them the guidance and spark they need to blow open the doors to their career dreams."

Other noted speakers

participating in the event this year include: Dr. Johnnetta Cole, Nikkolos Smith, Lyn Sisson-Talbert, Jérôme LaMaar and Samara Cyn.

UTSW, from Page 4

subsequent weight loss in this population. To fill the gap, researchers, including those from UT Southwestern, developed an online support program called TeenLYFT using input from adolescents, according to details in the Journal of Translational Medicine. The researchers surveyed 19 volunteers, ages 13-15, from an adolescent MBS program at Children's Health on their preferences and interests in behavior or lifestyle topics surrounding weight loss and healthy living. Thirteen parents also provided information. TeenLYFT could eventually help improve outcomes after MBS, researchers say.

Researchers who con-

tributed to the study include first author and Ph.D. candidate Maral Misserian in the School of Health Professions; Faisal Qureshi, M.D., Professor of Surgery at UT Southwestern and pediatric general and thoracic pediatric surgeon and Director of the Adolescent Bariatric Surgical Center at Children's Health; Sarah Barlow, M.D., M.P.H., Professor of Pediatrics at UT Southwestern and pediatric gastroenterologist at Children's Health; and Bethany Cartwright, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at UT Southwestern, a pediatric endocrinologist, and the medical consultant for the Adolescent Bariatric Surgery Team at Children's

Health.

Racial disparities found among pregnant patients with multiple sclerosis

Numerous studies have identified racial disparities in health care for neurologic conditions and for pregnancy; however, researchers know little about racial disparities in patients with both conditions. Scientists, including those from UT Southwestern, show in Neurology that significant disparities exist among white, Black, and Hispanic patients who are pregnant and have multiple sclerosis (MS). Using data from 294 patients seen at nine MS centers across the U.S., including at William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital and Parkland Memorial Hospital, researchers report

racial differences in a range of metrics. Some examples include white patients being more likely to be employed, to be privately insured, and to have received a 14-week ultrasound; Black patients having a higher rate of emergency cesarean delivery; and Hispanic patients having the highest rate of uncomplicated vaginal delivery. Black and Hispanic patients also had lower median birth weights and shorter median duration of breastfeeding, the study showed. The findings could lead to interventions to decrease racial disparities among pregnant patients with MS.

UTSW researchers Lindsay Horton, M.D., and Lauren Tardo, M.D., Assistant Professors of Neurology,

contributed to the study.

Gestational age increased at start of COVID-19 pandemic

The gestational age of babies born extremely early increased slightly during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, researchers from multiple institutions including UT Southwestern report in the Journal of Perinatology. Because lockdowns and social distancing in the first few months of the pandemic decreased some risk factors associated with extremely preterm live births (EPLBs), such as occupational physical activity, physical stress, and infections, the scientists wondered whether EPLBs may have decreased as well. To answer that question, they

used a large database from 26 hospitals, including William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital and Parkland Memorial Hospital, containing outcomes from babies born extremely early between March and August 2020.

Compared to pre-pandemic times, when the average gestational age for EPLBs was 26.1 weeks, the age for EPLBs during the first six months of the pandemic moved to 26.2 weeks, a slight improvement that was also associated with lower death rates within 12 hours of birth and lower incidence of brain bleeds.

UTSW researcher Myra Wyckoff, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics, contributed to the study.



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Dallas CASA and CAPCO partners to host child abuse prevention and awareness event

Dallas CASA and partner agencies with the Dallas County Child Abuse Prevention Coalition (CAPCO) will host the Dallas County annual child abuse and neglect prevention awareness event on Thursday, April 4, in conjunction with April's Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month.

Local child abuse prevention advocates and child welfare workers are invited to the event. In-N-Out Burgers will be on hand to serve lunch.

The event will honor the 13 Dallas children who died due to maltreatment in 2023. The children ranged in age from newborn to 16 years old and included three girls and ten boys. According to TexProtects, there were seven maltreatment fatalities in 2022 and 11 in 2021.

The Dallas skyline will be lit blue on the evening of April 4 in recognition of child abuse awareness and prevention. Buildings confirmed to be lit blue include



Rosanne Lewis/Courtesy

Bank of America, AT&T Discovery Center, Chase Tower and 400 Record. The North Texas Bank & Trust building in Plano will also be lit blue.

The program runs from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 4 in the Dallas CASA parking lot, 2757 Swiss Avenue (corner of Swiss and Texas)

Statewide in fiscal year, 173 children died due to

maltreatment, averaging about three deaths a week. In Dallas County in 2023, 5,702 children, or about 15 children a day, were confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect. Statewide, 58,120 Texas children were confirmed victims of abuse or neglect in 2023. Child maltreatment can lead to long term consequences. In 2023, two-thirds of children referred

to juvenile delinquency court have had some involvement in the social services system stemming from abuse or neglect. For youth with two or more juvenile offenses, 90% have

had social services involvement.

Pinwheels, representing abuse and neglect prevention, will be displayed at Dallas CASA and partner agencies including Dallas Children's Advocacy Center, Family Compass, Community Partners of Dallas and others.

Keynote speaker will be Detective David Clark with Dallas Police Department's Child Exploitation Unit. University of North Texas student Ryan McLendon, president of Push UNTil Success Happens (PUSH), a student organization supporting youth who were in foster care, will share a personal story. The Hon. Sandre M. Street of the 256th District Court will share a call to action with the audience, and Dallas County Commissioner Dr. Theresa

Daniel will speak.

CAPCO is comprised of several North Texas child welfare agencies, including Dallas CASA, Dallas Children's Advocacy Center, the Dallas County Child Welfare Board, Family Compass, TexProtects and the United Way of Dallas' HOPES Program. In addition to colleagues from Child Protective Services and the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, the Dallas Police Department's Crimes Against Children Unit and the Dallas District Attorney's Crimes Against Children Division are also invited to the CAPCO event. Music will be provided by performer Gabe Meadows, a Dallas CASA volunteer advocate and jazz musician.

