



North Dallas Gazette

"Most respected Voice of the Minority Community"

Visit us online at www.northdallasgazette.com

Armed raids directed by Paxton have Texas Latinos, Democrats infuriated

Actions taken by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton have raised the ire of both Democrats and Latino leaders in the Lone Star State.

As part of what his office claims is an effort to combat voter fraud, Paxton launched a series of undercover operations and investigations according to a press release issued on Aug. 21. Citing the presence of non-profit organizations operating voter registration booths outside state drivers license offices, Paxton suggested these organized groups might be trying to register non-citizens to vote in upcoming elections.

"Texans are deeply troubled by the possibility that organizations purporting to assist with voter registration are illegally registering noncitizens to vote in our elections," Paxton wrote. "If eligible citizens can legally register to vote when conducting their business at a DPS office, why would they need a second opportunity to register with a booth outside?"

"My office is investigating every credible report we receive regarding potential criminal activity that could compromise the integrity of our elections. The Biden-Harris Administration has intentionally flooded our country with illegal



Actions taken by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton against politically active Hispanics in Texas have been likened to "Gestapo tactics" and LULAC leadership is calling for a federal investigation. (NDG composite image)

aliens, and without proper safeguards, foreign nationals can illegally influence elections at the local, state, and national level. It is a crime to vote—or to register to vote—if you are not a United States Citizen. Any wrongdoing will be punished to the fullest extent of the law."

What is more troubling to Latinos is that the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), the largest and oldest Hispanic and Latin-American civil rights organization in the United States, seems

to have fallen into Paxton's cross-hairs.

Notably, on Aug. 20 87-year-old Lydia Martinez was confronted at her front door by nine heavily-armed law enforcement officers in tactical gear who executed a search warrant of her home. In the process, Martinez reports the officers left with her computer, phone, personal calendar and voter registration materials. She also said she was interrogated for three hours in

See LULAC, Page 4



Election 2024: If we fight, we win!

- See Page 3



Probiotic benefits during pregnancy

- See Page 4



Harris' run takes off after Convention

- See Page 5



Omega Psi Phi hands out \$8k in scholarships

- See Page 7



'Hydrate the Hood' back for 5th time

- See Page 8



Film Review: 'The Deliverance' doesn't deliver

- See Page 9



ATTPAC rolls out the carpet for Gospel

- See Page 10



Sister Tarpley: Avoiding Conflict

- 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

People In The News ...



Dr. Tshaka Cunningham



Babyface

NDG Quote of the Week: "One of the hardest things in life is having words in your heart that you can't utter."

- James Earl Jones

Dr. Tshaka Cunningham

Dr. Tshaka Cunningham, a pioneering molecular biologist, has made an extraordinary journey from the Shaw neighborhood of Washington, D.C. to the cutting edge of precision medicine and genomics. Returning to his roots for an interview on the PBS show “The Chavis Chronicles,” Cunningham shared insights into his career, the importance of diversity in science, and his commitment to advancing genomics for the betterment of all communities.



Raised in D.C.’s historic Shaw area, Dr. Cunningham’s early exposure to science came from a deeply personal source—his grandmother, a cancer researcher who played a pivotal role in sparking his life-

long passion for molecular biology. “I was exposed to science at an early age from my grandmother, a cancer researcher,” Cunningham said before his 30-minute discussion with National Newspaper Publishers Association President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., the host of the Chavis Chronicles. “She sparked in me that intellectual curiosity of what caused a cancer cell to be a cancer cell. It’s fascinating to me.”

This fascination led Cunningham to pursue a career in molecular biology, a field that explores the fundamental building blocks of life.

“The reason I became a molecular biologist is because the sum total of the organism that we are is a collection of molecules that know how to beautifully orchestrate the symphony that is life,” he explains. A relentless curiosity and a desire to comprehend life at its most fundamental level led him from Princeton University, where he received his bachelor’s degree, to Rockefeller University for his PhD, and postdoctoral training at the Pasteur Institute in Paris and the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda.

But Cunningham’s journey was not just about aca-

demical achievements; it was also about overcoming the social challenges of being a “cool nerd” in a community where academic excellence wasn’t always celebrated. “I liked playing sports and chasing girls,” Cunningham admits with a smile. “But I remember growing up here in D.C., it wasn’t cool to be smart back in the day, so I used to have to lie about my grades. But we have to make it cool to be a nerd and get good grades.”

Significant contributions to science and society have been a hallmark of his career. At the Department of Veterans Affairs, Cun-

ningham played a critical role in overseeing national research programs in aging and neurodegenerative diseases. He also spearheaded initiatives to ensure minority veterans were well-represented in the VA’s Million Veteran Program, emphasizing the importance of diversity in genomic research.

Motivated by a commitment to making precision medicine more inclusive, Cunningham co-founded the Faith-Based Genetic Research Institute, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving lives

See CUNNINGHAM, Page 14

Babyface

(Black PR Wire) NEW YORK, NY – BMI announced recently that Grammy Award-winning singer, songwriter and producer Babyface will receive the BMI Icon Award at the 2024 BMI R&B/Hip-Hop Awards, on Thursday, September 5th. This honor recognizes his impressive career, marked by a formidable catalog of hit songs that have transcended generations and connected with audiences around the globe. In addition, Grammy Award-winning singer/songwriter SZA will be presented with the BMI Champion Award in honor



Angela George / Wikimedia

of her dedication and efforts in fostering the next generation of music creators. Hosted by BMI President & CEO Mike O’Neill and Vice President, Creative, Atlanta, Catherine Brewton, the private event will return to Los Angeles, CA for the

first time in nearly ten years to be held at Fairmont Century Plaza.

“We’re excited to honor the legendary Babyface with the BMI Icon Award in celebration of his incredible talent and gift of prolific songwriting which has influenced decades of hits amongst all genres,” said Brewton. “We’ll also recognize the exceptional industry-shifting career of SZA, who challenges conventions and has a unique vibe that continues to transform and inspire a new feel of R&B that we have grown to love. It will be a phenomenal night of music celebrating BMI’s award-winning songwriters, producers, and

music publishers that we’re so fortunate to represent.”

Throughout the evening, BMI will also salute the songwriters, producers and music publishers of the past year’s 35 most-performed R&B/Hip-Hop songs from BMI’s repertoire of more than 22.4 million musical works. The BMI R&B/Hip-Hop Songwriter, Top

Producers, Producer and Publisher of the Year will also be named during the ceremony.

