



# North Dallas Gazette

"Most respected Voice of the Minority Community"

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

## Biden urges order as arrests and chaos rise at pro-Palestinian college protests nationwide

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

President Joe Biden, in his first remarks since April 22, addressed the escalating pro-Palestinian demonstrations on American college campuses in a strongly worded speech where he noted that there's a delicate balance between dissent and disorder in a democratic society.

"Dissent is essential for democracy," Biden asserted, "but dissent must never lead to disorder."

Biden's comments come amid protests nationwide, with more than 1,900 arrests reported. The long-running conflict between Israelis and Palestinians, which has recently intensified due to violence in the occupied territories, has fueled the demonstrations.

The spark for the latest round of conflict was an attack by Hamas, Gaza's militant government, on Israel on October 7, resulting in nearly 1,200 deaths, marking the most significant single killing of Jews since the Holocaust. According to data from the Hamas-run Health Ministry, in retaliation, Israel, under the leadership of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, declared war on Hamas, sparking an inva-



The long-running conflict between Israelis and Palestinians, which has recently intensified due to violence in the occupied territories, has fueled the demonstrations (Photo via NNPA)

sion that has claimed over 34,000 Palestinian lives.

International condemnation has been swift, with Biden himself criticizing Israel's retaliation as indiscriminate and responsible for a heavy civilian death toll.

During his address at the White House, Biden emphasized the importance of upholding the right to free speech and the rule of law. "We are not an authoritarian nation where we silence people or squash dissent," he declared. "But neither are we a lawless country. We are a civil society, and order must prevail."

The president stressed that while peaceful protest is protected, vio-

lence and destruction are not. "Destroying property is not a peaceful protest," he asserted. "It's against the law. I understand people have strong feelings and deep convictions. In America, we respect the right and protect the right for them to express that. But it doesn't mean anything goes. It needs to be done without violence, without destruction, without hate, and within the law."

Biden also condemned any form of hate speech or violence, including antisemitism, Islamophobia, or discrimination against Arab Americans or Palestinian Americans.

See PROTESTS, Page 5



### Wake up Black voters

- See Page 3



### Racial lines in IVF treatment

- See Page 4



### Evers, Clyburn honored by Pres. Biden

- See Page 5



### Paul Quinn grads are flying high

- See Page 6



### Ben Crump opens case against Geico

- See Page 7



### A decade later, art is healing in Flynt

- See Page 9



### Growing race and gender wealth gaps

- See Page 11



### Sister Tarpley: A Tribute to Godly Mothers

- See Page 14

### Inside...

- People in the News .... 2
- Op/Ed ..... 3
- Health ..... 4
- Community ..... 5
- Education ..... 6
- Feature ..... 7-8
- Entertainment ..... 9-10
- Marketplace ..... 12-13
- Religion ..... 14-15
- NDG Book Review.... 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 ...



Rev. Dr. Cecil 'Chip' Murray



V.P. Kamala Harris

*NDG Quote of the Week:* "We should emphasize not Negro History, but the Negro in history. What we need is not a history of selected races or nations, but the history of the world void of national bias, race hate, and religious prejudice."

- Carter Woodson

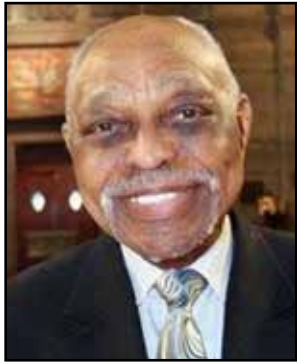
## Rev. Dr. Cecil ‘Chip’ Murray

By John Hope Bryant

How do you salute a man who walked amongst the angels? You start by making sure that history accurately reflects his name. This is my modest contribution to the telling of his vital history and legacy.

Rev. Dr. Cecil ‘Chip’ Murray changed my life. Life, literally.

He was more than a mentor or a supporter or a good friend to a ‘young man coming up.’ He was in every way — particularly during my young evolving



years as a young man in the making — my spiritual father.

Rev. Murray and I met originally through my brother and friend Mark Whitlock, whose now Rev.

Mark Whitlock, who leads one of the three largest AME churches in the nation — Reid Temple AME Church in Maryland. Back then, he was an executive in the making, first at a property title company, and then a banker at Wells Fargo. But what Mark nor I knew then was Rev. Murray had already decided, in his spirit, that our lives would both be transformed into a life’s calling.

Very seldom do you meet someone that you believe is ‘other worldly.’ Someone that you genuinely believe, walks their talk, and might even qualify as a saint, on

this earth. A true prophet from on high, representing God almighty right here on earth. That there is one Rev. Dr. Cecil ‘Chip’ Murray.

It is impossible to communicate in an Op Ed the power and transformational impact that this man had on my life, but I will try, by telling you a couple intimate stories about Dr. Murray.

When I first showed up at the church, the Rodney King Riots of 1992 had engulfed the city, and everyone seemed to be sitting in Rev. Murray’s office.

This included the governor (the Republican Pete Wilson), the mayor (the legendary democrat Mayor Tom Bradley, also an early mentor of mine), civil rights leader Rev. Jesse Jackson, the Catholic bishop, the Jewish Rabbi, the Muslim Imam and every other whose-who from the city had crammed into this one man’s office — all seeking his approval and wise counsel.

As a young man of 26, who Rev. Murray had reluctantly agreed to mentor, I was invited to come in and take a seat, even though I had zero role nor

power nor responsibility.

One might say, I was actually in the way. But Rev. Murray saw something in me, and invited me in to take quiet seat in the corner when I showed up at his office, looking for a way to help following the citywide unrest. It was after and in many ways because of this meeting, that I ultimately founded Operation HOPE.

Rev. Murray told me to take my business skills (and my high contacts in local finance) and put them to work ‘rebuilding our community.’ Within the

See MURRAY, Page 11

## V.P. Kamala Harris

Vice President Kamala Harris has announced a nationwide Economic Opportunity Tour to spotlight the Biden-Harris Administration’s efforts to foster economic growth, build wealth, and ensure American prosperity.

The tour, which began with a moderated conversation in Atlanta on April 29, will see the Vice President visiting several states to emphasize the administration’s commitment to creating an economy where every person can thrive. A subsequent event is scheduled for Detroit, with more



dates and locations to be announced soon.

“President Biden and I are committed to creating an economy in which every person has the freedom to thrive,” Harris stated. “Our economic approach has delivered great prog-

ress, and we will continue to invest in you, your family, and your future.”

During the tour, Harris plans to highlight the administration’s historic investments that have supported communities and individuals. According to a White House Fact Sheet, these include unprecedented investments in small businesses, the fastest creation of Black-owned small businesses in over 30 years, record job creation, increased access to capital for underserved communities, and significant healthcare reforms such as cutting insulin prices and erasing medical debt.

The vice president will also discuss the administration’s efforts in education, affordable housing, childcare, and boosting the wealth of American families. She will describe additional measures the Biden-Harris Administration takes to build on this work.

The White House said administration officials, members of Congress, local leaders, and others will join Harris on the tour.

Officials said the tour builds on Harris’ extensive travel to communities nationwide. Since the beginning of 2024, she has made more than 35 trips to 16

states, engaging with small business owners and entrepreneurs in underserved communities to discuss challenges and opportunities.

Earlier this year, Harris announced \$32 million in funds to support

See HARRIS, Page 14

## Rev. William J. Barber, II

Bishop William J. Barber II, president and senior lecturer of Repairers of the Breach and co-chair of the Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival, alongside Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis, co-chair of the Poor People’s Campaign, led a press conference on Monday at the National Press Club to unveil plans for the “Mass Poor People’s and Low-Wage Workers’ Assembly and Moral March on Washington, D.C.: A Call to the Polls and to Vote.”

Scheduled for June 29th, the assembly aims to commence four months of outreach efforts targeting 15 million poor and low-wage infrequent voters nation-



wide. According to the study “Waking the Sleeping Giant: Poor and Low-Income Voters in the 2020 Elections,” approximately 85 million eligible voters in the United States are classified as poor or low wage, constituting at least 30% of the electorate. In battleground states, the percent-

age climbs to over 40%.

“This is movement time,” declared Bishop Barber. “We are here this morning to mobilize the power of over 33 million infrequent voters, poor and low wage, to demand attention to their concerns in the political arena.”

Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis echoed this sentiment. “Our goal is to center the desires and political agenda of those who are often left out of the conversation,” Theoharis stated.

The coalition, comprising representatives from over thirty state coordinating committees, religious organizations, labor unions, and advocacy groups, seeks to

See BARBER, Page 5



Visit Our Website

www.northdallasgazette.com

**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

**Production**

David Wilfong

**Published by**

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

**Special Projects to the Publisher**

Clinique Hill

**Contributing Writers**

Jackie Hardy  
Lori Lee  
Terri Schlichenmeyer



**Publisher's Office:**

[publisher@northdallasgazette.com](mailto:publisher@northdallasgazette.com)

**Sales Department:**

[marketing@northdallasgazette.com](mailto:marketing@northdallasgazette.com)

**THANK YOU!**  
from North Dallas Gazette!

Thank you for choosing our newspaper today. The North Dallas Gazette is formerly the Minority Opportunity News, Inc. founded in 1991 and continues to this day to deliver hard-hitting coverage that is in the best interest of the minority community. We have worked extremely hard to earn your respect and we are respectfully asking you to please consider "liking" us online. Feel free to weigh in on the things you believe we are doing well and share how we might improve our coverage.

Have a wonderful day!  
Thurman R. Jones, Publisher  
North Dallas Gazette

Most Respected Voice of the Dallas Minority Community

**Editorial Department:**

[editor@northdallasgazette.com](mailto:editor@northdallasgazette.com)



**SUBSCRIBE:**

- Library of Interviews
- Community Leaders
- Arts, Entertainment

To subscribe to NDG's Video Channel scan the QR code at right...



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.

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

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

# Wake up Black voters. Don't let Trump's lies fool you

By Donald M Suggs  
Word in Black  
St. Louis American

The fact that exit polls showed that Donald Trump received 9% of the Black vote in 2016, the highest number since George Bush in 2000, and then won 12% in the presidential race in 2020 should be a cause for concern.