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South Dallas Club hosts 60th Trailblazer with Rep. Maxine Waters as speaker

By Gwendolyn H. Daniels

The year was 1964, Lyndon Baines Johnson was President of the United States, and the South Dallas Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc. (SDBPWC) was already 10 years strong serving citizens in the southern sector of Dallas.

As club history records, charter member V. Alyce Foster and her committee of four, "carried the idea of a Trailblazer Awards Luncheon to the Club." Their expressed purpose for the



Rep. Maxine Waters
(Courtesy photo)

event was to "focus attention on those Blacks who had achieved in a given field," positions not previ-

ously held by Blacks. With club approval, "the first Trailblazer Awards Luncheon was held March 30, 1964 at the Holiday Inn Central in Dallas."

Now, 60 years later, African Americans blazing trails for the very first time are still being identified. On April 27th at 12 noon, President Lavern J. Holyfield, DDS and her 75-member Club of business and professional women will host their 60th V. Alyce Foster Trailblazer Awards Luncheon at the Hilton Anatole Hotel, 2201 N. Stemmons

Freeway in Dallas.

SDBPWC is elated to secure The Honorable Maxine Waters, Congresswoman of the 43rd United States Congressional District of Los Angeles County, California to present the keynote address. They are grateful to Frost Bank and Parrish Restaurants, Ltd. (a McDonald's franchise), both are corporate sponsors of the event. Channel 8 News Anchor Cleo Greene will serve as guest MC and entertainment will be presented by "The Inspirational Band."

Luncheon Chair Gwen-

dolyn E. Hunt, Esq. and her committee are busy preparing for an elite slate of honorees that will be recognized during the Club's signature event of the year. Honoree categories include the recipient of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. highest award, The Sojourner Truth Award; three Trailblazer awardees; a Woman of the Year; a Man of the Year; The Mabel Meshach White Businesswoman; a Meritorious Service award-ee; a Volunteer Service

awardee; a Professional Woman awardee; an Ombudsman awardee; and a dynamic Youth Achiever.

In addition to community honorees, SDBPWC will award 12 worthy seniors with scholarships and Life Member Marion Hill-Hubbard will have the ever-popular silent auction available in the foyer of the ballroom.

For tickets to the April 27th luncheon, visit the SDBPWC website at southdallasbpwc.org and select the Donate button, or email the organization at southdallas1954@yahoo.com.

TREATMENT, from Page 4

it has been exciting to be a part of the iterative process of drug discovery. Every therapy has its pros and cons, but the preclinical efficacy of our ADC gives me hope that it can make a difference for patients suffering from these terrible cancers."

Investigators are now working with an industry partner to conduct early-phase safety and efficacy trials in human patients.

The study's co-authors were Brian J. Mog, Bum Seok Lee, Alexander H. Pearlman, Michael S. Hwang, Sarah R. DiNapoli, Nicholas Wyhs, Nikita Marcou, Stephanie Glavaris, Maximilian F. Konig, Sandra B. Gabelli, Evangeline Watson, Cole Sterling, Nina Wagner-Johnston, Sima Rozati, Lode Swinnen, Ephraim Fuchs, Drew M. Pardoll, Kathy Gabrielson, Nickolas Papadopou-

los, Chetan Bettgowda, Kenneth W. Kinzler, Shubin Zhou, Surojit Sur and Bert Vogelstein of Johns Hopkins.

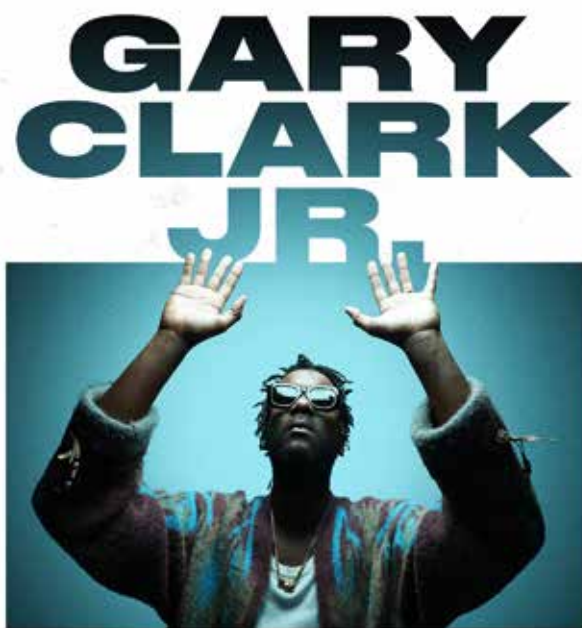
The work was supported in part by The Virginia and D.K. Ludwig Fund for Cancer Research, Lustgarten Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research, Commonwealth Fund, Bloomberg-Kimmel Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy, Bloomberg Philanthropies and the National Institutes of Health

Cancer Center Support Grant P30 CA006973. Paul was supported by the National Cancer Institute (grant K08CA270403), the Leukemia Lymphoma Society Translation Research Program Award, the American Society of Hematology Scholar Award and the Swim Across America

Translational Cancer Research Award.

The Johns Hopkins University has filed patent applications related to technologies described in this paper on which Paul, Nichakawade, Vogelstein, Kinzler, Papadopoulos and Zhou are listed as inventors. Paul is a consultant

to Merck, owns equity in Gilead and received payment from IQVIA and Curio Science. Several other competing interests are disclosed in the paper. These relationships are managed by Johns Hopkins University in accordance with its conflict-of-interest policies.