As one of the most sought-after songwriters and producers of our time, Kenneth “Babyface” Edmonds has contributed to over 800 million records sold and over 800 billion streams and has worked

with the biggest names in music like Aretha Franklin, Janet Jackson, Kenny G, Lil Wayne, Beyonce, Ariana Grande, Michael Jackson, Justin Bieber, and Barbra Streisand to name a few. As the co-founder of the legendary LaFace Records, he’s helped launch

See BABYFACE, Page 12

Angela Nesbitt

(Black PR Wire) Miami, FL – In honor of Black Business Month, Thrivin in Color podcast host Camry Brown enters the world of literacy with the Founder and CEO of Loving Me Books, Angela Nesbitt, as she shares her motivational journey into entrepreneurship and the inspiration behind Loving Me Books.



sight into what it truly takes to run a business.

“Angela’s dedication to creating a more inclusive literary landscape is inspiring,” said host Camry. “Her story will prompt listeners to pursue their entrepreneurial passion and create positive change in their communities.”

Angela Nesbitt founded Loving Me Books with the intention of fostering self-love and diversity. Loving Me Books is a children’s and teen bookstore that features diverse characters and narratives. It provides services to schools, daycares, businesses, book clubs, and other educational institutions. Angela is passionate about bringing children’s books to underrepresented children of color.

The Thrivin’ in Color podcast provides Black and Brown leaders with an exclusive platform to share their stories and ignite the next generation of entrepreneurs. Tune in to Thrivin’ in Color on all major podcast platforms, including Apple Podcasts and Spotify.

SPECIAL OFFERING

- ★ **HomeStart Program**
 - ★ Minimum down payment options starting at 3%
 - ★ Available for ITIN Applicants
 - ★ \$2,500 Closing credit available!
- ★ **Community Home Equity**
 - ★ Use equity for home improvements, debt consolidation, etc.
 - ★ 1st and 2nd Lien options available

Brenda Peralta
Mortgage Loan Officer
972.716.7379
NMLS: 2029954

PROUDLY SERVING NORTH TEXAS SINCE 1961.

DALLAS | ADDISON | FRISCO | LAS COLINAS | PLANO
972.716.7230 | ndbt.com

† NDBT homeownership course is required in order to be eligible for credit

Member FDIC



Visit Our Website

www.northdallasgazette.com

Chairman Emeritus

Jim Bochum
1933-2009

Chief Editor Emeritus

Ruth Ferguson
1965-2020

Published by

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Special Projects to the Publisher

Clinique Hill

Assistant Office Coordinator

Belda Ibarra

Contributing Writers

Jamal Baker
Jackie Hardy
Lori Lee
Terri Schlichenmeyer

Religious / Marketing Editor

Shirley Demus Tarpley
("Sister Tarpley")
1941-2024

NDG Columnist

Allen R. Gray

Production

David Wilfong



Publisher's Office:

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

Sales Department:

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



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

If we fight, we win!

By Rev. Dr. RB Holmes

As I write this op-ed, there are 72 days, 6 hours and 55 minutes before the November 5, 2024, presidential election.

This presidential election between Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump is truly, in many of our lifetimes, the most significant and sacred presidential election perhaps ever.

Yes, this is not hyperbole, rhetoric or a sugar high. So much is on the ballot in this nation. Time will not permit me to recite many of the reasons why we need to vote in record numbers.

Democracy is on this ballot; freedom is on this ballot; national security is on this ballot; racial equality is on this ballot; voting rights, women rights, civil rights, environmental protection, and decency are on the ballot; the rule of law is on the ballot, and much more.

This presidential election between Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump will be decided by what the political experts call "battleground" states, such as Georgia, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Michigan, Arizona, Nevada and perhaps, North Carolina.

However, my argument is that Vice President Kamala Harris can win Florida.

Yes! I said it.

I am in my sound mind and I do not need to be admitted to any mental treatment facility, at least not at this time. Vice President Kamala Harris can win Florida because of her vision, her experience, her leadership skills, her rich history, her heritage and her sense of decency, dignity and decorum.

I believe that God has ordained Vice President Kamala Harris and called her for such a time as this.

We must thank God for President Biden's courageous and selfless act of stepping aside and firmly endorsing his competent, capable, calm and charismatic Vice President.

It was his unwavering endorsement that put an end to the notion of considering other prospects to succeed President Biden. The Bible references "The ram in the bush" (Genesis 22:13) and that ram is Vice President Kamala Harris. Say her name! She can win Florida's 30 electoral votes! How? Inquiring minds may ask.

Florida is ripe for fresh new leadership. Florida has witnessed the clear examples of the danger of Project 2025. We are living and experiencing the pain of Project 2025.

This pain includes voter suppression and gerrymandering, the dismantling of teaching our history factually and truthfully, the disdain for collective bargaining, the disarming and dissolving of our higher education system, taking down duly elected representatives, reducing the power of local school boards, city and county governments, and refusing to accept federal funds to feed hungry children during the summer months, etc.

Our constitutional right for free speech is in jeopardy, e.g. we cannot say "climate change" nor "gay."

Additionally, the autonomy of corporations and businesses is being challenged; the importance of public schools is being jeopardized; life saving vaccinations, plus quality health care have been care-

lessly minimized.

Listen, the over 900 pages of the Project 2025 playbook for the extreme MAGA movement is fully operational in the most diverse state in this nation, Florida. If we reject Project 2025 and implement Project Rise-Up, Vice President Kamala Harris can win Florida and save our democracy, our constitution and our freedoms. If we can convince the majority of registered Independent voters to vote for the Harris-Walz ticket, we win.

I am an Independent and I am voting for my children's and grandchildren's future. There are over 3.9 million, or approximately 34 percent of voters in Florida who are not affiliated with a political party. Furthermore, there are 5.3 million Republican voters (39 percent) and 4.3 million Democrats (29 percent).

My prayerful points are that the overwhelming number of Democrats will vote for the Harris and Walz ticket. Deep down in my spiritual soul,

I believe there are a significant number of Republican voters who will listen to their "better angels" and join the vast majority of Independents and that is how, after much thought, prayer, common sense and love of country, will turn Florida "Blue" and we can say with "Joy," Madam President.

This effort is not going to be easy. I will encourage the Harris-Walz campaign to fight for the great state of Florida.

To "Rise-Up" I am humbly asking them to rethink their strategy by allocating the necessary resources and ground game by sending some of their key surrogates to visit major cities in the Sunshine State

and even send the brilliant and beautiful Vice President herself, or her capable running mate, Governor (Coach) Tim Walz to visit Florida.

Vice President Kamala Harris has provided energetic, engaging, and electrifying leadership to the campaign. Her energy, passion, hope and joy is contagious.

It shows up in her mass gatherings of enthusiastic supporters. This energy can be sustained from state to state; this energy is transferable; and I believe this energy can lead to an historic turnout of voters in Florida.

Yes, we can and yes, we will win Florida. Florida is ready to embrace "The New Way Forward." Well, this is one of the preachers of Florida who strongly believes that "With God, nothing is impossible!" Let us "Rise-Up" and go to work to turn Florida blue this November.