Moreover, some recent polls surprisingly showed that if the presidential election was held today, 17% of Black voters say they would vote for Trump, and even more troubling, 20% say they would vote for someone other than either Trump or President Biden.

Black voters have been the largest and most loyal voting bloc for Democrats for years, but there has been a shift in the number of Black voters who consider themselves Democrats.

That trend could be explained partially by a number of younger Black voters with no direct experience with the civil rights movement. They have scant knowledge and no direct personal memory. They feel disappointed with Democrats and the Biden

administration and seem willing to consider Trump despite his blatant and toxic racial baggage.

This disconnection with the Democratic party is felt most strongly with some young Black males, many in critical battleground states like Michigan, Wisconsin, Georgia, Arizona, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina where Democrats need every vote. Most of these states have large concentrations of Black voters in their urban areas. This is a special issue in potentially close races like this one because the Electoral College gives Republicans a massive advantage in federal elections. This system allows them to govern with a minority of the popular vote.

However, there is also data that shows that the Democratic candidate for president over the last five presidential elections since 2000 has averaged 90% of the Black vote with an average of only 8% for the GOP candidate. In addition, the overwhelming concern of most Black voters continues to be race and racism with a particular aversion to the reprehensi-

ble and duplicitous Trump who has shown repeatedly that he is an instigator of racial hate. Any relationship he has with Black voters has been deceptive and disingenuous.

Fortunately, the overwhelming majority of Black voters cannot be bamboozled or deceived because we know the record of his stance on healthcare with his recent attacks on Obamacare, opposition to greater diversity in the workplace and efforts to restrict our voting rights as well as his racist, conspiracist "birther campaign" that sought to undermine the then-president, Barack Obama.

Still, we can't simply ignore the reports that Trump is possibly making inroads with Black voters while Biden is losing support from us. Granted polls have been shown not to be reliable predictors of what Black voters will do. Actually, our biggest worry should probably be third-party voting (third party presidential candidates have no chance of winning. This is a binary election and only a Democrat or Republican can win)

and potential voter apathy, despite the high stakes in this contest to determine whether Donald Trump is elected again.

Clay Cane, a Sirius XM radio host rightly said that the 2024 presidential election is not just a choice between the lesser of two evils, but this is an election to see if we can stop Trump and his pernicious plans to institute a future dictatorship to carry out his vile policies. A Trump victory would be a grave threat to the well-being of Black Americans for certain.

In any case, the Democratic party must recognize the seriousness of the disenchantment of many Black voters who don't feel motivated to make it to the polls and campaign more directly and intentionally in our community.

Furthermore, we ourselves must make an unprecedented and determined push to get to the polls in greater numbers to help stop this monstrous man and his MAGA minions from regaining control of the White House.

Donald M Suggs is the publisher and owner of The St. Louis American.

# What do kindergarten teachers mean by 'Ready for School?'

By Kristen J. Amundson

At this time of year, many preschool parents are worrying about whether their child will be ready for kindergarten. What are the things their child should learn? Do they need to make alphabet flash cards? Invest in worksheets so kids can practice math. I talked with kindergarten teachers to find out what they think

kids need to know to be kindergarten-ready. You may be surprised: Readiness for school, teachers say, does not mean that your child will have mastered all the kindergarten skills on Day One. Instead, it means that your child will take pleasure in learning how to do things on their own.

One kindergarten teacher said to me, "I can teach kids their ABCs. I can't teach

them—at least not very efficiently—to help them get along with others and to understand that they aren't going to get their own way all the time in school." If you always do things for your child, and always tell them what to do, they will not be able to make their own decisions and learn how to be independent. One good rule of thumb for parents of toddlers: whenever pos-

sible, avoid doing things for your child that they can do on their own.

Kindergarteners are expected to take responsibility for their belongings. They put their lunch box in the right place. They hang up their coat. During the day, they use the restroom and wash their hands by themselves. In the cafeteria,

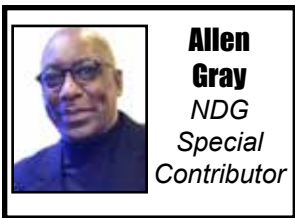
See READY, Page 6

Keep up with the news

O N L I N E

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

# Disparate Births: Racial imbalance in IVF treatment



**Allen Gray**  
NDG  
Special  
Contributor



There is no racism when it comes to in vitro fertilization (IVF), per se. But when you take into consideration everything all together, all at once you will find that there is a grave racial disparity in the number of white IVF babies compared to number of Black IVF babies.

Since 1978, when the first successful IVF cycle was performed, the number of American families who have taken advantage of fertilization technology number in the millions. Yet, in 2024 there is an enormous difference drawn upon racial lines in the number of mothers who have full access to reproductive medicine. And for the Black and Hispanic mothers who do gain access, there remains a gap in the number of successful IVF live births.

Data collected by the Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology Clinical Outcomes Reporting System (SART CORS) for the years 1999 and 2000, showed that the live-birth rate for white women is 26.3%, which far outpaced the live-birth rate for Black women who had successful IVF cycles of only 18.7%. The study concluded that being Black was an independent risk factor for not achieving a live birth. A subsequent data analysis performed from 2004 to 2006 showed that things have not changed much. Numerous other studies produced comparable results.

Because of such findings, the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) was moved to do something about those racial inequities. The ASRM then analyzed SART CORS data from 2014 to 2016. Of the 122,721 IVF cycles available for study, on

13,717 were from Black women. White women, on the other hand, accounted for 109,004 of the cycles studied. It should come as no shock that Black women also had a lower livebirth rate than white women.

Now couple all these data findings with the U.S Census finding out that white deathrates are rising much faster than white birthrates, and give that some thought...

No. There is no known Great White Breeding Conspiracy where white folk are subduing the birthrate of Black and Hispanics. Data on U.S. birthrates shows that quite the opposite has been happening. In recent years, people of color have been as fruitful as ever, if not more fruitful.

In 2022 for instance, a US Census fertility rate analysis showed that for every 1,000 Native Hawaiian women an estimated 64 children would be born. That is the highest fertility rate for all races. The fertility rate for white women, on the other hand, was hovering next to last with only 51 children per 1,000 women. The fertility rate for Black women were somewhere in the middle with 53 births per 1,000 women.

Fertility rates, however, should never be confused with birthrates. Whereas, a birthrate is an accounting of live births, a fertility rate is merely an estimate of the number of children who might be born to a woman of childbearing years—ages 15 to 44 years old. Know, too, that the fertility rates for industrialized nations (like America) always run lower than less industri-

alized nations.

The offset for this fertility shortfall comes with a high price tag.

Depending on the fertility clinic, IVF care can cost as much as \$30,000. Also realize that miscarriages are to be expected with the IVF process, so costs can easily be doubled or even tripled.

This disparity in IVF numbers is not due to a selective process that is barring Black babies from being created. The lopsided numbers are due to the greatest and most effective segregationist tool of them all—finance.

There are only two ways to pay for IVF treatment. The most obvious is to pay cold-hard cash. (If you do not have the cash, you might charge it on a credit card, or take a home equity loan, or attempt to get an IVF grant.) The only other way to cover the costs is with insurance coverage.

Yes. There is insurance available, but not for everyone and not in every state.

In September 2023, the National Infertility Association reported that 21 states along with DC passed fertility insurance coverage laws. Laws that include IVF coverage were present in 15 of those state mandates, and fertility preservation coverage was included for families that experience a medically induced (iatrogenic) infertility. At least 16 of those 21 states have some form of mandated coverage, Texas is one of those states.

In Texas, a single IVF cycle will cost approximately \$10,600, plus any additional costs that normally begin

at around \$6,600. It is most probable that there could be several cycles before a couple achieves a successful pregnancy and live birth. Typically, insurance coverage for IVF treatment is usually limited to three cycles per lifetime. Coverage in Texas requires a qualifying patient couple to have an infertility history of at least 5 years; or the couple must have a specified medical condition resulting in infertility.

An advocate for IVF procedures will tell you that IVF replicates the natural childbirth process. But when you consider all a woman must endure you will find that there is nothing natural about it.

To start, a woman undergoing the IVF process is injected with gonadotropins (synthetic hormones), so her ovaries are stimulated to produce multiple eggs.

The eggs are then retrieved by a physician so they can be delivered to an embryologist who inseminates the eggs with the patient's choice of sperm. Now, the patient must wait a few days for the embryos to develop.

About five days later, the embryos are transferred into the woman's uterus occurs; or her spare embryos might be frozen for later implantation.

Then it is a waiting game to see if a viable pregnancy occurs. If the attempt to impregnant fails—or in the case of an ensuing miscarriage—the woman must repeat the cycle from the start.

When IVF was created, it was designed for women with damaged or blocked tubes that prevented the sperm from meeting the egg. Now, with the advancement of technology

and more successful pregnancies, IVF treatment has been made available to women with other contributing infertility factors.

Prospective parents who are good candidates for IVF treatment can now be those whose doctor has diagnosed them with: blocked fallopian tubes, low sperm count, severe endometriosis, or any other unexplained infertility issue.

Despite technological advancements, IVF treatment is still a haphazard endeavor. The participating clinicians can, however, provide a patient with statistics based on a couple's age, ovarian reserve, the sperm quality of a partner or donor, and other relevant medical factors.

Still, a hopeful parent must accept that miscarriages are part of the IVF

See IVF, Page 13

## Celebrating

### — 25 YEARS —

*of bringing women together*

**Grace Project National Conference for Women Living with HIV**

Legacy Cares announces the 25th anniversary of what is now the largest conference for women living with HIV/AIDS in the nation. This year the Grace Project National Conference for Women Living with HIV/AIDS will host nearly 200 women living with HIV from North Texas and nationwide. The event is designed to bring formerly isolated women living with an HIV diagnosis together. Our goal is to SEE (Support, Educate and Empower) each woman and create future advocates for HIV prevention, health education and awareness.

**Will you partner with us?**

**Donate** to the Grace Project Conference and help cover the cost of conference fees and/or a plenary meal.



**Donate** healthy snacks for conference attendees who may need to take their medications with food.



**Donate** items to the conference arts and crafts lounge where women get to explore with creative relaxation activities.