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PROPD: Upgrade Our Libraries.	PROPI: Solutions on Homelessness.
PROPE: Invest in Arts & Culture.	PROPJ: Upgrade Information Technology

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Jake Gyllenhaal in *Road House* (Photo via NNPA)

Film Review: 'Road House' is more of an Out House

By Dwight Brown
NNPA Film Critic

(**) Is there a point to remaking an older movie if you aren't going to make it better? Or is it just an easy way out for filmmakers adverse to creating something new?

Director/producer Doug Liman has an impressive filmography that's marked by innovative films that started their own genres. The very hip *Swingers*. The intense and venomously sexy *Mr. and Mrs. Smith*. The action-packed thriller *The Bourne Identity*. So, if you're a trendsetter, why choose a derivative project?

The 1989 film *Road House* starred Patrick Swayze—in his heyday. It centered on a handsome dude, with a puffy '80s hairdo, who had a black belt in karate and Ph.D. in philosophy. He's hired as a bouncer in a Missouri tavern where fighting is as prevalent as the Budweiser behind the bar.

Spring forward 35 years and this film, which didn't win any Academy Awards but plenty of Golden Raspberry trophies (prizes for the worst in cinematic failures), is being redone. Rewritten by Anthony Bagarozzi, and Chuck Mondry

and based on R. Lance Hill's (aka David Lee Henry) original story from back in the day. Why'd they bother? Probably, not for altruistic reasons. Maybe to keep their Writers Guild of America health insurance?

Elwood Dalton (Jake Gyllenhaal), who's tall, dark and sporting six-pack abs, was once a UFC (Ultimate Fighting Championship) athlete. These days he's fighting on the underground circuit for money. Frankie (Jessica Williams) owns the outdoor-styled saloon "The Road House" on Glass Key, a small island in the Florida Keys. The proprietress is looking for a bouncer/fighter who can restore order to her violence-plagued establishment. She's in town scouting at an ultimate fighter match and offers Dalton the job. He's reluctant at first. But when he becomes penniless, carless and destitute, he makes his way down to Glass Key.

Gyllenhaal played a ripped-to-the-gills boxer before in 2015's *Southpaw*. That sports movie was good, but the actor was great as he gave a gritty and authentic performance. No need to add another pugilist's slugfest to his resume. But here he is. As the weak storyline unfolds and Li-

man fails to pick a tone that works—silly fight-club or *Miami Vice* rip-off—the Oscar nominee's (*Brokeback Mountain*) role choice looks questionable.

Thugs beat up patrons at the *Road House* randomly. They're egged on by the rich crook Ben Brandt (Billy Magnussen) who wants the bar's prime beach location for redeveloping. Extraneous characters pile into the narrative. Dalton plays footsy with the local doctor Ellie (Daniela Melchior, *Fast X*). The town's sheriff (Joaquim de Almeida, *Fast Five*) turns a blind eye. Dalton befriends a teenager (Hanna Love Lanier) who runs a modest bookstore with her dad (Kevin Carroll, *Blindspotting*). And when the nightly mayhem of fists and broken jaws can't get any worse, up pops Knox (Conor McGregor, UFC champ), a diminutive bully of a goon sent in to finish the demolition job Brandt's inept hitmen didn't complete.

For this to work on any level, the fights must be the most ingeniously choreographed bedlam anyone has ever scene. Something in the *John Wick* category. Instead, the punches, headlocks, body slams and head

See FILM, Page 13



Reese's decision comes after LSU exited the women's tournament, falling short to the Iowa Hawkeyes in the Elite Eight. Despite the loss, Reese's performance in her final collegiate game showcased her prowess on the court, tallying an impressive 17 points and 20 rebounds. (Photo via NNPA)

NCAA Star Angel Reese declares for WNBA draft

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

In a move that surprised few but marked a significant milestone in her career, NCAA women's basketball star Angel Reese declared for the 2024 WNBA draft. The 21-year-old 6-foot-3 athlete announced her decision after what she described as a fulfilling collegiate journey at Louisiana

State University.

Speaking to Vogue, Reese expressed her eagerness to leap to the professional level, citing her aspiration to follow in the footsteps of legendary athletes like Serena Williams. Drawing inspiration from Williams' retirement announcement in September 2022, Reese emphasized her desire to transcend the collegiate level and leave a lasting mark on the sport.

"I've done everything I wanted to in college," Reese stated. "I've won a national championship, I've gotten [Southeastern Conference] Player of the Year, and I've been an All-American. My ultimate goal is to be a pro—and to be one of the greatest basketball players ever. I feel like I'm ready."

Reese's decision comes after LSU exited the women's tournament, falling

short to the Iowa Hawkeyes in the Elite Eight. Despite the loss, Reese's performance in her final collegiate game showcased her prowess on the court, tallying an impressive 17 points and 20 rebounds. Reese maintained stellar statistics throughout the 2023–2024 season, averaging over 18 points and 13 rebounds per game.

See REESE, Page 13

CRIME, from Page 5

the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino. The report, titled "Faith Under Fire" and published in January, found that hate crimes increased by 11% in 2023 from 2022, with antisemitic and anti-Muslim hate crimes soaring following the Israel-Hamas war.

The FBI's quarterly uniform crime report indicates a widespread decrease in violent crime during 2023

compared to the previous year, as well as a 13% decline in homicides relative to 2022. The Major Cities Police Association's Violent Crime Survey found double-digit declines in homicides across nearly 70 of America's largest cities in 2023 compared to 2022.

However, while cities like New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Philadelphia saw homicides decline by 12% to 21%, others experienced

sharp increases in slayings in 2023. Homicides rose by 24% in Memphis, 27% in Washington, D.C., 15% in Dallas, and 14% in Kansas City.