Reverend Dr. RB Holmes is President and Publisher of the Capital Outlook Newspaper and the pastor of the historic Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Tallahassee, Florida; Local President of the National Action Network, Tallahassee Florida; Former President of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., Congress of Christian Education; Chairman of the Social Justice Ministry of the Florida General Baptist Convention, Inc.; Chairman of the Board of Directors for the First Bethlehem Baptist Association; Member of the Board of Trustees, Edward Waters University; and former member of Board of Trustees of Florida Memorial University and Florida A and M Universities.

Keep up with the news

O N L I N E

www.northdallasgazette.com

Probiotics during pregnancy shown to help moms and babies

Newswise — COLUMBUS, Ohio — Giving probiotics to pregnant mice can enhance both the immune system and behavior of the mothers and their offspring, according to a new study led by The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center and College of Medicine.

“These results suggest that certain probiotics given to mothers during pregnancy can improve their offspring’s behavior and may affect the metabolism of common amino acids in our diets. Probiotics may also help counteract the negative effects of prenatal stress,” said study senior author Tamar Gur, MD, PhD, endowed director of the Soter Women’s Health Research Program and a researcher with Ohio State’s



Chayene Rafacula/Unsplash

Institute for Behavioral Medicine Research and Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health.

Study findings are published online in the journal *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity*.

Probiotics are beneficial live microorganisms, such as bacteria, which help support healthy digestive and immune systems. Many studies have attested to the benefits of probiotics, which are considered safe

to take during pregnancy.

Researchers led by Jeffrey Galley, PhD, first author on the publication, found that a specific probiotic, *Bifidobacterium dentium*, may change how the body processes certain

amino acids, such as tryptophan.

During pregnancy, tryptophan helps control inflammation and brain development.

“We have strong evidence this specific probiotic helped reduce stress-related problems in both mothers and their offspring, including helping the babies gain weight and improving their social behavior,” said Gur, who also is an associate professor of psychiatry, neuroscience and obstetrics and gynecology at Ohio State.

Gur’s research team has studied how prenatal stress can lead to abnormal brain development and behavioral changes in offspring. So far, they’ve found that stress is linked to changes in brain inflammation and

amino acid metabolism, as well as long-term reductions in social behavior and abnormal microbiomes in offspring.

This study enhances their understanding of how gut microbes and probiotics can influence amino acid metabolism and help with behavior and immune issues related to prenatal stress. The study also highlights the many benefits of this specific probiotic, even without the presence of stress.

“Now, we aim to understand the mechanisms behind these changes and explore ways to prevent or treat these effects,” Gur said. “Since prenatal stress is common in many pregnancies, we want to develop methods to reduce its negative effects.”

CUNNINGHAM, from Page 2

through genomics. His belief in the potential of science to benefit all communities is unwavering. “More of our people should be involved in science,” he says. “It takes a level of curiosity, tenacity, and resourcefulness to be a scientist. They call it research for a reason

because you have to search and research and constantly fail in the lab. Our people are good at being resourceful and tenacious, and that’s what it takes to be scientists.”

As the co-founder and Chief Scientific Officer of Polaris Genomics and

TruGenomix Health Inc., Cunningham is at the forefront of using genomics to tackle some of the most pressing health challenges, including PTSD. He emphasizes the importance of understanding diseases at the molecular level to develop effective treatments. “Some cancers we are getting there, and some we can

cure,” Cunningham notes. “In the next 20–25 years, that percentage will go up. Prevention helps us cure, but we have to understand at the molecular level what causes the disease, and that’s what people like me do; molecular biologists and researchers continue to do.”

His peers said Cunning-

ham’s journey from Shaw to shaping the future of genomics is a testament to the power of curiosity, determination, and the pursuit of knowledge. His work is not just about advancing science; it’s about breaking down barriers and ensuring that genomics benefits are accessible to all communities.

“Not only as it pertains to communities of color but all humanity; these myths and stereotypes that are out here are from white supremacists, and they are not based on truth and facts,” Chavis stated. “Science is based on truth and facts. If our nation was better informed, we would not be so divisive.”

LULAC, from Page 1

the process.

Martinez has been a member of LULAC for 35 years, and has been active in efforts to get out the Hispanic vote. She was not alone in recent raids.

Manuel Medina, who is the chair of the Tejas Democrats and also a member of LULAC, said law enforcement officers violently forced entry into his home.

“I’ve been on campaigns for 30 years and never in my life could I have ever imagined anything that I do that would merit them breaking down my door and pointing six assault semi-automatic weapons in my face,” Medina said in a statement to the Texas Tribune.

The Texas Democratic

Party has been swift to condemn Paxton’s actions, calling it an affront to free and fair elections.

“Greg Abbott, Ken Paxton, and Dan Patrick will stop at nothing to sow distrust in our election system,” said Texas Democratic Party Chair Gilberto Hinojosa. “Using secret police-like tactics to raid the homes of the elderly and Democratic strategists, while ignoring their own Secretary of State’s claims of ‘clean voter rolls,’

“Texas Republicans will stop at nothing to undermine our democracy. They resort to fear tactics and misinformation to suppress voter turnout and cling to power, knowing that our

movement for a blue Texas is gaining momentum every day. We won’t be intimidated — Texans are ready to stand up for their rights and make their voices heard at the ballot box this November.”

Likewise, LULAC leadership has also reacted with anger to these recent developments. In an Aug. 26 letter to Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Kristen Clarke at the U.S. Department of Justice, LULAC President Roman Palomares and CEO Juan Proaño excoriated the actions of Paxton against Texas Latinos and called for a federal investigation.

“The targeting of Lydia Martinez is part of a broader pattern of voter intimidation that affects both Latino

and Black communities,” the letter read. “Attorney General Paxton’s are not isolated incidents but part of a concerted effort to suppress the growing political power of minority communities in Texas. These actions are reminiscent of past attempts to intimidate and disenfranchise voters through fear and coercion.”

Paxton’s investigative efforts have been led by his office’s Election Integrity Unit. This unit was created in the wake of the 2020 election when many supporters of former President Donald J. Trump claimed the election was stolen by fraudulent means. To date, no evidence has been presented to substantiate such claims. The Democrat

leadership in Texas is calling on its constituents to be undeterred by these actions as the 2024 election draws near.

“It’s imperative that eligible voters turn out in record numbers to show undeniable support for Texas Democrats up and down the ballot, defeating Texas Republicans’ continued election denialism,” Hinojosa said. “As we near the October 7th voter registration deadline, we encourage Texans to check their registration, ensure eligible friends and family are registered, and double-check vote-by-mail applications before submitting them to their local elections office. Learn more about voter registration and mail voting at MyTexasVotes.com.”

Abbott strikes over 1 million from voter rolls

In an Aug. 26 press release, Texas Governor Greg Abbott announced he had removed more than 1 million voters from Texas voter rolls.