**May 17-19, 2024**  
Westin Dallas Park Central  
127820 Merit Dr. Dallas, TX

[legacygraceproject.org](http://legacygraceproject.org)  
[iamredproject.org/graceprojectconference](http://iamredproject.org/graceprojectconference)







# Medgar Evers, Rep. Clyburn, among 19 given Presidential Medal of Freedom

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National  
Correspondent

President Joe Biden will award 19 individuals the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor. Civil rights icon Medgar Wiley Evers and South Carolina Democratic Rep. James Clyburn lead the list of recipients whose legacy of bravery and activism inspires generations.

Evers, born in 1925 in Decatur, Mississippi, is remembered for his unwavering dedication to the civil rights movement despite facing relentless racism and threats to his life. His childhood was marked by the pervasive specter of racism, with incidents like the lynching of a family friend serving as stark reminders of the injustice prevalent in the community. Determined to make a difference, Evers enlisted in the Army during World War II, serv-



*The Presidential Medal of Freedom is the highest civilian honor that the President can bestow. The recipients "are the pinnacle of leadership in their fields," the White House said in the statement. (Photo: United States Senate)*

ing with distinction in a segregated field battalion in England and France.

After returning, Evers earned a Bachelor of Arts from Alcorn College, where he met Myrlie Beasley, whom he married in 1951. He embarked on a career in activism, joining the NAACP and organizing boycotts and protests to combat segregation and discrimination. His efforts

caught the attention of the NAACP national leadership, leading to his appointment as Mississippi's first field secretary for the organization.

Evers also organized boycotts and advocated for the admission of African American students to the University of Mississippi. Despite facing constant threats and violence, Evers remained steadfast in his

commitment to the cause of equality. A white supremacist assassinated Evers on June 12, 1963, outside his home, sparking outrage and galvanizing the civil rights movement.

Clyburn, a stalwart figure in American politics known as the "Kingmaker," has dedicated his life to public service and advocacy. Representing South Carolina's 6th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives, Clyburn has served since 1993, making history as the first African American to hold multiple terms as Majority Whip. A South Carolina State University graduate, he began his career as a public school teacher in Charleston before assuming roles as an employment counselor and director of youth and community development programs.

Clyburn's foray into state government, serving as South Carolina Human Affairs Commis-

sioner, marked a significant milestone in his career, becoming the first African American advisor to a South Carolina governor. His transition to federal politics in 1993 heralded a new chapter of leadership, becoming chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus and Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus.

Clyburn has earned numerous accolades and honors, including the prestigious Spingarn Medal from the NAACP. His pivotal endorsement of Joe Biden in the 2020 presidential race is widely credited with shaping the course of the election, propelling Biden to victory in crucial primaries and ultimately to the presidency.

"The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) joins all Americans today to salute all of the Presidential Medal of Freedom Award recipients at the White House," NNPA President and CEO

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., stated. "The Biden-Harris administration continues to lead America forward toward freedom, justice, and equality for all. The NNPA takes special note and salute Congressman Clyburn and Medgar Evers for their outstanding and transformative courage and leadership in the ongoing freedom movement for civil and human rights. The Black Press of America extends heartfelt congratulations to Clyburn, Evers, and all who are being honored today."

"There is nothing beyond our capacity when we act together," Biden insisted. "These nineteen Americans built teams, coalitions, movements, organizations, and businesses that shaped America for the better. They are the pinnacle of leadership in their fields. They consistently demonstrated over their careers the power of community, hard work, and service."

## BARBER, from Page 2

mobilize the substantial voting bloc to demand political candidates' endorsement of a moral agenda addressing the poverty and low-wealth crisis, which claims 295,000 lives annually.

"Poor and low-wage voters are saying in this season that if you want these votes, talk to poor and low-wage folks," said Bishop Barber.

Rev. Mark Thompson, who also works for the National Newspaper Publishers Association, was among the many coalition members who addressed the issues during the news conference, which aired live on C-Span and at BlackPressUSA.com.

Thompson highlighted the interconnectedness of

poverty with various social issues. "Wherever there is a lack of health care and voting rights, LGBT rights and immigrant rights, there is an abundance of poverty," he asserted. "Wherever there is a lack of jobs and labor unions and sensible gun laws in women's bodily autonomy, there is an abundance of poverty."

He continued:

"Wherever there is a lack of racial justice and legal rights, criminal justice reform, access to adequate legal representation, an alternative to incarceration and police reform, wherever those things are in lack, there is an abundance of poverty. Wherever there is a lack of

what is now under attack, diversity, equity, and inclusion, affirmative action, investment in education, a lack of educational opportunities, there is an abundance of poverty. Wherever there is lack of religious tolerance, racial harmony, and beloved community, there is an abundance of poverty."

The event's organizers emphasized their commitment to empowering impoverished and low-wage individuals, aiming to amplify their voices in the political discourse. Rev. Thompson concluded, "I contend we do not need to ask permission to finish Dr. King's work. He did not retire. It is our duty to pick up his baton and move forward. They always talk about the

people who don't want to vote. They never talk about the impoverished and low-wage individuals. We want to lift them and bring them forth. If we address these issues, we will address all these others."

As the nation gears up for the 2024 elections, Bishop Barber, the Poor People's Campaign, and its allies assert that they are poised to make their presence felt, advocating for policies that address the systemic issues

perpetuating poverty and economic inequality across the country.

"We want to lift them up and bring them forth. If we address these issues, we will address all these others," Thompson insisted.

## PROTESTS, from Page 1

"There should be no place on any campus, no place in America for antisemitism or threats of violence against Jewish students,"

he affirmed. "It's simply wrong. There is no place for racism in America. It's all wrong. It's un-American."

Biden remained firm in

responding to questions about potential policy shifts or the deployment of the National Guard considering the protests. "No," he stated unequivocally to both inquiries.

## 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!

## Paul Quinn grads are flying high after special gift from Southwest Airlines

By David Wilfong  
NDG Contributing Writer

Paul Quinn College, the Dallas-based HBCU located just off IH-45 in the southern sector, held its graduation ceremony in the school chapel on Saturday morning. Family and friends gathered to congratulate the 76 undergraduate – and one master’s degree – recipients on the successful completion of a long-awaited goal.

The excitement of the occasion was amplified toward the end of the ceremony as the graduates were told to check beneath their chairs, where each one found an envelope with two free round-trip airfare tickets to anywhere Southwest Airlines flies.

It was an added “well done” from one of the school’s closest corporate partners.

Paul Quinn College (PQC) was the creator of



*Graduates from Paul Quinn College had more than just the satisfaction of earning their degrees on Saturday. Each graduate was also presented with free round-trip airfare to any Southwest Airlines destination. (NDG photos by David Wilfong)*

the Urban Work College model and is the only minority-serving, federally

recognized work college in America. In the Fall of 2022, PQC established a

work-study relationship with Southwest Airlines, which is also the official airline of the Dallas HBCU. The program includes dedicated, paid internships specifically for students at the college along with ongoing

educational and workforce development opportunities. Paul Quinn’s Corporate Work Program allows students to significantly lower student loan costs, with students graduating with less than \$10,000 in student loan debt.

Graduating senior Curtis Ferguson is the first student intern to accept a full-time position at Southwest following his participation in the Corporate Work Program. He is the first intern to go through Southwest’s program with PQC and

“I was an intern for four months, from about August to November” Ferguson said following graduation. “As soon as I walked into the (Network Operations Center) and I saw the different lights, I said, ‘Oh, they’re doing the game a little different!’ So just seeing how differently they operate and how much they care about their cohorts. I knew I wanted to be there.”

The students were presented with their tickets by Laura Nieto, managing director of Corporate Responsibility For Southwest Airlines, who noted that the partnership with PQC and the internship program represented an investment in human capital.

“The hope is that eventually they have a love for aviation and fall in love with our company and maybe someday have a career with us,” Nieto said. “We are lucky to have Curtis as right after his internship we hired him full time to be an associate crew scheduler.”

PQC President Michael J. Sorrell Ed.D. also presented two honorary degrees during the commencement. Charles M. Ginsburg M.D. of UT Southwestern and Congresswoman Jasmine Crockett both received Doctorate of Humane Letters honors for their contributions to PQC.

## U.S. Department of Education acts to ease FAFSA woes amidst rising concerns

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

With escalating concerns surrounding the tumultuous rollout of the new Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the U.S. Department of Education has announced an initiative to provide much-needed support to students

and families navigating the complex financial aid landscape.

“We are determined to close the FAFSA completion gap,” declared U.S. Deputy Secretary of Education Cindy Marten. The initiative comes against the backdrop of frustration and uncertainty among applicants, as technical glitches and bureaucratic

hurdles have plagued the application process, leaving many students in limbo.

The U.S. Department of Education’s multi-million-dollar investment in the FAFSA Student Support Strategy is a testament to its proactive approach. The strategy aims to boost completion rates and empower various organiza-

tions, which would now be equipped to expand advisory services and extend support hours, including evenings, weekends, and summer weeks, making them feel valued and integral to the process.

Additionally, the initiative would facilitate submission clinics and enhance communication channels, providing vital

assistance to applicants and their families, particularly those from marginalized communities. “The funding we’re announcing today will support states, districts, and community-based groups to ensure that every student who needs help paying for college turns in their FAFSA form,” Marten affirmed.

The Department’s ef-

forts come at a critical juncture, as students across the country grapple with the repercussions of delayed aid packages and uncertainty surrounding college decisions. Kenneth Seinshin, a 17-year-old from New York City, recounted his arduous journey through the FAF-

**See FAFSA, Page 14**

### READY, from Page 3

children must put the straw in their juice box or open the milk carton. They must get the foil on top of the applesauce. “The whole first month in the cafeteria, we’re helping children learn to open things,” one teacher said. “They’re always surprised that ketchup packages have a little line that shows you where to tear to get the ketchup out.”

So, teach your child how to do those things before the first day of school.