According to NYPD crime statistics, violent crime in New York City is continuing to fall in 2024. Through March 17, data show homicides are down by 19% from the same period in 2023. Meanwhile, according to NYPD data, violent crime in New York City housing developments fell by 3.2% in 2023 from

the previous year.

In addition to the investments, Garland unveiled plans to deploy federal resources and prosecutors to cities disproportionately affected by violent crime, including St. Louis, Missouri; Jackson, Mississippi; and Hartford, Connecticut. He said the targeted deployments aim to support local law enforcement agencies and enhance collaboration in tackling crime hotspots.

The announcement follows similar interventions in cities like Houston, Memphis, and Washington, D.C., where a surge in violent crime, particularly carjackings and armed robberies, has sparked concern from Mayor Muriel Bowser, city leaders, and citizens. Garland reiterated that while progress has been made, there is no room for complacency, as he stressed the need for sustained focus

and vigilance in the fight against violent crime.

"The Justice Department is committed to continuing to make historic investments in community violence intervention," Garland declared. "Violent crime isolates people and their communities. It deepens the fractures in our public life. When it is not addressed, it can undermine people's trust in government and in each other."

DOING THE RIGHT THING

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

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

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Friday, April 5 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	Friday, April 19 12:00-1:00 p.m.
Thursday, April 11 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Thursday, April 25 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

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

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April 8, 7:30PM

Winspear Opera House

AT&T PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
Years to Discover

A conversation about inheritance, what to do with Big Mama's house, and getting on a path towards intergenerational wealth

By Dominique Calhoun
President of the
National Bar Association

My grandmother, the oldest of 14 siblings, passed away in 2018. She gave birth to seven children. Out of that lineage, none of them had a will. Luckily, all her children get along. Today, one of my aunts actually lives in my Grandma's house. And her siblings are supportive of that. Yet, for many, that is not the case. However, because she passed intestate, the question that me and my cousins often ask is: What's next for Big Mama's House?

In Texas—and many other parts of the country—this experience is far too common. Take my family, for example. You have seven siblings with an equal birthright to my Grandma's house. Upon their passing, the birthright will be given to their children if they do not leave a will or instructions regarding what to do with their property.

As an example, my mother owns one-seventh of my Grandma's house. If it passes without a will, then that one-seventh is now split between me, my older brother, and my younger sister. As was the case with my aunts and uncles, each of us would also become owners of the property.

Now, instead of seven people owning the property, you have nine with me and my siblings. That's two additional decision-makers. To further illustrate the problem, what if my aunt, who lives in the house, were to pass in the same way – without a will? She has two children. Her daughter still lives in the same city but has her own house. However, her son, who unfortunately passed away, had three children.

Now you take one-seventh that my aunt owned, and you give one-half of that one-seventh to her daughter. But because my

cousin passed (also without a will), his three children now become owners of the same property. You have to take his one-half of one-seventh and divide according to the Texas Estate's code in threes to each of the children who may not own the same percentage. Whew!

You may now see the problem many of our families face. And this pattern will continue as others pass away. Unfortunately, so many Black families are in similar places.

That's why the National Bar Association, the nation's oldest and largest association of Black attorneys, judges, and law professionals in the country, and the National Association of Real Estate Brokers, the oldest association of Black real estate professionals, are working together to educate Black families about property transfer. It plays a significant role in the creation of generational wealth.

Too frequently, Black people have lost their property and suffered from gentrification because of the exact problem I described. And I believe that for years, we have not provided the same inheritance toolkits with comprehensive information that our white counterparts have relied on to grow intergenerational wealth for decades.

One of the things I always say is that talking about death doesn't beget death. It doesn't bring about death. It puts a family in a position to retain Black generational wealth. If the most prized possession you own is your house, and if you spent your life toiling to ensure that you could have that house, why wouldn't you do everything you can in life or death to protect it? And it's not to say that this is a failsafe and a magic wand to protect the Black community or that this will ensure we manage and maintain property

within our communities. But it does provide a safeguard from what I will call "The Vultures," the capitalists that come into our communities scheming and finding ways to gain control over the low-hanging fruit that are prized possessions for us.

When discussing how we manage wealth, we must retool our community and retool ourselves to ensure we're prepared to take care of Big Mama's House. We have to begin discussing the relationship between our community and death. Not in a negative way. But we must ensure that our people are educated and told about wills, estates, trusts, and estate plans. We all will likely have something to leave behind, whatever it is, but we must prepare the next generation for it.

Further, we must discuss what people intend to do with their property and possessions. I beg you to please do not leave it to chance because depending on the jurisdiction in which you live, the outcomes can be very different for you. For example, I live in the state of Texas. If you leave it up to chance, the Texas law says that the property goes down the lineage. So, as illustrated earlier, if my mother dies without a will or without instructions on what to do with her property, her house belongs to me, my brother, and my sister. And many different outcomes could occur if we can't agree on what to do with it.

If someone fails to pay taxes, it could be seized by the government. Now you have a property that was once beloved and well cared for being lost. To prevent this scenario, the first thing we must do is change the way we view conversations about death. Secondly, everyone needs to make plain what they want to happen with their property. And lastly, we need to prepare the next generation

for what's ahead. In the instructions about what to do with your property, you must also prepare them for everything else that comes with that, meaning that someone must know what is happening in your life.

As attorneys, we have seen bad outcomes when families don't take time to get things in order. The reason is that many people have outstanding debts and obligations that nobody knows about. There may be personal loans and IOUs that a person may have, and when they die, those obligations come due, and creditors begin to attach those debts to the assets that are owned. It would be best to tell someone where all that information is before you pass. There may be hidden accounts. Someone may be happily married, and a little slush fund sits somewhere. It would be best if you

told somebody where this stuff is. It would be best to write it down to help the next generation deal with your passing. Write everything down. You can even leave instructions that be in a sealed envelope until you die. Many attorneys keep these types of instructions for you.