The list includes 6,500 “potential noncitizens,” 1,930 of which have a voting record and will be referred for investigation. Also included are deceased persons, felons and those who moved out of state.

This is authorized by Senate Bill 1 from 2021, passed after the loss of Trump in the 2020 election, which many Republicans still dispute.

Harris' campaign soars with unprecedented momentum after Democratic Convention

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

The electricity in Chicago at the Democratic National Convention remains undeniable. Still, the real story is how Vice President Kamala Harris's campaign has sent shockwaves far beyond the United Center, energizing battleground states that will decide the 2024 election. What was once a campaign facing significant challenges has transformed into a dynamic, unstoppable force. Harris now leads in most national and battleground state polls—a stunning development achieved in just over a month.

In an email, Harris-



Vice President Kamala Harris has been enjoying an unexpectedly high surge in approval and support following the Democratic National Convention where she accepted the party's nomination to run for President. (Photo via NNPA)

Walz Campaign Chair Jen O'Malley Dillon said the Chicago convention had

ignited the most significant organizing push since the campaign's sudden launch.

Dillon said volunteers recently contacted over 1 million voters in just a few

short days. She noted that the surge in volunteer engagement "is a clear indicator of the campaign's growing strength" as it heads into September with a formidable ground game.

In tandem with the volunteer surge, the Harris-Walz campaign has shattered fundraising records, raising an unprecedented \$540 million in just over a month—setting a new high-water mark in American political history. During the convention week alone, grassroots contributions crossed the \$500 million threshold just before Harris's acceptance speech. Dillon said the momentum didn't stop there; immediately following her address, the campaign experienced

its best fundraising hour since launch day.

What's even more remarkable is the diversity of Harris's donor base. A third of the week's donations came from first-time contributors, nearly one-fifth of those being young voters. Two-thirds of the young contributors are women, a critical demographic that could prove decisive in November. Additionally, according to Dillon, teachers and nurses continue to be among the most common donor occupations, underscoring the broad and deep support that Harris has cultivated.

Dillon stated that the

See HARRIS, Page 13

A night of passion, patriotism, and powerful messages

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

Chicago, IL— Day three of the Democratic National Convention continued the fervor that has electrified the Windy City all week. Following a stirring performance of his hit song "Higher Ground," Motown legend Stevie Wonder captivated the audience at the United Center in a spectacle of energy and emotion. The momentum carried through the evening with an equally moving tribute from superstar John Legend, who honored the late Prince with "Let's Go Crazy" and paid homage to Minnesota Governor Tim Walz.

The night's highlight was Democratic vice presidential nominee Tim Walz, who took the stage to deliver a speech that resonated deeply with the packed arena. In addressing his largest audience, Walz framed the election as a battle for the true meaning of "freedom," contrasting the Democratic vision with what he char-



U.S. Rep. Jasmine Crockett sits down with NNPA Senior National Correspondent Stacy M. Brown for the "Let it Be Known" podcast which aired during the Democratic National Convention. (Photo via NNPA)

acterized as the Republican Party's dangerous agenda.

"When Republicans use the word 'freedom,' they mean that the government should be free to invade your doctor's office, corporations free to pollute your air and water, and banks free to take advantage of customers," Walz declared, drawing thunderous applause. "But when we Democrats talk about freedom, we mean the freedom to make your own health care decisions, your kids' freedom to go to school without worrying about being shot."

Walz drew on his life experiences as a teacher, football coach, veteran, and gun owner, vividly depicting his journey from a small town in Minnesota to the national stage. His entrance, set to the tune of John Mellencamp's "Small Town," was met with waves of applause as signs reading "Coach Walz" were distributed throughout the arena.

Reflecting on his modest upbringing and the loss of his father at a young age, Walz spoke about relying on Social Security survivor benefits and the GI Bill,

experiences that shaped his values and commitment to public service. "Growing up in a small town like that, you learn how to take care of each other," he said, emphasizing his grassroots approach to politics. He also highlighted his record as Minnesota's governor, where Democrats have enacted significant reforms

over the last two years, including gun safety laws, free school lunches, and paid family leave.

"Other states were banning books from their schools; we were banishing hunger from ours," Walz remarked, drawing a clear line between his policies and those of Republican-led states. He also defend-

ed Minnesota's stance on reproductive rights, noting that "in Minnesota, we respect our neighbors and the personal choices they make. Even if we wouldn't make those same choices for ourselves, we've got a golden rule: Mind your own damn business."

See PATRIOTISM, Page 11

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!

Supporting early childhood educators helps the entire community

Council for Professional Recognition

The Council for Professional Recognition, the nonprofit organization that supports early childhood education professionals and administers the Child Development Associate® (CDA) credential, is proud to highlight new insights. Usma Mohamed, the Council's vice president of brand experience and marketing, recently gave these educators a chance to share their views in her doctoral dissertation: Uncertified Early Childhood Education (ECE) Teacher Perceptions of ECE Certifications: A Qualitative Narrative Inquiry Study. Usma's study makes a strong contribution as our country continues to face a shortage of qualified early childhood teachers. And it's an issue that has a major impact on children, as Usma points out. Teachers with specialized ECE training are better equipped to help children learn at the most formative stage in life, and the learning scaffolding these teachers



Educators with credentials produce better outcomes for children, according to the many studies that Usma cites. And she provides recommendations that can help lower the roadblocks early childhood teachers face to earning credentials. (Photo via NNPA)

provide makes a long-term impact.

But it's another story in low-income communities like the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, where Usma conducted her research in the field. The region has lower-quality early learning programs than wealthier parts of the state. And it isn't unique. Texas has met only four out of ten quality benchmarks for early childhood education, as defined by the National Institute for

Early Education Research (NIEER). And the shortfall is especially acute when it comes to assistant teachers. In Texas, as in other states, the qualifications for assistant teachers do not meet NIEER recommended criteria like holding a Child Development Associate® (CDA) Credential™ or similar certification.

The lack of qualified assistant educators or teachers is a cause for concern, as Usma points out, since assistant teachers play a

vital role in early learning settings, often sharing classroom responsibilities with lead teachers. Unqualified assistant teachers are especially common in areas, like the Lower Rio Grande Valley, which have large minority populations, high poverty rates, and lower per-capita incomes. Areas like the Lower Rio Grande Valley also have lower-quality early learning programs than wealthier parts of the state, and that's a roadblock as the re-

gion strives to improve early learning programs, prepare children for success, and ultimately cut poverty levels down. Granted, the region is expanding access to early learning programs, but it struggles to raise their quality due to the shortage of certified teachers.