Let your toddler eat (and accept that mealtime will be messy and s-l-o-w, at least at first). Let young children choose what they want to wear—and relax if they choose to wear the polka-dot shirt with the checked pants. Encourage them to use the crayons they want

to use in their coloring book and do not be surprised if you see a purple horse or a red elephant.

Follow the rule that teachers use when they are teaching a new skill:

First, I do.

Then we do.

Then you do.

Whether it’s shoe tying or making a sandwich, start by showing your child what to do. Then practice the same skill together, working side

by side. Finally, let your child do it alone, first while you watch and then independently. And let me just say one word here about shoes—the bane of every kindergarten teacher. Shoelaces do not stay tied. “They drag on the floor. They drag across the restroom floor. They go into kids’ mouths,” a kindergarten teacher told me. “They need my help retying them. If I have 25 students, that’s 50 feet. And

at 30 seconds per shoe tie, that’s 25 minutes a day I’m not teaching them letters or numbers or how to get along with others,” she said. That doesn’t mean children have to be able to tie their shoes before they start kindergarten. “Just put them in different shoes,” the teacher wisely advised. And really, just reread that part about shoelaces that have dragged on the kindergarten restroom floor ending up in the

child’s mouth. You’ll probably keep your kid in Velcro shoes until they’re 20.

*Kristen J. Amundson is a former teacher, school board chair, state legislator, and CEO of a national education organization. This column is excerpted from her book 81 Questions for Parents: Helping Your Kids Succeed in School, published by Rowman & Littlefield. It is also available on Amazon.*



### Check us out on Facebook!

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



# Civil rights attorney Ben Crump leads class action against Geico, alleging discriminatory practices

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National  
Correspondent

On Tuesday, May 7, plaintiffs in a sizable class action lawsuit against insurance giant Geico joined prominent civil rights attorney Ben Crump at a press conference in the nation's capital. The lawsuit, alleging contractual breaches regarding policy renewal commissions and accusations of unjust enrichment, represents a coalition of minority business owners formerly associated with



*The lawsuit, alleging contractual breaches regarding policy renewal commissions and accusations of unjust enrichment, represents a coalition of minority business owners formerly associated with the company. (Photo via NNPA)*

the company.

At the heart of the allegations is the contention that Geico, a subsidiary

of Berkshire Hathaway, systematically deprived minority Geico Field Representatives (GFRs) of

critical business opportunities through what Crump termed as "unfair and unlawful" practices.

"It is important to note that Geico had quality reports that detailed Geico field representative's metrics. These reports were downright discriminatory for the Hispanics, and Asians who worked for Geico," Crump declared, noting that the names of the reports were themselves steeped in racial bias. "Geico, you are better than this."

The news conference

spotlighted several key revelations:

- Disproportionate Termination: In an unprecedented move in March 2023, Geico terminated agents across the United States, with a staggering 67% of those affected being minorities.

- Exploitation of GFRs' Labor: Plaintiffs assert that Geico reaped the rewards of GFRs' hard work, retaining commissions generated from the business portfolios they painstakingly built. Moreover, Geico's purported control over various as-

pects of GFRs' operations allegedly left many questioning their professional futures post-termination.

- Representative Testimonies: Present at the conference were four terminated GFRs, all from minority backgrounds:

- Steve Ching, a Navy veteran of Asian descent, was the sole minority GFR in the Pacific Northwest, operating in Portland, Oregon.

- Kim Dao, a Vietnamese woman, saw her Atlan-

**See CRUMP, Page 12**



U.S. CONGRESSMAN  
**COLIN ALLRED**  
REPRESENTING THE 32ND DISTRICT OF TEXAS

**HAVE AN ISSUE WITH A FEDERAL AGENCY?  
GET HELP WITH:**

VA

PASSPORTS

POSTAL SERVICE

IRS

MEDICARE

SOCIAL SECURITY

**ALLRED.HOUSE.GOV**

**(972) 972-7949**

# 'Hell's Kitchen' – A thrilling musical journey through Alicia Keys' soul

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National  
Correspondent

In the heart of Manhattan, blocks from the 43rd Street and Ninth Avenue apartment on the 42nd floor where the story unfolds lies the Shubert Theater at 44th Street near Eighth Avenue, currently home to the captivating Broadway musical, "Hell's Kitchen." Developed over 12 years by the incomparable Alicia Keys, this jukebox musical is a touching journey through the soulful melodies that have defined her career.

At a recent midweek and matinee performance, attended by Keys' own mother, "Hell's Kitchen" was not just palpable, but electrifying. From the moment the lights dimmed to the final bow, the exceptional performances and the energy of the show were evident, even as Keys' mother, Terria Joseph, could



The musical left little doubt as to why, in bustling New York, in the middle of the week, a sold-out crowd poured into the Shubert Theater. It also provided many clues as to why this production has earned an impressive 13 Tony Award nominations. (Photo via NNPA)

be heard enthusiastically cheering, laughing, and singing along throughout the performance. The musical left little doubt as to why, in bustling New York, in the middle of the week, a sold-out crowd poured into the Shubert Theater. It also provided many clues as to why this production has earned an impressive 13 Tony Award nominations.

The narrative delves deep

into the tumultuous relationship between 17-year-old Ali (the main character based on Keys), portrayed with profound depth and charisma by Gianna Harris (filling in for Tony-nominated lead actress Maleah Joi Moon), and her fiercely protective mother, Jersey, in an absolute powerhouse performance by Shoshana Bean. Set against the backdrop of late 1990s Times

Square area, Ali's quest for independence and love clashes with Jersey's fears and desires for her daughter's safety, all of which creates a story that likely resonates with the audience's own experiences.

Harris shines in her portrayal of Ali, seamlessly weaving Keys' iconic hits such as "Girl on Fire" and "Fallin'" into the fabric of her character's journey.

Opposite her, Bean delivers a tour de force performance, capturing the raw emotion and maternal love that drive Jersey's actions.

The supporting cast, including Brandon Victor Dixon as Ali's father, Davis, and Kecia Lewis as the amazing Miss Liza Jane, Ali's spiritual mentor, further elevating the production. Lewis's rendition of "Authors of Forever" is exceptionally breathtaking, showcasing her remarkable vocal range and depth of emotion.

While "Hell's Kitchen" may not be a strict retelling of Keys' life story – it ostensibly covers just her life as a 17-year-old, it offers a glimpse into a pivotal moment in her adolescence. Kristoffer Diaz's expertly crafted book ensures that the focus remained on Ali and her journey toward self-discovery, creating a narrative that sticks with audiences long after the fi-

nal curtain falls.

With its electrifying performances and soul-stirring music, "Hell's Kitchen" is a testament to Alicia Keys' enduring legacy as a musical icon. It proved more than just a Broadway production; it's a celebration of the power of music to inspire, uplift, and transform lives. It's also a gift from Keys to New York, celebrated in the closing with the heart-thumping sound, lyrics, and performance of Keys' hit with Jay-Z, "Empire State of Mind," with the cast alternately crooning, "Ooh, New York; Ooh, New York. Even if it ain't all it seems, I got a pocketful of dreams; Baby I'm from New York! Concrete jungle where dreams are made of There's nothing you can't do; Now you're in New York! These streets will make you feel brand new; Big lights will inspire you; Hear it for New York, New York, New York!"


**AVAILABLE NOW!**

## A NEW WAY TO PAY YOUR WATER BILLS

Dallas Water Utilities (DWU) customers can now use **DallasGo**, the new online payment platform for paying water bills and other City of Dallas bills.

**DallasGo** has replaced ePay to offer customers a more convenient bill paying experience.

For more information on **DallasGo**, visit [dallas.gov/DallasGo](http://dallas.gov/DallasGo). Customers who have additional questions or need assistance may send an email to [dallasgo@dallas.gov](mailto:dallasgo@dallas.gov) or call DWU Customer Service at 214-651-1441, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.



## \$SAVE THE CENTS\$

**Round up. Save. It's that simple.**





When you enroll in the Save the CENTS Service, we will round up the amount of each Mastercard® debit card purchase made by you or any debit cardholder on your Checking account so the next whole dollar amount in excess of the posted transaction amount and transfer the excess amount from your Checking Account to the dedicated Savings Account.

Visit  
[happybank.com/personal/savings/save-the-cents](http://happybank.com/personal/savings/save-the-cents)  
to learn more!

**HappyBank.com** A Home BancShares Company | Member FDIC

Your wireless carrier's data rates may apply. Happy State Bank, a division of Centennial Bank personal checking account, personal savings account and debit card\* required to enroll. Visit [happybank.com/personal/savings/save-the-cents](http://happybank.com/personal/savings/save-the-cents) for full details. \*Certain transaction fees, limitations and requirements may apply. Refer to product terms and conditions or see Bank for details. Replacement fees may apply. Must have Happy State checking account to receive debit card. See Bank for details.



# Kim Godwin's exit from ABC sparks debate on black leadership in TV news

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National  
Correspondent



Kim Godwin  
(Photo via NNPA)

Kim Godwin, a trailblazing figure as the president of ABC News and the first Black woman to lead a major network news division, has unexpectedly resigned, leaving a significant void in the ongoing struggle for diversity in media leadership.

Godwin's departure, a surprising turn of events, comes on the heels of Disney's recent appointment of a veteran executive to oversee ABC News, a move that effectively diminished her authority within the organization. Despite having recently extended her contract, Godwin's exit raised urgent questions about the representation of Black leaders in television news.

In an earlier statement, Godwin expressed optimism for the future, stating, "There is more work to be done. Now let's get to it." She did, however, emphasize the value of putting her family first in a memo to staff that the Wall Street Journal was able to obtain.

She described her departure as a challenging but necessary decision.