Upon a person's passing, all kinds of questions need to be answered. Would Big Mama have wanted a white casket? Does she like blue? What type of flowers should we have at the services? The list of questions is numerous when you wish to pay respects to your loved ones. Meanwhile, as a survivor is sitting there trying to answer all of these questions in this moment of grief, all they really want is to celebrate the time that they had with the person. Imagine if all of those questions were resolved.

Imagine if you, being the person who passed away, prepared everybody for it. Make it easy for your survivors. What if your son or daughter only had to pick up the phone and call one person? That one person knows everything that you want. Everything is written down - from the burial plot to the funeral home to the casket. Nothing left to chance. Nothing left for someone to have to guess.

Your loved ones don't need to worry about these things. They should be able to talk about the grief they are experiencing or be able to celebrate their life. Let them do that. Don't overwhelm your loved ones and friends who are already consumed with losing you.

The National Bar Association decided that we would no longer hold this

See WEALTH, Page 13



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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.

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AT&T data breach exposes millions to identity theft threat

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

AT&T, the telecommunications giant, revealed over the weekend a significant breach that has exposed the sensitive information of millions of its current and former customers. The breach, discovered on the dark web, has potentially compromised data, including Social Security numbers and passcodes, affecting around 7.6 million current account holders and a staggering 65.4 million former account holders.

In a statement issued over the weekend, the Dallas-based company expressed concern over the breach and its magnitude while highlighting the uncertainty surrounding the origin of the leaked data. Whether



Photo via NNPA

the data was sourced from AT&T itself or one of its vendors remains unclear, prompting the company to initiate a thorough investigation.

The compromised information, dating back to 2019 or earlier, encompasses a wide array of personal data, including full names, email

addresses, mailing addresses, phone numbers, dates of birth, and AT&T account numbers. However, AT&T has assured customers that financial information and call histories remain untouched.

For individuals anxious about the security of their data, AT&T has assured

them that affected customers will receive direct communication via email or letters. These notifications began rolling out on March 30, confirmed by an AT&T spokesperson.

AT&T has taken immediate action in response to the breach, resetting passcodes for current users and

pledging to cover credit monitoring services where applicable.

Additionally, the company has launched a comprehensive investigation, leveraging internal expertise and external cybersecurity professionals to delve into the breach's origins and extent.

The recent breach isn't the first time AT&T has faced such a cybersecurity challenge. Cybersecurity researcher Troy Hunt highlighted similarities between this breach and a previous one in 2021, which AT&T allegedly failed to acknowledge. The resemblance raises questions about the telecom giant's handling of data breaches and could expose it to legal repercussions, including class-action lawsuits.

AT&T urges customers

to adopt stringent security measures, such as creating complex passwords and enabling multifactor authentication, in light of the breach.

Additionally, vigilance against phishing attempts, especially following breach notifications, is crucial. The Federal Trade Commission recommends leveraging free credit freezes and fraud alerts provided by nationwide credit bureaus to mitigate identity theft risks.

In tandem with this breach revelation, AT&T faces legal challenges on another front. In 2021, the District of Columbia sued AT&T for allegedly overcharging for cellphone and internet services, citing breaches of contract and violations of the False Claims Act.

WASHINGTON, from Page 2

support to Black America, including the Black Press. Washington followed up, ultimately striking a deal with Cuban to partner with the *Dallas Weekly*, run by Washington's son, Patrick Washington. It was typical James Washington; when opportunity knocked, his door was open. When it appeared opportunity was elusive, Washington either made a way, or found a way.

"I worked for James over 35 years ago —as an in-

tern at *The Dallas Weekly*," Journalist Dorothy Gentry wrote on X. "I last saw him a few years back in Miami at NABJ. We laughed and shared memories. He will be missed."

A sales executive, Robert Walker-Smith, added that Washington's voice is silenced, yet his spirit lives forever."

Sugg's column noted that Washington had been involved in nearly every level of the communications field for over four

decades. From his time as the publisher of *The Dallas Weekly*, a Black-owned and operated publication, to his work as the public relations manager for the Dallas Ballet, Washington had always been a strong representation of Black excellence and intelligence.

Washington has twice served on the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce board, the Dallas Arboretum, the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas, and the National Newspaper Publishers Association.

He is a former tri-chair

of Dallas' Commission on Race Relations and the Dallas Together Forum. He is also a former member of the Federal Reserve Bank's Small Business and Agriculture Advisory Committee in Dallas. Jim was named "Man of the Year" in 1986 by the Dallas Metropolitan Club of Negro Business and Professional Women.

Since then, he has been honored for outstanding community service by organizations such as Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, The Links, Inc., United

Way, Dallas Independent School District, Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center, Daniel "Chappie" James Learning Center, the NAACP, KKDA, and KRLD radio stations, Dallas Black Dance Theatre, Dallas Museum of Arts, and the State Fair of Texas.

Washington earned his bachelor's degree in English and Instructional Media from Historically Black College and Southern University. He also earned a master's degree in journalism from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

An author, Washington published his book "Spiritually Speaking, Reflections For and From a New Christian," in 2019.

Washington is survived by his wife, *The Atlanta Voice* publisher Janis Ware; his children, daughter Elena Bonifay (husband David Bonifay) and son Patrick Washington (wife Jessica Washington); his grandchildren James Spencer Emanuel Washington, Penelope Elena Jimenez Washington and William Emmanuel Edward Austin Bonifay, and his nieces and nephews.

TRUMP, from Page 1

rights, these groups have challenged existing policies and norms, with some cases achieving notable success. For example, contemporary legal disputes have focused on discriminatory practices within the entertainment and professional sports sectors, alleging that affirmative action-like initiatives put white people at a disadvantage.