Usma explored the reasons for this roadblock through in-depth interviews with seven uncertified teachers at a preschool in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. They conveyed their thoughts by sharing their lived experiences to uncover insights to support the following questions: What perceptions do uncertified ECE teachers have toward certification training? What are uncertified teachers' perceptions regarding the degree to which ECE certification would or would not add to their knowledge and skills? And how do uncertified teachers perceive their current ability to teach children effectively?

The stories that teachers shared revealed both personal and professional factors that deterred the

teachers from pursuing credentials such as the CDA. The roadblocks to certification, as Usma learned, include time constraints, the perceived difficulty of certification, lack of awareness of credentials, and such high confidence in their teaching skills that teachers didn't feel they needed training. In addition, strong support from colleagues and the importance of their family duties made teachers question the merits of pursuing ECE credentials. Yet they did not question the value of their profession. The stories they shared revealed the passion, pride, and sense of commitment they brought to serving young children well.

Some teachers even acknowledged that earning an ECE credential or certification would assist them in their work. And it is important for education leaders to also acknowledge the factors that can prevent many early childhood teachers from pursuing this

See EARLY, Page 16

Crowley ISD and Paul Quinn College announce new innovation partnership for middle school students

On Aug. 8, 2024, Crowley ISD and Paul Quinn College announced a groundbreaking Texas Innovation Partnership aimed at advancing educational excellence and improving student outcomes across all four Crowley ISD middle schools.

Texas Innovation Partnerships, established by Senate Bill 1882, give school districts like Crowley ISD the opportunity to collaborate with institutions of higher education to create tailored educational solutions that meet community needs and equip



students for future college, career and military success.

The 2024-2025 school year will serve as a dedicated planning year for this partnership as Crowley ISD and Paul Quinn Col-

lege collaborate closely to design and implement innovative educational strategies for Crowley ISD middle school students. The planning year will include a series of community

meetings and workshops to gather feedback and ideas, ensuring that the partnership reflects the needs and aspirations of this community. Detailed information about these events will be shared in the coming months.

Dr. Michael McFarland, Superintendent of Crowley ISD, said this transformative partnership with Paul Quinn College is possible because of the visionary Crowley ISD Board of Trustees and its commitment to excellence while making Crowley ISD the top in Tarrant County.

"We've seen the power of collaboration many times before in Crowley ISD," Dr. McFarland said. "But this new partnership between two institutions with proven track records of innovation and success will make what before has been only possible actually tangible for our students. With Paul Quinn in Crowley ISD, our students will graduate from high school with more than just a diploma. They will leave with choice and opportunities to thrive."

Texas Innovation Partnerships allow public

school districts to identify a need, choose the right partner to address it and enter into a multi-year agreement. The district retains control, setting success criteria and holding the partner accountable for academic, financial and operational outcomes that align with community priorities.

Dr. Michael J. Sorrell, President of Paul Quinn College, said his team is thrilled to collaborate with Crowley ISD: "Our goal is to provide students with the training, resources and

See PQC, Page 8



Check us out on Facebook!

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





(Left to right) Robert Hamilton, scholarship recipient Valencía Singleton (Frisco Lone Star HS), and Ryan Pullin (Courtesy photo)



(Left to right) Ryan Pullin, scholarship recipient Kimberly Brown (Little Elm HS), and Robert Hamilton (Courtesy photo)



(Left to right) Emilio Henry, scholarship recipient Nathan Hollingsworth- Little Elm HS, and Robert Hamilton (Courtesy photo)



(Left to Right) Ryan Pullin., scholarship recipient Isiah Brevington-Plano East Sr. HS, Robert Hamilton (Courtesy photo)

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., Alpha Iota Iota Graduate Chapter awards \$8,000 in scholarships to local high school seniors

FRISCO—In a strong commitment to academic excellence and community service, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Alpha Iota Iota Graduate Chapter, proudly awarded \$8,000 in scholarships to eight deserving high school seniors. Each student received a \$1,000 scholarship, recognizing their academic achievements and commitment to personal growth.

The scholarships were presented by the Alpha Iota Iota chapter, which has a longstanding tradition of supporting local youth through education and their annual talent hunt program. Every year, the chapter awards scholarships to high school seniors who excel in a rigorous application process, which includes submitting an essay and participating in an interview.

“Our goal is to empower young men and women to pursue higher education and make a positive impact in their communities,” said a Robert Hamilton, who is the Alpha Iota Iota chapter Scholarship Chairman. “We are proud of these students and excited to see what they will accomplish in the future.”

The fraternity encourages all eligible students to apply and take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to advance their education.

This initiative is part of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity’s broader mission to uplift the community through manhood, scholarship, perseverance and service.

For info about Omega and its programs contact, northdallasques.com.



(Left to right) Scholarship Recipient Calli Fletcher (Waxahachie HS) and Robert Hamilton (Courtesy photo)



(Left to right) Robert Hamilton, Ryan Pullin, scholarship recipient Peyton Dickens (Allen HS), and Lawrence Prince (Courtesy photo)



(Left to right) Emilio Henry, Ryan Pullin, scholarship recipient Kylar Dailey (Prosper HS), Robert Hamilton, and Lawrence Prince (Courtesy photo)



(Left to right) Ryan Pullin, Ms. McBurrows, scholarship recipient Jeremiah McBurrows (Frisco Heritage HS), Robert Hamilton (Courtesy photo)

Check us out on Youtube!

BACKSTAGE Chatter

Izaiah M. Harris

Now Appearing In
"Funny Girl"

NDG
A DIVISION OF
MINORITY OPPORTUNITY NEWS, INC.
PRINT | WEB | VIDEO



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!



Plans slated for fifth edition of 'Hydrate the Hood'

By Jamal Baker
NDG Contributing Writer

"Hydrate The Hood" is an annual event for the Dallas community that will be returning for the fifth straight year on Saturday, September 7, 2024. This event is hosted by Katrina Chaney of The Dro Guapo Project and will take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m at Meadow Stone Park in Dallas. Chaney brought this event to life in response to her son, Rajai Robinson also known by his stage name Dro Guapo, being a victim to gun violence at age 27. Robinson's tragic murder is still unsolved, yet Chaney continues to exude immeasurable strength.

"I believe we're all here for a set date and time. I never wished anything harmful for whoever did this act, states Chaney."

Her efforts are not only to physically hydrate the community during the dog days of Texas summer but also educate about the dangers of senseless gun violence.

"This event is about providing relevant info and turning a negative situation into a positive outcome. If we can save one person from gun violence, it's a job well done," says Chaney.

Katrina Chaney sets out to continue to keep her son relevant through this altruistic event. She describes her son as a very caring person who always looked out for others and believes this event is an embodiment of his high character traits.

"If a kid at school didn't have shoes, Dro would be the one to get them shoes," Chaney explains.