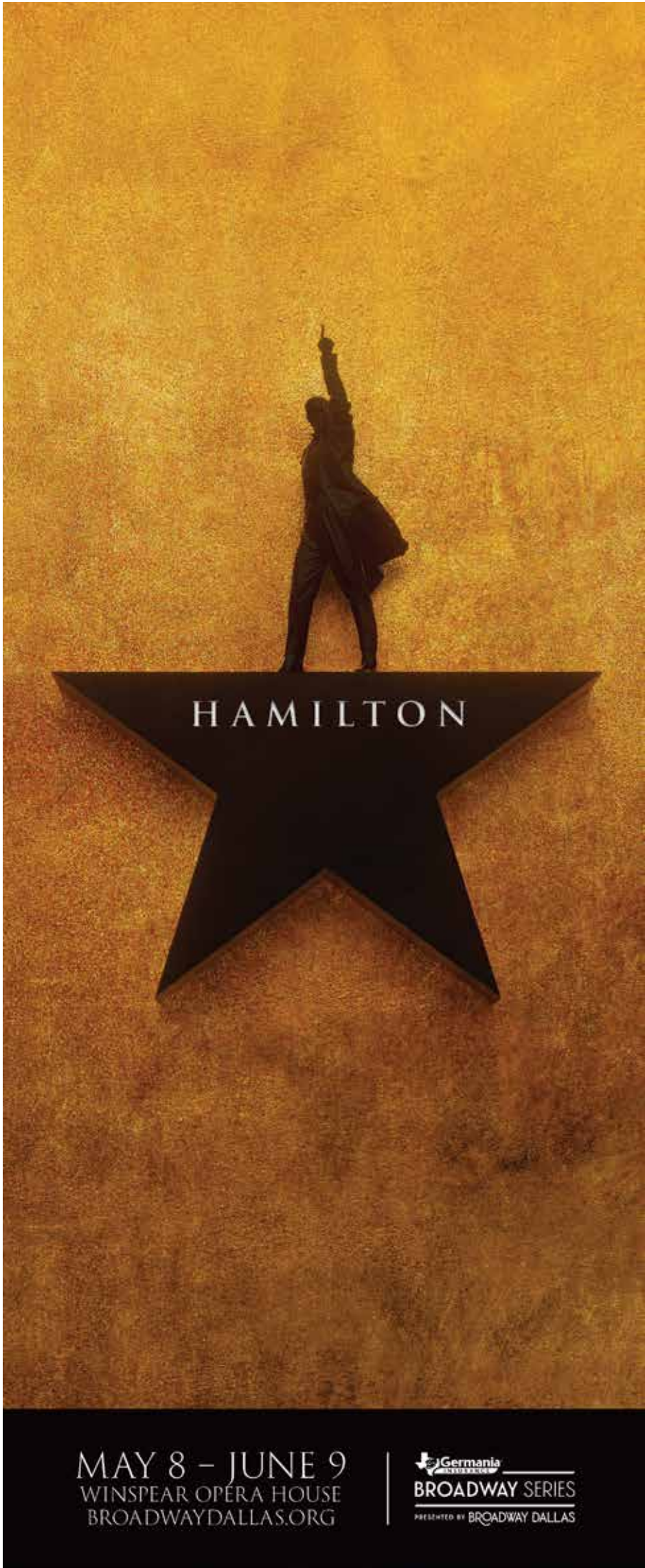
"Anyone who's passionate about what we do knows there's no other business like it, so this was not an easy or quick decision," Godwin wrote. "But after considerable reflection, I'm certain it's the right one for me as I look to the future and prioritize what's most important for me and my family."

Significant difficulties existed during Godwin's time at ABC News, including a notable incident involving two daytime television hosts and internal conflicts within the network. Despite these for-

midable obstacles, Debra O'Connell, the executive appointed above Godwin, acknowledged, and praised her substantial contributions to the network.

Godwin's journey in the media underscores broader discussions surrounding newsroom diversity and representation. Denetra Walker's 2022 dissertation, titled "Gatekeeping Blackness: Roles, Relationships, and Pressures of Black Television Journalists at a Time of Racial Reckoning," previously shed light on the challenges faced by Black journalists in achieving leadership positions within predominantly white news organizations.

Moreover, 2022 Pew Research study findings highlight the persistent lack of racial and ethnic diversity in newsrooms, particularly in management and leadership roles. The study revealed that most journalists feel their workplaces lack adequate diversity, indicating an urgent need for increased representation of Black leaders in television news.



**KIRK FRANKLIN**  
*presents*

**EXODUS**

MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL 2024

IRVING, TX  
HOSTED BY ISAAC CARREE

SATURDAY  
MAY 25

KIERRA SHEARD-KELLY NAOMI RAINE  
KORYN HAWTHORNE TODD GALBERTH  
TRANSFORMATION WORSHIP  
HULVEY

SUNDAY  
MAY 26

KIRK FRANKLIN FRED HAMMOND  
LE'ANDRIA JOHNSON DATRUTH  
ANTHONY BROWN MADISON RYANN WARD

THE PAVILION  
TOYOTA MUSIC FACTORY

EXODUSMUSICFEST.COM

CLUB LIVE NATION UN-1

MAY 8 - JUNE 9  
WINSPEAR OPERA HOUSE  
BROADWAYDALLAS.ORG

Germania  
BROADWAY SERIES  
PRESENTED BY BROADWAY DALLAS

# A decade after water crisis, art brings hope and healing to Flint

By Nadira Jamerson  
Word in Black

“Flint’s Still Fighting” is Word In Black’s series about the decade-long water crisis, and the resulting struggles and triumphs still transforming the majority-Black city.

When the water crisis hit Flint, Michigan, in 2014, residents were left with more than just contaminated pipes and brown, unsafe water flowing from their taps. The majority-Black city was also grappling with a profound lack of resources and opportunities. And as is so often the case in challenging times for the Black community, art became an outlet for expression, healing, and demanding accountability.

Ten years after the officials made the disastrous decision to switch Flint’s water supply from Detroit’s system to the Flint River to save money, Black artists are using their work to call for justice and document the city’s triumphs.

“Of course, there’s that feeling of dread because we still have a lot of dilapi-



*The Flint Public Art Project’s mission is to organize public events, workshops, permanent and temporary installations to inspire residents to reimagine the city, reclaim vacant and underutilized buildings and lots, and use innovative tools to steer Flint’s long range planning. (Photo: Explore Flint & Genesee – Flint Public Art Project)*

dated buildings and gray skies sometimes,” says Flint native Keyon Lovett, 34, a multi-disciplinary visual street artist, creatively known as The Art School Dropout. “But the hopeful thing is knowing on Friday that we have the Art Walk downtown. You can go to the Farmer’s Market and get some good food and see a show.”

Lovett didn’t plan to become an activist, but the water crisis changed the trajectory of his life. Around the time the crisis began, he left an arts program with Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan, which is located two hours west of

Flint near Grand Rapids. Lovett says he was unable to return home to Flint because the emergence of the water crisis meant there were few opportunities for artists in the city.

“I didn’t want to come home because the only work that would have possibly been available was working at UPS or General Motors, and my family already did that. I wasn’t trying to be the next lineage of Lovetts to be in the factory,” Lovett says.

Lovett stayed connected to what was happening in Flint through frequent trips home to visit friends and family — and what he saw began to show up in his art.

In 2018, Lovett debuted “Home Sweet Home” at ArtPrize, an open, independently organized international art competition in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The live installation and accompanying documentary highlighted the realities for Flint residents during the water crisis.

“The installation I did was of me living in a house that was condemned, but I’m living off of six stacks of bottled water,” Lovett explains. “As the viewers of ArtPrize come in, they see me cooking, washing, brushing my teeth, and people would offer water because they’d see the stacks getting low. I’d say, ‘No. If I run out, I run out, because that’s how it is at home.’ That’s how it was. At the water centers, there would be days they had donations, and there would be days they don’t. People were stealing donations. People were breaking water machines.”

In the face of confus-

ing news coverage and shame-dodging politicians who silenced many Flint residents, Lovett created the “Home Sweet Home” documentary that let Flint’s people speak the truth about the lack of access to safe and clean water.

“We filmed a short 10-minute documentary, and what I did was interview my family and friends and have them explain and share their stories on how the water crisis impacted the city, themselves, work, and everyday life,” Lovett says.

### 10 Years Later

A decade after the water crisis began, health implications from ingesting the unsafe water as well as financial burdens continue to plague residents. Lovett, who moved back to Flint in 2021, says that while there is much rebuilding left to do, the community is also beaming with progress and hope — and that is, in part, due to Black artists in the city.

“One of the reasons I moved back home is because of the renaissance of Black music, poetry, and art happening in Flint. A lot of Flint rappers, and singers, and artists are just being great. I wanted to come back home and be a part of that,” Lovett says.

In addition to his own work, Lovett says many other Flint organizations — from the Beats x Beers music tour, to Comma Bookstore & Social Club, and the creative co-op space Art At The Market — are using art to promote continued growth and healing.

Lovett and other artists in Flint follow in the footsteps of self-taught painter Clementine Hunter, who depicted plantation life through the 1800s, and renowned photographer Gordon Parks, who captured generations of movements for civil rights starting through the twentieth century. And as Octavia Butler said, “I

See ART, Page 12

## GARY CLARK JR.



WITH SPECIAL GUEST ABRAHAM ALEXANDER

**MAY 8**  
**WILL ROGERS AUDITORIUM**  
**FORT WORTH, TX**

**MAY 9**  
**MAJESTIC THEATRE**  
**DALLAS, TX**



NEW ALBUM JPEG RAW OUT NOW



LIVENATION

GARY CLARK JR.COM

Get tickets now at [livenation.com](http://livenation.com)

## DOING THE RIGHT THING

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

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

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION:

Friday, April 19 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Friday, May 3 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 25 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Friday, May 17 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

For more information or to register for this event, please visit [dallascasa.org](http://dallascasa.org)



DALLAS CASA  
Court Appointed Special Advocates

# Nation's growing racial and gender wealth gaps need policy reform

*Never-married Black women have 8 cents in wealth for every dollar held by white males*

By Charlene Crowell

As the November general election nears, many economic analysts have publicly pondered why so many likely voters are not impressed with reports that point to more hiring, or economic growth. But if these experts spoke with hard-working Americans, they'd understand why so many are disgruntled.

A wealth of new research spells out stark wealth and income disparities that reflect a far different economic dynamic: people who work full-time, but find it difficult to get ahead finan-

cially. Race and ethnicity remain nagging factors. But emerging gender and occupational trends play a large role as well.