The Heritage Foundation's "Project 2025," which envisions a Trump administration dismantling what they perceive to be

"affirmative discrimination," is one organization that has articulated a larger agenda. Central is the assertion that policies designed to uplift marginalized communities come at the expense of others.

As Axios reported, America First cited the Civil Rights Act of 1964 in a lawsuit against CBS and Paramount Global for what the group argued was discrimination against a white, straight man who was a writer for the show "Seal Team" in 2017. The group

also filed a civil rights complaint against the NFL over its "Rooney Rule," which was instituted in 2003 and expanded in 2022.

American First argued that "given the limited time frame to hire executives and coaches after the season, this results in fewer opportunities for similarly situated, well-qualified candidates who are not minorities." In 2021, Miller's group successfully sued to block the implementation of a \$29 billion pandemic-era program for women- and minority-owned restaurants, saying it dis-

criminated against white-owned businesses.

"This ruling is the first, but crucial, step towards ending government-sponsored racial discrimination," Miller said then. Axios also highlighted that Trump-aligned groups have gained momentum with the Supreme Court's turn to the right — most notably its recent rejection of affirmative action in college admissions. The court ruled that programs designed to benefit people of color and address past injustices discriminate against white and Asian Americans. A fed-

eral judge blocked a \$4 billion program to help Black farmers in 2021. Last month, another federal judge ruled that the Commerce Department's Minority Business Development Agency discriminated against white people and that the program must be open to everyone.

Most recently, The Legal Insurrection Foundation filed the legal complaint with the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights. The conservative nonprofit says its mission is devoted to advancing free expression and academic freedom on campuses.

The foundation claims the George Floyd Memorial Scholarship is violating Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which "prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color and national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance."

"Every institution in America is under attack from this Marxist concept of 'equity,'" Trump said in 2023. "I will get this extremism out of the White House, out of the military, out of the Justice Department, and out of our government."

REESE, from Page 10

A native of Baltimore, Maryland, Reese made an immediate impact upon joining the LSU Tigers three years ago. Her presence on the court was formidable, combining athleticism, skill, and determination to excel in every aspect of the game.

Throughout her time at LSU, Reese earned numerous accolades, showcasing her dominance in collegiate basketball. She was pivotal in leading the LSU Tigers to success and received recognition as an All-American.

Her impact extended far beyond individual statis-

tics. She served as a leader both on and off the court, inspiring her teammates and capturing the admiration of fans nationwide.

Reese's journey from local standout to college basketball star in her hometown of Baltimore has left a lasting impression. She has become a source of pride for her community, serving

as a role model for aspiring athletes and demonstrating the potential for success within Baltimore's youth.

"Angel transferred to LSU after my first season in Baton Rouge and she helped transform our program," LSU coach Kim Mulkey said in a statement.

"When she came here, she said she wanted to be

here for two seasons, and she has lived up to that. What a remarkable two years it has been. We are all indebted to Angel Reese for the contributions she has given to this program, helping us win our first National Championship, and the contributions she made on our university as a whole. She not only helped

grow our program but had an impact on growing the game of women's basketball across the country. We wish her good luck as she moves to the WNBA and look forward to seeing all that she accomplishes. We will miss her but will always cherish the two years we got to spend with her. Forever LSU."

FILM, from Page 9

banging are as feeble as a brawl at a nursing home. Boring, unimaginative and generic. Until the finale. That's when a stabbing contest signifies that the stunt coordinator finally woke up. The one other time the pummeling is novel is when a head is beaten

against a piano. Dalton slyly comments: "This piano is out of tune."

Wicked humor mixed with state-of-the-art ultraviolence is sorely missing in the other 2h 1m of the film's length (editor Doc Crotzer). The musical score (Christophe Beck), produc-

tion design (Greg Berry), costumes (Dayna Pink) and cinematography (Henry Braham) are standard issue. McGregor storms around like he's on WrestleMania riling up an audience. But he isn't an actor. The rest of the cast, including Gyllenhaal, phoned their performances in from a beach chair. The one element that

stands out is the setting. The beaches and water. But before booking a road trip to Glass Key, be aware: There isn't an island in the lovely Florida Keys name "Glass," and the footage was largely shot in the Dominican Republic.

The improbable premise can't take be taken seriously. The fights on view

wouldn't energize the desired action film fan base in a theater but might interest them more as it streams on Prime Video. It should be noted that Grammy-nominated singer/songwriter/rapper Post Malone plays one of the underground fighters in the early scenes, and his music is featured on the playlist. Smarter, wish-

ful casting would've been Malone as Dalton, which may have brought a new, cool, refreshing verve to this piece of deadwood.

Road House should have been called Out House. Out of synch. Out of style. Out of fresh ideas.

Visit Film Critic Dwight Brown at DwightBrownInk.com.

DEI, from Page 6

centuries – in other words, to see, among other things, African Americans back in the chains of slavery, women subservient to men without any say over their bodies, and all voting rights restricted to white men.

The parallels are stark,

with white supremacist ideologies used to justify attacks on Black institutions and disenfranchise marginalized communities, Reynolds argued.

In response to these challenges, advocates stress the urgency of collective ac-

tion to defend democracy and combat systemic racism. Understanding that attacks on institutions like TSU are symptomatic of broader threats to democratic norms, they call for increased civic engagement

and voting at all levels of government.

The actions of people dedicated to upholding the principles of inclusivity, equity, and justice for all will determine the outcome of the ongoing fight for de-

mocracy, Reynolds noted. "We are in a war for our democracy, one whose out-

come will be determined by every line on every ballot at every precinct," he stated.

WEALTH, from Page 11

information about what to do with death; we wanted to share it with our families and communities. Personally, at family get-togethers, I go around and ask, 'Do you have your will in order? Just tell me. I'll do it for you for free.'