Hydrate The Hood has grown year to year as vendors continue to come show their support for this com-

HYDRATE THE HOOD
"THE DRO GUAPO PROJECT"

Bringing Awareness to Gun Violence
September 7, 2024
2700 Meadow Stone Ln.
Dallas, TX 75237
11am-3pm
Free Lunch, Water & Juice
Vendors and Samples
LIVE MUSIC
DJ: Mr.Hitdat

munity event. Family reunion vibes will be on display as the community will come together to fellowship, hydrate their bodies with refreshments and listen to live music provided by DJ Mr. Hitdat.

"We have been blessed that you have carried our story for the past three years and looking forward to you sharing our information this year. This will be year number five, and we are planning a larger and more informative event in the community this year," Chaney shares with North Dallas Gazette.

The Dro Guapo Project also puts a strong emphasis on the advancement of local youth. The organization

aims to continue harboring a space and environment where young artists, dancers, producers and writers can thrive.

"Our goal is to offer a positive and safe outlet to the youth," asserts Katrina Chaney.

This type of work is of the utmost importance to ensure that the minds of our future leaders are free to be the best version of themselves. Gun violence has negatively impacted inner city communities for far too long, but promising statistics show gun homicides are declining. In the United States these types of homicides are down 13.1 percent since 2023 and 16.4 percent since 2021. The efforts of

Crowley ISD as part of a five-year contract to manage day-to-day operations at the district's four middle schools: H.F. Stevens Middle School, Crowley Middle School, Summer Creek Middle School and Richard J. Allie Middle School.

and lead effectively and impactfully in our community."

Once the 2024-2025 planning year is complete, Paul Quinn College will continue collaborating with



Katrina Chaney play an important role in ensuring these numbers continue to decline at a dramatic rate.

Being an asset to the community requires an individual to be courageous, dedicated and willing to put others before self. Ka-

trina Chaney and The Dro Guapo project continue to be extraordinary assets as they provide families with barbeque, juice and cases of water during the summer. Meals are also provided to a group of senior citizens in South Dallas. A cause that

displays this type of philanthropy and selflessness deserves to be supported as much as possible. Chaney mentions how it has been difficult at times to receive sponsors and sponsorships for events. Participating sponsors such as The Play House, Betty Walker Waites Foundation and The Neighborhood Kitchen are greatly appreciated. With Hydrate The Hood no longer being one of the best kept secrets, there will be plenty of good people, immaculate vibes, and important education to be expected at its fifth edition.

NEW VINYL SEATS!

DART

GET READY FOR A CLEANER, COMFIER RIDE.

Learn more at [DART.org/Cleaning](https://www.dart.org/cleaning)

PQC, from Page 6

experiences needed to create the life they desire to live for themselves and their families. Together, we can create change agents, equipped to solve complex problems, who will serve



Anthony B. Jenkins, Demi Singleton and Andra Day in "The Deliverance." (Image via NNPA)

Film Review: 'The Deliverance' just doesn't quite deliver

By Dwight Brown
NNPA Film Critic

(**) "Whatever it says, don't listen to it. It will play on your heart. It will play on your mind."

Nice dialogue for an Exorcist kind of movie. But not enough to hold this horror/thriller together for its entirety. The setup is pretty routine: A mom, Ebony (Andra Day, *The United States vs Billie Holiday*), her mother (Glenn Close) and three school-age children move into a haunted Gary, Indiana home. Slowly her kids Nate (Caleb McLaughlin), Shante (Demi Singleton) and little Andre (Anthony B. Jenkins) start acting weird. Like they're possessed. Turns out they are in the devil's corridor and he's messing with them.

The script by David Coggeshall (Orphan: First Kill), Elijah Bynum (Magazine Dreams) and director/writer Lee Daniels (The United States vs Billie Holiday) is based on the Ammons haunting case, that occurred in Gary in 2011. That's when Latoya Ammons, a single mom, her mother Rosa and three young offspring experienced paranormal activity in their new home. The creepiness started with swarms of black flies, es-

calated to footsteps in the basement, creaking doors and shadowy figures. All the makings of a good fright film.

Daniels and crew don't venture far off the genre path. And when they mistakenly do, their efforts trail off into stupid soap operish melodrama. Ebony's mom Alberta lives with them and is a thorn that is constantly berating her daughter's parenting skills. Cynthia the social worker (Mo'Nique, *Pariah*) stops by to observe and needle the mother who's drinking problem aggravates her child abuse issues. No wonder she needs monitoring. No wonder it won't be easy for audiences to care about this fractured protagonist.

The preposterous family dynamics feel similar to those in a bad Tyler Perry movie. But Daniels, director of *Precious* and *The Butler*, has a much stronger pedigree than the Madea filmmaker, so why this? Why would he risk his reputation on this project? Is it because it's based on a real-life occurrence? Why? Even more of a mystery is why the satanic special effects are so skimpy, lackluster and unimaginative. B-movie grade.

There are horror film beats, rhythms and rituals that must be met, and

there is no indication on view that Daniels' direction is capable of delivering those crucial elements. As the victims go through their contortions and body malformations, brought on by demonic possessions, bone-chilling fear and scares never emerge. Fans of horror films know when they're seeing a real shocker, or a campy, midnight fright-fest movie. They expect to be terrorized to death or amused in a macabre way. This endeavor never delivers those nightmarish effects.

Technically the cinematography (Eli Arenson, *The Watchers*), production design (Steve Saklad, *Juno*), art direction (Carlton Lee Jr. and Ella Thompson), music (Lucas Vidal), editing (Stan Salfas) and costume design (Paolo Nieddu) are OK, separately. But not as a cohesive unit. Thus, the footage lacks a central, distinguished style and it's as if these artists were working in silos.

Andra Day should have won the Oscar for Best Actress for her raw, stunning role in *The United States vs Billie Holiday*. This portrayal is not in the elite category. Ebony is painted as a street-savvy, pugnacious and disturbed woman who

See **DELIVERANCE**, Page 16

THEY HAVE THE DRIVE. WE'LL PAVE THE WAY.

Students with strong character are well on their way to becoming tomorrow's leaders. Encourage them to skip entry level and get the education and skills they need to succeed as Officers in the U.S. Army.

DECIDE TO LEAD.

★ ARMY OFFICER GOARMY.COM/OFFICER

For more information, please contact Mr. Eddie Smith at the TCU Army ROTC program at 817-257-6461, or visit: army.tcu.edu

©2023 U.S. ARMY. PAID FOR BY THE U.S. ARMY

At&T Performing Arts Center unveils new gospel music initiative

Through a partnership with consultant and producer Glyne A. Griffith II, DBA, the Center brings new, dynamic artists to the Dallas Arts District music scene

The AT&T Performing Arts Center today announced a new Gospel Music Initiative to celebrate and promote the rich tradition of gospel music performance at the Center's campus.

The organization has partnered with gospel producer and consultant Glyne A. Griffith II, DBA to develop and present an inspiring lineup of performances.