A late March update of the St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank's ongoing research on wealth inequalities offers several eye-opening data points:

- Overall, women had only 68 cents in wealth for every dollar held by their male peers;

- When data was filtered by race/ethnicity, never-married Black women and never-married Hispanic women had 8 cents and 14 cents, respectively, of the

wealth of white males;

- Never-married Black women, never-married Hispanic women and never-married mothers of any race or ethnicity were the most financially stressed. They had very low levels of wealth to fall back on in an emergency, or to invest in financial stability and mobility; and

- Each of the never-married groups is in the bottom third of the wealth distribution for U.S. households.

But low racial and gender wealth is inextricably tied to income.

An Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR)

report highlighted the inequities in full-time workers' pay.

"Equal pay for equal work has been the law of the land for more than a half-century, yet women still cannot get fair treatment when it comes to employment and earnings," noted Jamila K. Taylor, IWPR President and CEO. "And it's worse for women of color, who face rampant racial discrimination in the workforce in addition to ongoing pay inequities."

The report, *The 2023 Weekly Wage Gap by Race, Ethnicity and Occupation*, explores how these three

factors are intertwined. In 2023 overall, according to IWPR, the wage gap for full-time workers by gender and ethnicity were factored

into the analysis, a substantial wage gap grew.

The median income of white men in 2023 in-

See GAPS, Page 13

## MURRAY, from Page 2

week, on May 5th, 1992, I organized the first Bankers Bus Tour through a still smoldering South Central Los Angeles. The result of this first tour was a commitment from the assembled bankers to fund the rebuilding of Handler's Pharmacy, a black owned pharmacy business located at Western Ave and 42nd Street.

That was the first commitment to 'rebuild' by anyone, and involved leaders from government, community and the private sector. It also focused on a quality that later became my strength and global calling card – outcomes and results. A focus on Ph.D and Ph.Do too. I ended up founding Operation HOPE in 1992, with a \$61,000 grant requested by then Democratic LA Mayor Tom Bradley to then Republican President George W. Bush. It was an SBA 7J grant, made on a bi-partisan basis. This also became a quality I would find useful for 30 years of 'getting stuff done.'

On the 10th anniversary of the Rodney King Riots – 22 years ago today, Rev. Murray and First AME Church partnered together to host then US President George W. Bush in South Central Los Angeles to sa-

lute the rebuilding, joined by 700 leaders from across the Southern California community, inclusive of both major political parties and all racial groups. Classic Cecil 'Chip' Murray.

Today, Operation HOPE is the largest financial literacy coaching, counseling and economic empowerment organization in the nation, with 300 full time HOPE Inside offices in 40+ states, and its partners have invested more than \$4.5 billion into our communities, raising credit scores, lowering debt, increasing savings, and creating minority home owners and small business owners. IMBB has inspired, created and grown more than 400,000 black businesses since 2020 alone, equal to more than 12% of all black businesses in America. This is the living legacy of Rev. Cecil Murray, which began in 1992.

But Rev. Murray also sparked and inspired something much closer to home. He inspired me, but he directly mobilized my brother and friend Rev. Whitlock to lead his newest church initiative back then – something he boldly called FAME Renaissance. Just some of the results of

FAME Renaissance and Dr. Murray's most trusted senior team, which featured (Rev.) Mark Whitlock, Rev. Dr. Steve Johnson and Peggy Hill, included 300 Jobs for teenagers at Disneyland, every year for 10 years! 3000 jobs, a Fame Renaissance loan fund, a Fame Renaissance venture Capital Fund, a Fame Renaissance Transportation Program transported 1,000 000 people annually, a Fame

Renaissance environmental protection program which saved 1.5 billion square acres of water, a Fame Renaissance Commercial Office Building of 75, 000 square feet, a Fame Incubator Program – which trained 1000 entrepreneurs and started 400 small business, a Fame Renaissance Home Loan Program which funded five hundred homes, a FAME Housing had affordable housing projects of 700 units with low to moderate tenants, encompassing seven buildings. And so much more.

Sometimes you run into someone in life, that changes your life, and the world we all live in too. That man, for me, at 26 years old — was The Reverend Dr. Cecil 'Chip' Murray.

And this one thing I know, and hope that you now understand this to be

true too – his powerful, one-of-a-kind legacy, lives.

*John Hope Bryant, founder, Operation HOPE, and spiritual son of Rev. Dr. Cecil 'Chip' Murray can be reached at [jhbhope@oerations.org](mailto:jhbhope@oerations.org)*



**JOIN US AT OUR  
SECOND ANNUAL JOB FAIR**

**May 14, 2024**  
9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Senter Park Recreation Center  
901 S. Senter Road

*The City of Irving may have the perfect job for you!*

- Variety of job opportunities currently available
- Competitive pay
- Excellent full-time employee benefits

The City of Irving does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, genetics, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression/reassignment, pregnancy or maternity, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws.



## Ed Bell Construction Company

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*

May 1, 2024

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)
- Pipelayer (Underground)
- Boom Mobile Crane (CDL)
- Concrete Finishers (Paving)
- Dozer Operator (Earthwork)
- Laborer (Paving, Earthwork)
- Loader Operator (Earthwork)
- Fuel Service Truck Driver (CDL)
- Concrete Paving Operator (Paving)
- Motor Grader Operator (Earthwork)
- CDL Drivers (Water Truck, End Dump)
- Barricade Servicer (Must have valid DL)

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)**

# AFL-CIO report exposes deepening racial disparities in workplace safety

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National  
Correspondent

The AFL-CIO, a coalition representing 12.5 million workers across various unions, has released its 33rd annual report, "Death on the Job: The Toll of Neglect," uncovering troubling racial disparities in workplace safety. The report's findings, based on the most recent data available, underscore the urgent need for policymakers, regulatory bodies, and employers

to confront the disproportionate rates of fatalities, injuries, and illnesses faced by workers of color.

According to the report, Black workers' job fatality rates have surged to the highest levels seen in nearly 15 years. Meanwhile, Latino workers continue to endure the most significant risk of death on the job compared to any other demographic group. In 2022, 734 Black workers lost their lives while on the job, a significant increase from the 543 deaths recorded

in 2003. Similarly alarming trends were observed among Latino workers, with the number of deaths rising from 794 in 2003 to 1,248 in 2022. Shockingly, 60% of those killed were immigrants.

"These alarming disparities in workplace fatalities among workers of color are unacceptable, symptomatic of deeply ingrained racial inequity and the need to pay increased attention to the dangerous industries that treat workers as disposable," remarked AFL-CIO

President Liz Shuler in a statement.

The revelations are particularly stark when compared to the racial breakdown of the American workforce. Recent data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that as of 2021, white workers comprised 77% of the U.S. workforce, while Latino workers accounted for 18%, and Black employees represented 13%. The proportions don't align with the rates of fatalities among workers of color.

"This report exposes an urgent crisis for workers of color and reaffirms what we've long known: When we talk about justice for workers, we must prioritize racial equity," the authors emphasized.

The report identified specific hazards and industries where workers of color are most vulnerable. For Black workers, fatalities often result from transportation accidents, homicides, or exposure to harmful substances or environments. Meanwhile, Latino work-

ers face significant risks in industries such as construction, agriculture, and manufacturing, where workplace hazards are prevalent.

The authors said urgent steps are needed to address the root causes of workplace fatalities, injuries, and illnesses, particularly those disproportionately affecting marginalized communities. They urged policymakers, employers, and stakeholders "to prioritize racial equity to improve workplace safety and health outcomes for all workers."

## CRUMP, from Page 7

ta, Georgia, office shuttered while those managed by white GFRs remained operational.

- Denise Buckley, a Latina based in Houston, Texas, was the only Spanish-speaking agent in a region with a significant Latino population.

- Kevin Ware, an African American with a decade-long tenure at Geico, managed the largest agency in the Midwest before its closure.

The lawsuit, initiated on November 7, 2023, in the United States District Court for the District of Mary-

land, alleges a litany of legal violations, including breach of contract, unjust enrichment, and misclassification.

After Geico's parent, Berkshire Hathaway's, recent annual shareholder meeting on May 4, 2024, scrutiny has intensified on the conglomerate's corporate governance. Crump

and the plaintiffs have galvanized attention toward what they see as Geico's

discriminatory treatment of minority GFRs, igniting a national conversation on

equity and accountability within the insurance industry.

## ART, from Page 10

began writing about power because I had so little."

"It's always important to have art that means something. Art that sheds a light and requires accountability," Lovett says. "Even with the blight in the city, finding ways to put up murals, finding ways to have

an initiative of Flint pride within the artwork, to even showcase a Flint artist, is important."

### The Future of Flint

Lovett says the water crisis briefly equalized Flint, forcing both the affluent and working-class residents to grapple with

the same lack of accessible clean water. Now, he hopes the unity birthed from that shared struggle can leave Flint's divisions behind for good as the city's vibrant arts scene leads it into a culture of collective effort — and a brighter future.

"Just be one and leave all of the classism behind," he says. "Just be Flint."

**NDG is looking for a Journalism Intern for a 6 month assignment to cover community events on site in the Irving area.**

- Must be an aspiring writer looking to gain some experience or a school credit in Journalism.
- Must have transportation, a valid driver's license and vehicle Insurance. Assignment requires candidates to work on and offsite.
- Contract pay is \$13.75 per hour plus gas stipend.
- Hours are 12 to 15 hours per week.

**Please send resume or inquiries to:  
businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com**

**CITYMENCOOK**  
**SAVOR THE DATE**  
FATHERS DAY  
SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024 3-6 PM

*Nourish Your Appetite...  
Entertain Your Heart...  
Replenish Your Soul...*

Central Business District, Dallas TX  
For sponsorship/participation  
Access: [www.citymencook.com](http://www.citymencook.com)  
Email: [whatscooking@citymencook.biz](mailto:whatscooking@citymencook.biz)  
Call: 214-233-6199

**IVF, from Page 4**

process.