We partnered with NAREB to say, "We have the legal expertise." At some point, NAREB's members will be the ones to help move the property because the family will want to sell it or make an investment in it. This is why we have partnered.

If we can educate the community about these things, we may create better outcomes for families and our communities. What we don't want to happen is what we continuously see. Surprisingly, someone received a letter from the government because the taxes were due, and no one was keeping up the proper-

ty, so now there is a forced sale.

Or they find a cloud over the title because creditors claim it to cover a debt. We want to help NAREB bring these conversations to families in a proactive way. So NAREB President Dr. Courtney Johnson Rose and I said, let's go into the community for free, donate our time, and ensure we help protect Big Mama's House – ultimately create Black wealth.

Historically, this information was passed along in the Black church. But we've reached a point where there needs to be more venues for sharing this information. That's what we are creating with this partnership. By mixing lawyers and real estate professionals, we can reach more people and facilitate making Big Mama's House a resource for the next generation.



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Second Thoughts Can Be Dangerous to My Health

Dr. James L. Snyder

Many things in life can be rather dangerous. For me, the most dangerous things in my life are thoughts.

I thought about this one day, and by the end of the day, I was in deep trouble. Thoughts have a way of doing that with me.

My New Year's resolution one year was to have one thought per day. After the first week, I ran out of thoughts.

This year, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I will be married 53 years. During that time, I discovered how vital just one thought can be.

If anybody thinks a lot, it is The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. She has everything thought through before I have a chance to even know what it is. Like most women, she is an expert in multitasking. That means it takes a lot of thought to do all those things simultaneously. She does it quite well.

She often says how many headaches she has during the day, and if I could put several thoughts together,



I might tell her that those headaches are a result of all that thinking she does during the day. But, on second thought, I better just leave that one alone.

Over the years, I have tried to focus on thinking, but I haven't gotten very far. This may be why I don't have any headaches during the week. From my point of view, that's one benefit that I relish every day.

I was once relaxing in my easy chair and staring at the ceiling. Looking at me, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage said, "Me thinkest thou ponderous too much."

Once, while we were driving along the highway, she was driving, and I was

staring out the window. She took one quick look at me, and said, "What are you thinking about?"

Looking back at her, I responded, "You're not really thinking that I'm doing any thinking, are you? That's way above my pay scale."

Of course, she laughed, and I laughed along with her, but sometimes the truth is the truth.

One of her favorite phrases along this line is, "Do you have any second thoughts on that?"

Recently we were remodeling our house and adding a room that would be my office upon retiring. I had some really great ideas, at least I thought so, and I shared them with her.

When I was done with my presentation, she looked at me and said, "Do you want to give that a second thought?"

It was enough for me to give her the first thought, let alone come up with a second thought. But by that time, I was all thought-out.

Then she gave me a whole list of her thoughts about the project and she did it so fast I couldn't keep up with it and I had no idea what she was talking about. I was almost ready to say, "Do you want to give them a second thought?" I knew if I did that, her second thought may not be what I want it to be; if you know what I mean.

Over the years, we have become a wonderful team. I call it the T&N team. What that means is that she Thinks, and I cannot Nod my head in agreement. I'm sure I didn't think that through, but I must confess it sure does work. It has produced almost 53 years of marital bliss.

After 53 years of being "thought-free," my life is quite remarkable. I've had very few headaches be-

cause there is nothing up there to ache.

Sometimes, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage will ask me about a particular problem and ask, "What do you think about that problem?"

After 53 years of the T&N team experience, I simply shoot back, "I'm not sure. What do you think about it, and what should we do?"

And when I say that, I can sit back and listen to all the good advice and nod my head at the appropriate places, and at the end, we both are smiling. No thought on my part involved.

The best thought I have ever had, and where I harbor no second thoughts, is when I asked The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage to marry me. I'm not sure what her thought process was then, but I can assure you there were no second thoughts on my side of the aisle.

I can sit back and remember a lot of the things I did in the past. Of course, at my age, my memory is not up to par, but at least there's

a little bit left. There were a few times when I thought about something and then had second thoughts, and it was the second thought that got me into trouble.

I have learned that I need to gather all the information before exercising my first thought. If I have everything before me, then I can proceed to the next step in making a decision based on my thought process.

I remembered a special verse of scripture that encouraged me in this regard.

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

This is where I need to surrender all my thoughts to God and obey His Word.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamesnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamesnyderministries.com.

GOSSETT, from Page 2

ences with his commanding presence and versatile performances.

However, his portrayal of "Fiddler" in Alex Haley's groundbreaking miniseries "Roots" earned Gossett critical acclaim, including an Emmy Award. The HistoryMakers noted that his golden touch extended to the big screen, where his role as Sergeant Emil Foley in "An Officer and a Gentleman" earned him an

Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor, making him a trailblazer in Hollywood history.

Beyond the glitz and glamour of Hollywood, Gossett was deeply committed to community activism. In 1964, he co-founded a theater group for troubled youth alongside James Earl Jones and Paul Sorvino, setting the stage for his lifelong dedication to mentoring and inspiring

the next generation. Gossett's tireless advocacy for racial equality culminated in the establishment of Eracism, a nonprofit organization dedicated to combating racism both domestically and abroad.

Throughout his illustrious career, Gossett remained a beacon of strength and resilience, using his platform to uplift marginalized voices and champion social change. Satie and Sharron, Gossett's children, survive him.

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Black females honored by the U. S. Post Office (Part 2)



Sister Tarpley
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Editor

Hattie McDaniel (2006) - McDaniel, the first Black woman to win an Academy Award for her supporting role in *Gone With The Wind*. While *Gone With The Wind* is the role she's most famous for she actually participated in over 300 films but was only credited for 80.