"Gospel music is a deeply enriching part of life for so many Dallasites, and that motivated our interest in this programming initiative," said AT&T Performing Arts Center President & CEO Warren Tranquada. "We're really thrilled to welcome Dallas' own Tonya Baker, as well as the nationally renowned How Sweet the Sound gospel music competition to our stages. Featuring diverse and emerging artists is a



DWG Studio

chief tenet of our mission, and we can't wait to welcome the community to experience the rich sound of this genre at our world-class venues through this partnership."

The Gospel Music Initiative is part of the AT&T

Performing Arts Center's ongoing commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in the arts. By highlighting the significance of gospel music, the Center hopes to foster a deeper appreciation for this genre and its impact on society.

"Gospel music has a powerful legacy and plays a significant role in our cultural heritage," said Griffith. "I am thrilled to be part of the launch of this initiative and provide

a platform for gospel artists to share their talent and passion with the Dallas community."

The Gospel Music Initiative aims to support local, emerging and mainstream gospel artists in cultivating a deeper appreciation for gospel music among broader audiences.

The Initiative will launch with two upcoming concerts for the Center Presents 2024/2025 Season, with plans to add additional shows later in the season.

Tonya Baker performed live in the Wyly Theatre on Aug. 24.

Baker is a Dallas Native, sought after psalmist who ministers the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ across the country. Under her own independent production company, she has released many proj-

ects. Tonya has shared the stage alongside award winning artists Shirley Caesar, CeCe Winans, Fred Hammond, Israel Houghton, Dorinda Clark-Cole, Mary Mary and Tye Tribbett to name a few.

Along with national stage recognition, she has traveled internationally, having completed two 15-city tours to France and music festivals in Guadalupe. Tonya currently serves as the Worship Volunteer Director at The Potter's House of Dallas, pastored by New York Times Best Selling Author and media mogul, Bishop T.D. Jakes.

"How Sweet The Sound" featuring live performances by Donald Lawrence, Kierra Sheard, Doe, and Myron Butler will be presented in

See GOSPEL, Page 14

REGISTER TODAY

Cheryl Smith's
Don't Believe the Hype
Celebrity Bowl-a-thon

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2024
Plano SuperBowl
2521 K Avenue, Plano, TX 75064
6pm-10pm

Let's have fun and raise some money for scholarships!

Register your team of 6 at **214-941-0110**
or bit.ly/CherylSmithDBTHBowl2024

Make checks payable to: Don't Believe the Hype Foundation
320 S. R.L. Thornton Freeway, Suite 100, Dallas, TX 75203
\$40 Return Check fee -
5% fee applied to credit/paypal/cash app

Cheryl Smith's Don't Believe the Hype Celebrity Bowl-a-thon 214-941-0110
320 S.R.L. Thornton Frwy #100 Dallas, TX 75203

HAPPY
A DIVISION OF CENTENNIAL BANK Member FDIC

Life is busy and there are plenty of things to worry about. **Don't let your bank be one of them.**

HappyBank.com | A Home BancShares Company (NYSE: HOMB)

New study on insider trading discovers flaws in oversight and regulation

(Newswise)—Nejat Seyhun, Jerome B. and Eileen M. York Professor of Business Administration and professor of finance, and Cindy Schipani, Merwin H. Waterman Collegiate Professor of Business Administration and professor of business law, are among the most knowledgeable scholars on insider trading. They have individually or collectively contributed to more than two dozen studies on the topic and their research has the ear of Wall Street's watchdogs.

Yet, the professors are still mining and finding new information about the practice of executives and directors trading their companies public stock and other securities based on important information about that business. Their latest study, in fact, notes they "discovered a massively popular strategy for insider trading."

"Insider Trading by Other Means," which is forthcoming in the Harvard Business Law Review, was co-authored by Sureyya Burcu Avci of the Sabanci University School of Business and Andrew Verstein

of the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law. The paper uncovers techniques by which those insiders sell overvalued stock worth more than \$100 billion annually, shifting losses to ordinary investors. Essentially, insiders conceal their suspicious trades by publicly reporting them—as required—in ways that confuse or discourage investigators.

The "subterfuge," based on analysis of a database of all stock trades since 1992, appears to work: These leaders outperform the market by roughly 20% and nobody has ever been prosecuted for any of these trades.

The researchers say the reporting system was not built to maximize oversight and has weakened in some respects in the last thirty years. Seyhun and Schipani discuss their study and the reasons insider trading persists and evolved over the decades in the following Q&A.

How did you make this discovery?

Seyhun — While I worked as an expert wit-

ness for the government, I noticed that during the Enron Corp. trial, even though insiders had dumped shares using both S (open-market sale) and J (other) reporting codes right up to the declaration of bankruptcy, only those transactions reported as S-codes became suspicious while transactions with J-codes were totally ignored. Years later, I decided to take a closer look at why this distinction was made, which led to the findings in our current paper.

Insider trading seems like a whack-a-mole situation, where one aspect can be regulated only to have another pop up. What do you recommend to regulate it? Is it even possible?

Seyhun — I agree with the whack-a-mole characterization. However, this is true for most white-collar crimes. Once a loophole is closed, the criminally minded go to their next game, the next loophole until they get caught and penalized again. This does not mean, however, that closing loopholes and holding those who violate them responsible and subject to

sanctions, are fruitless efforts. In the absence of such government intervention, the criminally minded will simply continue and enlarge their efforts, and similar to deadly parasites, continue until they destroy their host—which in this case is the system of trust in capital markets.

Schipani — Yes, insider trading and white-collar crime in general has been very much a whack-a-mole situation. It seems that where there is money on the table, and if no one is looking (little or no likelihood of getting caught), the temptation is strong to take the money and run. We see this with insider trading, with bribery of foreign officials, misleading financial statements—Enron being a prime example—with off-the-books special purpose entities. The list goes on and on, unfortunately.

What intrigues you the

most about insider trading, and what keeps you coming back to it as an avenue of research? And what might be next in terms of studying it?

Seyhun — Insider trading is at the intersection of corporate finance, investments, law, and economics. It is important for pricing securities, understanding corporate finance decisions, corporate governance, executive malfeasance, and economic incentive structures. In investments, it would be silly to make a stock buy-or-sell decision without knowing what insiders are doing. If the investors buy shares while insiders are selling shares, the investors need to be highly confident of their buying decisions.

In corporate finance, suppose a firm wants to issue new shares. If insiders sell shares personally versus buying shares personally

right before the equity issue, that could change the interpretation of why the firm is issuing shares. In corporate governance, if top executives engage in blatant, profitable insider trading right before earnings or dividend announcement, our confidence in corporate governance of that firm would be weakened. Our confidence also would be undermined if executives awarded themselves in-the-money backdated options—stock options that cheat the taxpayers and the shareholders, and are highly valuable to the recipient. As such, insider trading continually offers new, multi-disciplinary lessons, which is fascinating from an academic perspective.