Data shows that after 7 weeks of gestation, with a fetal heart activity detected, almost 10% of women who are younger than 33 years old suffer an IVF miscarriage. Then as a woman grows older the miscarriage rate gets worse. For women aged 33-34 years old the rate of miscarriage is over 11%; women aged 35-37 suffer miscarriages at a rate of nearly 14%; the rate is close to 20% for women aged 38-40; for women aged 41-42 the rate is close to 30%; and, for women over 42 years old the miscarriage rate is almost 37%.

It is an accepted rule

that childbearing years for women caps-out at age 49...but increasingly that capstone rule is being ignored as women who are desperate to have a child push the rule beyond its limits.

On September 1, 1946, Erramatti Mangamma was born. On September 5, 2019, Erramatti gave birth to twin girls. Erramatti was 73 years old at the time.

Theoretically, any woman who can afford it can have a child of her very own—that is as long as Republicans who oppose a woman’s right to life decisions stays out of her way.

Recent Republican gen-

erated legislation like the Life at Conception Act (January 2023) have caused fear and panic for both IVF patients and physicians, because with the hypocrisy surrounding the right to life issues, they are not sure if a mistake in the handling of an embryo might not land them in prison.

Most recently, 35-year-old Sarah Houston, an Alabama nurse and radical cancer survivor, wanted to expand her family by having her healthy IVF embryos transferred to a surrogate. Houston was aghast when she received a call from the IVF clinic saying that her entire process had been put on hold because of their fear of repercussion

and the liability that could be associated with the new Republican-generated legislation.

In Mid-March 2024, U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal (Democrat) spoke in support of IVF treatment for our nation’s veterans. His backing was for the Veteran Families Health Services Act, which was introduced by U.S. Senator Patty Murray (Democrat).

Blumenthal, a right to life advocate, declared that oppositional Republican politicians are, “...in favor of IVF. But not against laws that restrict IVF.” At most, the Republican stance on IVF, says Blumenthal, conflicts with constitutional law and moral principles.

Lost amid this political rancor are the reproductive rights of Black women to have equitable access to IVF treatment, because their infertility might be greater than that of white women.

A sample analysis of nearly 500 non-surgically sterile women, showed that 48% of the group’s Black women reported infertility compared to only 31% of white women. Ironically, the Black women were younger than the white women, less likely to have been married, had never given birth to a child (nulliparous), and more often of lower income and education.

The thing that separates

a prospective Black mother from a white mother is the unfortunate fact that being Black in this case, too, continues to be a foretelling factor for the livebirth rate as a result of IVF treatment. The nuanced economic and social factors found in reproductive medicine and the U.S. healthcare system at large—and the implicit biases found in those structures—also contribute to the failure to allow Black women access to IVF treatment.

Despite the immeasurable reward IVF might provide to families, it is important to note that only about 2% of all live births in the U.S. are the result of IVF treatment.

**GAPS, from Page 11**

creased more than all other groups, but IWPR found substantial wage gaps for Latinas and Black women. Weekly median wages for Black women dropped to 65.8 percent in 2023, down from the previous year’s 67.4 percent. Similarly, Latina wages fell from 2022’s 61.4 percent to 59.2 percent in 2023.

The highest paying occupations – management, business, and finance positions – brought white men a median weekly income of \$1,905, according to IWPR. But these same occupations paid Black men \$1,488, and Black women earned even less at \$1,287 per week.

By comparison, service occupations – paying less than other occupations such as sales, construction, and transportation – paid median full-time weekly wages of \$917 to white men, and \$749 to Black men. Black women and Latinas earned even less in these occupations, with Black women taking home median weekly wages of \$654, and Latinas earning \$646.

Even compared to workers of the same race or ethnicity women continued to earn less as full-time workers. For every dollar a Black man earned Black women

earned 91.6 cents. Latinas earned even less, earning 87.4 cents for every dollar earned by a Latino man.

“Tackling profound gender and racial wage gaps requires a variety of policies,” states the IWPR report. “These include addressing discrimination in all aspects of employment and tackling occupational segregation and its consequences, both by improving women’s access to and retention in well-paid jobs predominantly held by men and by improving earnings and job quality in undervalued jobs predominantly held by women.”

A report from the Urban Institute, How Policymakers Can Close the Wealth Gap for Black Women asserts that any serious proposals to eliminate lingering and widespread barriers to wealth building must address the monthly costs that deny the ability to save money: lower women’s wages, child care costs, student loan payments, and unaffordable health care.

“Policies that help Black women afford rent, child care, education, and food would allow them to pursue higher-paying employment opportunities and increase their ability to afford basic expenses, save, and invest

in assets,” states the Urban Institute report.

To remedy these historic inequities, the Urban Institute calls for policymakers to:

- Make college more affordable;

- Ensure pay equity and support for women entrepreneurs;

- Expand access to caregiving services and affordable health care; and

- Make mortgages more accessible.

Charlene Crowell is a senior fellow with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at [Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org](mailto:Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org).



**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**

**CBS Insurance Services, LLC**  
7125 Marvin D. Love Frwy., Suite 302  
Dallas, Texas 75237

**Looking for A Career Change Then We Need You!!**

If you’re looking for full or parttime work with flexible hours, income ranging from \$800.00 to \$2,000.00 plus weekly. No Experience Needed we will license and train.

**For more information call (214) 238-6855**  
**Ask for Shun**  
**Email: [info@cbsolutionsplus.com](mailto:info@cbsolutionsplus.com)**



**IRVING**  
TEXAS

**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, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, genetics, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression/reassignment, pregnancy or maternity, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws.

## Dancing in My Pajamas

By Dr. James L. Snyder

After 2 ½ weeks of being sick with many days in bed, I have come to appreciate what some people go through when they have a severe sickness. My sickness wasn't that devastating. It just sucked the energy out of me and caused me a lot of coughing and sneezing.

I barely had enough energy to get out of bed, walk to the living room, and sit in my easy chair for my morning cup of coffee. I paused for a few moments to catch my breath after that strenuous trip.

Because of my sickness, I had to go to the bathroom at least five times during the day. I had to run to the bathroom and slowly walk back

to my easy chair, which took a lot of energy.

I do remember my grandmother's home in the mountains of Pennsylvania. They didn't have indoor plumbing and used an outhouse in their backyard. Who knows what an outhouse is today?

If you had to go to the bathroom at night, she put something out in the hallway, which she called a "potty pot." I was thinking about that the other day and almost asked The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage if that would be a good idea during my sickness.

After considering that idea, I had enough energy to erase it from my mind and just race back and forth during those potty trips.

During this time, I never left the house, I didn't have

enough energy to change out of my pajamas and get into my pants. I've never been in my pajamas for so long, but of course, I didn't realize what I was doing at the time.

Once, when I had to get up from the easy chair and run back to the bathroom, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage looked at me and said, "Is that your pajama dance?"

I had no time to stop and respond, or serious consequences would occur.

When I got back from the bathroom and passed the kitchen area, I could see The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage smiling. I wanted to respond to her, but at the time, I didn't have the energy. I could either respond to her or make it to

my easy chair. I took the latter.

Those bathroom trips aren't fun by any stretch of the imagination, and believe me; my imagination was stretched to its limit.

I'm not sure how many pajama dances I did during my sickness, and I'm not sure if I have perfected them yet. I did what was necessary to get through the situation.

I perfected a "Woozy Waltz" but didn't have the energy to explain it to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Maybe one day I could enter the "Dancing with the Star-Blazers."

One thing I remember during that time is that I could not remember what day of the week it was. I didn't know when I got

up in the morning if it was morning, afternoon, or evening. I had to rely upon The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage to tell me what time it was and where in the world I was.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage brought me breakfast, and by the time I ate the last crumb, I didn't remember if it was breakfast, lunch, or dinner.

I couldn't remember anything, so I thought of something. It's a wonder I had the energy to think of anything then, but I did.

With my trouble remembering, how did I know what I was eating? Could it be, and I thought about this, that without my knowing it, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage snuck a piece of broccoli onto my plate?

The more I thought about it, the more confused I got. Certainly, she could not sneak a slice of broccoli when I was in good health, but maybe this was an opportunity she'd been looking for.

I thought about this, and my wife asked, "What are you thinking about?"

I knew I could not tell her exactly what I was thinking, so I said, "I'm just thinking about what I had for lunch this afternoon."

What worried me was that she giggled one of those mysterious giggles when I said that. I did not know what to think about that.

If I ask her about that, she could say, "Ha ha, I got you

See SNYDER, Page 15

## FAFSO, from Page 6

SA process, highlighting the stress and frustration experienced by many applicants. "The whole process just really stressed me out," Seinshin lamented to a New York Times reporter.

Similarly, Clover Schwalm, an 18-year-old from Michigan, shared her concerns with the newspaper about making college decisions without complete financial information. Despite facing hurdles, Schwalm said she remains hopeful and acknowledged the importance of accessible and inclusive educational environments. "It's not the best, but I also rec-

ognize that there are states that could be less safe," she remarked.

As the Department ramps up its efforts to alleviate FAFSA woes, attention has turned to the declining completion rates observed among high school seniors. Data analysis by the National College Attainment Network revealed a significant dip in completed financial aid applications compared to previous years, raising questions about equitable access to higher education.

"The data on FAFSA completion takes a bad story and makes it even worse," Bill DeBaun, a

senior director at NCAN, which tracks FAFSA applications, told reporters.

Republican West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice went so far as to declare a state of emergency over persistent issues with the FAFSA form. "I don't believe any other state in the nation has gone this far, but I simply cannot and will not stand by as money sits on the table that could be helping our students continue their education," Justice said in a press release. "There's only so much outreach you can do when students can't complete the form due to issues only the federal government can control. We have been left with no choice but to suspend the

FAFSA requirement for our state financial aid programs."

With only three months until the start of fall classes, many high school seniors still need to learn where they are going to college due to the botched rollout of the new FAFSA form. Many applicants are

waiting to receive their financial aid offers. "The department has to get this right and fast," said Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.).

Added Education Secretary Miguel Cardona, "The rollout of the better FAFSA has been riddled with delays and challenges." Cardona told a

Senate committee that the new FAFSA form was supposed to be shorter and more straightforward. Still, processing errors and other issues have caused successful applications to be down about 30% from last year. "We're doing everything every day to make it right," he said.