In addition to the barrier she broke in her acting career, McDaniel was also the first Black woman to sing opera on the radio. To date, she is the only Oscar winner honored with a postage stamp.

Ella Fitzgerald (2007) - During Fitzgerald's 59 year recording career, she sold over 40 million copies of the 70 plus albums she released. Fitzgerald, known for her horn-like tonal quality, won 13 Grammys, was awarded the National Medal of Arts by Ronald Reagan and the Presidential Medal of Freedom by Pres-



Hattie McDaniel

ident George H.W. Bush.

Ethel L. Payne - An internationally recognized writer and commentator, Ethel L. Payne was a syndicated columnist and long-time reporter for the *Chicago Defender*, one of the leading African-American newspapers in the United States. She was the first African-American woman to receive accreditation as a White House correspondent. In her honor, the prestigious annual Ethel L. Payne International Award for Excellence in Journalism was established in 1998. This stamp was issued September 14, 2002

Billie Holiday - Born El-

canora Fagan, Billie Holiday was one of the most influential jazz singers of all time. Known as "Lady Day," she had a distinctive light timbre and graceful phrasing, even when singing popular jazz tunes dealing with heartbreak, despair, and loneliness. But whether the song was heavy and sorrowful or light and lively, Holiday's presentation always seemed to carry a somber, wounded sadness and powerful emotional intensity. This stamp was issued September 17, 1994. **Mahalia Jackson** - Known as the "queen of gospel music," Mahalia Jackson started singing in church choirs

as a young child. She began recording in her early twenties, and received national recognition by appearing at Carnegie Hall and on *The Ed Sullivan Show*. An active participant in the civil rights movement, she sang at the March on Washington in 1963 and at the funeral for Martin Luther King, Jr. This stamp was issued July 15, 1998.

"Ma" Rainey - Born Gertrude Malissa Nix Pridgett, "Ma" Rainey was called the "mother of the blues." She specialized in a down-home style of classic blues, and her fame grew simultaneously with the spread of the blues genre. This stamp was issued September 17, 1994.


Sister Rosetta Tharpe - Sister Rosetta Tharpe was one of many Black gospel singers who contributed to American music. She was known for her signature guitar style, and she introduced gospel music into nightclubs as well as con-


cert halls. This stamp was issued July 15, 1998.

Dinah Washington - Born Ruth Jones in 1924, Dinah Washington became one of America's most popular and versatile singers. She began her career as a gospel singer, established herself as the "queen of the blues," and also made recordings of jazz, pop, rhythm and blues, and even country songs. Her signature song was "What a Difference a Day Makes." Unfortunately, her life was tragically cut short when she died after an accidental overdose of prescription

drugs. This stamp was issued June 16, 1993.

Dorothy I. Height - Dorothy Height spent her life fighting for racial and gender equality. The 40th stamp in the Black Heritage series will honor the women's rights icon in 2017. Height, Ph.D., 10th National President (1947-1956) of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., was appointed by President Carter to the Presidential Commission on a National Agenda for the 1980s. She also served as president of the National Council of Negro Women for more than 40 years.

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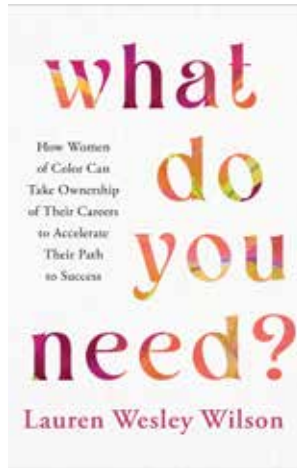
NDG Book Review: 'What Do You Need?' is a straightforward read

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

That wasn't the answer you wanted.

Beating around the bush, hemming and hawing, those aren't answers. A solid yes or no, that's what you require, a simple affirmative or negative, but you may not get it. Is the answer hung up somewhere, or is it being withheld? You may never know but author Lauren Wesley Wilson says you should never stop asking. In her new book "What Do You Need?" your career might depend on it.

A little over a decade ago, new-grad Lauren Wesley Wilson took a job she



thought she might like. As it turned out, though, she was the only woman of color in the organization and that held her back; there were, for instance, things that her white colleagues

knew that she didn't, "extras" that would've eased her way, insider info that would've made it possible for promotions and better contact-making.

That was a valuable lesson: being "a first-and-only" really does matter in the workplace, a fact that spurred Wilson to try something audacious. She invited a small number of women to a get-together in May of 2011 to ask one another "What do you need?" and to share personal and professional answers. From that gathering, ColorComm Corporation was born, and it currently offers chapters for women of color in many

cities.

So what do you need?

First of all, you need to thrive in the workplace, and you need to understand that some places aren't "set up" for that. You need to acknowledge that being first-and-only makes things harder. Ask for a mentor or learn how to find your own with gentle persistence and without being a pest. You'll need to make a good reputation for yourself, and to self-promote. Become a joiner, cultivate a wide mix of contacts, understand your value, learn to assess risks and promote yourself, be willing to work, and know when it's time to

walk away.

Finally, invest in yourself the same as you invest in money, clothing, cars, and vacations.

"Your career should be just as important."

Pick up "What Do You Need?," hold it at arms' length, and ask yourself if you really need another book of advice on how to get ahead if you're a woman of color. Look closer, page through it, and your answer is likely to be "yes."

Yes, there's a lot of repetition, both within this book itself and when compared to others, but what sets it apart from those similar tomes is its encour-

agement to continually think so very precisely. Author Lauren Wesley Wilson doggedly returns to her title question to help readers sort through their options with more focus, while case studies and examples steadfastly lead them to apply the lessons inside this book to their own lives and workplaces.

Straight talk and an unwillingness to gloss over the facts complete this book, and make it one you'll want to own. If you need to get ahead and you're ready to concentrate and do the work, "What Do You Need?" might have the answers you've wanted.



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