## HARRIS, from Page 2

historically underserved entrepreneurs during a visit to Black Wall Street in Durham, NC. She also announced an SBA rule in Las Vegas that ensures individuals who have served time are eligible for SBA loan programs to start and run small businesses.

Officials said Harris has always supported minority, rural, and low-income

communities. Last year, she announced over \$1.73 billion in grants to 603 Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) through Treasury's CDFI Fund. In 2022, she launched the Economic Opportunity Coalition (EOC), a public-private partnership investing tens of billions of dollars to create opportunity and wealth

in historically underserved communities.

As a senator, Harris secured a transformative \$12 billion investment for CDFIs and MDIs in December 2020 and has since worked to ensure the success of these programs. "Since that time, she has worked to ensure these programs are as successful as possible," administration officials stated.

### 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**

# A Tribute to Godly Mothers



**Sister Tarpley**  
NDG  
Religion  
Editor



Mother, These Are the Gifts that I would Like to Give to You: A Heartfelt Thank-You for all of the things you do or have done for me. My Assurance that I really do remember the things that you taught me; and I always will. Plenty of Reasons for you to feel proud of me, which I will achieve by always striving to be, and to do my best. A Sincere Apology for any and all headaches that I caused you when I

was growing up. A Gift Certificate of Love to be redeemed anytime, and as many times as you want for anything that I can ever do for you. My Promise that no matter how far away from home that I may travel, you are never far from

my heart. My Continued Commitment to our family and the values that you have taught me. My Recognition for all the great things that you have done in your life (not the least of which was me!) An Invitation to always be a part of my

life, and to never feel that you have to ask. A Bunch of Wishes that you have the peace, joy, and happiness in your life, which you are so deserving of. My Love forever and always. —Anna Marie Edwards.

I Love You, Mother: Mother, you have always been to me a blessing and an inspiration, giving me security within your love. I know that I do not always follow the path that you might choose. I realize how much you wish to save me from the hurt of life, wishing for me to make only wise choices. Your pride in me is one of my most valued treasures, and when you are disappointed in me, I hurt too.

You have taught me through love an experience those things that make me who I am, and you give me the strength to believe in myself. You have shown me my ability to fulfill the potential that we all have. I may not always choose the easy path, and I may sometimes be wrong, but I have learned to make my own decisions, based on what I believe is right at the time — realizing that time may change my decision. Though you may not always understand my actions or my deeds, please know in your heart and soul

that you, dearest Mother, are important to me.

Regardless of the path I walk, I will always respect your judgment, though I may not always accept it as my own. I love you, Mother, and I only hope that I can give to others as much of myself as you have given of yourself to me. — Teresa L. Cornett.

Please feel free to use anything you see in this column to use as a basis for you to pay a tribute to your mother.

*(Editor's Note: This column originally ran in May 2017.)*

## SNYDER, from Page 14

with that one.”

That was the last thing I want to hear before bed that night.

Not long after that, my memory improved and returned to normal. I was happy about that. I noticed every time The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage brought me a plate of food, she was giggling. I was

tempted to ask her what she was giggling about, but I just wasn't going to give her the opportunity to tell me.

In my devotions this morning I read, “Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the

right hand of my righteousness” (Isaiah 41:10).

Thinking about this verse I was reminded how sickness brings a state of fear in my life. That fear tricks me into thinking I all alone in this situation. This verse reminds me that God is with me. When I trust my problem to the Lord He is faithful and gets me through it victoriously.

*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.*

**Inspiring Body of Christ**   
Pastor Rickie G. Rush  
7701 S. Westmoreland Rd  
Dallas, TX 75287  
972.672.4262 (IBOC)  
www.IBOCCHURCH.org  
Sunday Service 7:30am & 11am  
Monday School 7pm & Men's Fellowship Friday 8pm

Monday      Wednesday      Friday

**Daily stress adds up.**

Minds need maintenance. Don't let stress take its toll.  
Visit [parklandhealth.org](http://parklandhealth.org)

Follow us on social media! | @ParklandHealth

**Check us out on Youtube!**

**7 MOST COMMON MEDICARE SCAMS**

Medicare's Open Enrollment runs Oct. 15 - Dec. 7, 2023

**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!

# NDG Book Review: Books on Mothers and Motherhood

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Everybody's had one at least once in their lives.

Some people get two or more, while others don't currently have any. Whatever your situation, this is a good time to read about mothers and being somebody's Mom, so why not try one of these great books...

These days, science has a lot to do with being a mother and "I Cannot Control Everything Forever" by Emily C. Bloom (St. Martin's Press, \$29.00) takes things a bit farther. When Bloom wanted to become pregnant, she had to rely on science and when her daughter was born with congenital deafness and was later diagnosed with other maladies, she relied on science again. This is a beautiful book, perfect for mothers who've been "there."

Sometimes, just trying to be someone's Mom isn't easy. In "Inconceivable" by Valerie Bauman (Union Square, \$27.99), you'll read about the author's encounters with the sperm donor market, the costs both physically and economically, and what the experts say about this unregulated industry.

On the flip side, anyone who's taking a different, alternative route to motherhood may like "Relinquished: The Politics of Adoption and the Privilege of American Motherhood" by Gretchen Sisson (St. Martin's Press, \$29.00). It's a look at the women who give birth but must let go of their children, and what it's like from that side of the adoption.

To understand motherhood in America today, read "Broken: Transforming Child Protective Services" by Jessica Pryce (Amistad, \$28.99). This book is an investigation into what the author says is a biased system that "disproportionately" targets mothers of color



in America and that wreaks havoc on Black families, including separation. It's an eye-opening tale that will chill the blood of any parent, anywhere.

On a totally lighter note, if you grew up reading about Evil Step-Mothers in fairy tales, then you should look for "The Book of Mothers" by Carrie Mullins (St. Martin's Press, \$29.00). This interesting book takes a look at fifteen classic novels featuring maternal figures you'll recognize. From Austin to Alcott, Woolf to Walker and eleven other authors in between, this is a fun book but also a serious peek at what literature has had to say about mothers and how it's shaped American motherhood.

And finally, if you've had one of those weeks and you need to laugh, look for "Momma Cusses" by TikTok'er Gwenna Laithland (St. Martin's Essentials, \$20.00). It's a funny, sardonic, but dead-on look at being a mother, from a point of view of someone who has kids and knows how to raise them – sometimes, with patience. Bonus: some of the advice is serious stuff that you'll ultimately be glad you've read.

And if this isn't enough for you or the Mom or Mother-to-Be you know, then ask your favorite bookseller or librarian. They know what you'll need, whether it's advice for getting pregnant, staying pregnant, or exploring pregnancy; words of wisdom for the Mom of a newborn or a new adult; or just good reads for relaxing because you deserve it. Every mother does.



SINCE 1992, THE BIG TEX SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM HAS AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS TO MORE THAN 3,500 STUDENTS FOR A PROGRAM TOTAL OF MORE THAN \$18.8 MILLION.



**FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL OF INNOVATION**

- Laura Aguilar
- Chosen Burkhalter
- Violeta Chico
- Kaitey Garcia
- Diego Gonzalez
- Moon-asia Liles
- Leslie Perez
- Dian'sha Perkins

**JAMES MADISON HIGH SCHOOL**

- Cordazja Alexander
- Myriam Aramburo
- Daijah Brown
- Kaleigh Daniels
- Serveilus Izigire
- ShaLyric Johnson
- Edmundo Reyes

**LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL AND HUMANITIES/ COMMUNICATIONS MAGNET**

- Charlotte Crethers
- Samuel Gilmore
- Andrea Kelly
- Katelynn Moore

- Daija Showers
- Genesis Soto
- Beimnet Tewolde

**NORTH DALLAS HIGH SCHOOL**

- Walter Arguijo
- Yasmonae Barrs
- Jaylen Brown
- Ja'Mia Canales
- Francisco Charcas
- Alejandro Cisneros
- Aaron Crispin
- Keandra Diaz
- Danijela Djakovic
- Juan Fierros
- Samarion George
- Alexander Gomez
- Marcos Gonzalez
- Lesley Gutierrez
- Keuna Jessie
- Oscar Jimenez
- Mekhi Johnson
- Ha Le
- Ka'Nise Lewis
- Oscar Lopez
- Renata Lopez
- Anthony Macias
- Casey Macias
- Sandra Manuel
- Kyli Murray
- Ariet Paiz
- Ariana Perez

- Enrique Perez Rios
- Gustavo Puerta Vasquez
- Rosa Puerta-Vazquez
- Julia Rico Lara
- Kevin Rodriguez
- Jacqueline Sanchez Guevara
- Jaden Santamaria
- Kamen Smith
- Cole Thompson
- Sergio Torres
- Oluwakemi Tytler
- Jaziah Williamson
- Lailah Zeno-Bell

**IRMA LERMA RANGEL YOUNG WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SCHOOL**

- Eva Anderson
- Estrella Cortes-Pedroza
- Melina Gonzalez
- Stephanie Gonzalez
- Aaliyah Gutierrez
- Catalina Hernandez
- Kierstyn Jones
- Nashaly Lopez
- Briana Lozano
- Stephania Martinez
- Victoria Mata
- Esmeralda Nunez
- Karely Perez
- Stephanie Romo
- Michelle Sarabia
- Michele Trevino

- Lizannia Valadez
- Dulce Valdez
- Paola Vargas
- Guadalupe Vazquez
- Glenda Vega

**WOODROW WILSON HIGH SCHOOL**

- Analise Barrios Castillo
- Alyssa Brown
- Ashley Castaneda
- Andy Castillo
- Gabriela Cespedes Vergara
- Anniston Dalton
- Jaden Gutierrez
- Zoe Haeffner
- Carolina Hernandez
- Jorgen Hernandez
- Uriel Hernandez
- Yvonne Jackson
- Janeth Llamas Cisneros
- Madalaine Lopez
- Geraldine Luna Valdez
- Stephanie Mendoza
- Jocelyn Meza
- McKenzie Paige
- Victoria Perez
- Brandon Sanchez
- Abigail Segura
- Marc Segura
- Kaleb Yeager