As a result, I found research on insider trading similar to Hotel California: I checked in 45 years ago,

See INSIDER, Page 12

PATRIOTISM, from Page 5

Walz did not shy away from addressing the right-wing Project 2025 plan, a central theme in the Harris-Walz campaign. He called the plan "weird," "wrong," and "dangerous," warning of its potential harm to American communities. The night's program, "A Fight for Our Freedoms," showcased the Democratic Party's commitment to defending personal liberties and promoting social justice.

Throughout the evening, the convention spotlighted issues such as abortion rights, LGBTQ+ rights, and immigration. The program featured powerful speeches from activists and Democratic leaders, including former President Bill Clinton, former House

Speaker Nancy Pelosi, and House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries. Rising stars like Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro, Maryland Governor Wes Moore, and Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg also took the stage, highlighting the party's diverse and dynamic future.

Oprah Winfrey delivered a speech that ignited the crowd, countering GOP vice-presidential nominee JD Vance's controversial remarks about "childless cat ladies." Winfrey passionately endorsed Harris, framing her as the candidate of "inclusion over retribution." She vowed that under a Harris-Walz administration, "We won't be set back, pushed back, bullied back; we're not go-

ing back."

Beyond the main event, Democratic Reps. Jasmine Crockett of Texas and Maxine Waters of California engaged with the Black Press's "Let It Be Known," where they reiterated their support for Harris and discussed future plans. Crockett praised Harris's mentorship during her first year in Congress, while Waters boldly called for the expansion of the U.S. Supreme Court, citing concerns over Justice Clarence Thomas's alleged corruption.

"Absolutely, I will call for the expansion of the Supreme Court, especially since Justice Clarence Thomas is so corrupt," Waters stated, ending the night with a powerful call to action that encapsulated the Democrats' commitment to reform and justice.



Ed Bell Construction Company

An Equal Opportunity Employer

September 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)**
- **Boom Mobile Crane (CDL)**
- **Laborer (Paving, Structures)**
- **Batch Plant Operator (Paving)**
- **Concrete Paving Operator (Paving)**
- **Motor Grader Operator (Earthwork)**
- **Concrete Finishers (Paving, Structures)**
- **CDL Drivers (Water Truck, Haul Truck)**
- **Excavator Operator (Earthwork, Underground)**

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
Or email your resume to: careers@edbellconstruction.com

Does transparency help or hurt business dominated by one-time transactions?

Newswise — DALLAS (SMU) — It's a relevant question for business owners with few repeat customers, such as contract workers or real estate agents: Does being transparent about past business transactions change the odds of making a sale that benefits both buyer and seller?

The answer matters because mutually beneficial sales ensure that these kinds of transactions will continue, keeping the economy strong.

A new study published in the journal *American Economic Review* suggests the answer depends on a variety of factors.

A mutually beneficial sale is defined from two points of view: The seller values the money they receive more than the service they offer, because the price adequately reflects the time

and resources needed for that task. Meanwhile, the buyer is satisfied that they received the value they were seeking for the price they paid to acquire it.

This is known by economists as market efficiency — there are no missed opportunities to make a sale from which both the seller and buyer would benefit.

Research from economists at SMU and the University of Miami demonstrates that being transparent about a high volume of past transactions improves market efficiency when a seller has the potential to earn high profits due to the high number of buyers competing to obtain their services. Examples include companies that provide specialized services, like lawyers, accountants or skilled technicians.

Buyers with no previous

experience with a seller can observe how frequently the seller has conducted similar transactions and “indirectly infer some of the hidden information about a seller’s quality or the value the seller can create,” explained study co-author Santanu Roy, University Distinguished Professor of Economics at SMU.

But the situation flips when the market power shifts — when there are more sellers than buyers, Roy and his fellow researcher Ayça Kaya, an associate professor of economics at the University of Miami, determined.

The reason? In these markets, sellers are more likely to heavily discount their services to get new buyers.

To analyze whether such businesses benefited from transparency with their past sales, economists Kaya and Roy used what’s known as

a dynamic game theoretic model with incomplete information.

These models allow economists to factor in multiple parties, when one’s outcome may depend on the actions of others. Essentially, they created an artificial world through complex mathematical equations that was simpler than the real world, yet allowed them to make some insights into what would happen in real-life.

Two main things were looked at: how much competition a seller might face and whether buyers were optimistic or pessimistic about the quality of what was being sold.

In this study, the researchers only looked at sellers making the number of past transactions available to buyers, not how much they charged for items, Roy noted.

INSIDER, from Page 11

but after all these years of research, I still find myself unable to leave.

Schipani — The focus of my work in corporate governance is the fiduciary duty of corporate directors and officers. Fulfillment of fiduciary duties to the firm and the shareholders requires integrity—working with the utmost loyalty and good faith. Executives that personally benefit from trading on insider information are violating those duties, in addition to committing crimes. Good corporate governance demands integrity and those who trade on inside information are clearly lacking in integrity.

When I first started researching fiduciary duty issues back in 1986, I had

no idea that I would still be working in this area in 2024. But I’ve found there is always a new game being played, when the criminally minded think no one is looking. It’s important to keep playing whack-a-mole to try to curb the behavior. The rules aren’t that hard—don’t lie, cheat or steal—but we continue to see violations of all of the above. I’m intrigued with the creative ways insiders find to lie, cheat and steal, and hope my work helps to rein in some of these behaviors. At the very least I hope it helps discourage good people from starting down the slippery slope of unethical, and then illegal, behavior.

Originally published on Michigan News.

BABYFACE, from Page 2

the careers of Toni Braxton, P!nk, TLC, Outkast, Usher and more. He has also released three consecutive multi-platinum albums as a solo artist, including *Tender Lover*, *For the Cool in You*, and *The Day*, and in 2023, his most recent single, “As a matter of fact” reached #1 on the Billboard Adult R&B Airplay chart, marking his first chart-topping single in 26 years.

Throughout his illustrious career spanning nearly five decades, Babyface has received many accolades including multiple American Music, Soul Train, and NAACP Image awards, and secured his 13th Grammy win in 2024 for Best R&B Song for “Snooze” by SZA. He received 63 BMI Awards and Song of the Year three times, BMI Pop Songwriter of the Year seven times and, together with his LaFace Records co-founder L.A. Reid, was named a BMI Icon in 2006. In addition, Babyface has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame

and The Apollo Walk of Fame, where he received the inaugural Legacy Award.

As the 2024 BMI Icon honoree, Babyface joins an elite group of music creators who have received BMI’s highest honor including James Brown, Al Green, Isaac Hayes, Janet Jackson, Patti LaBelle, LA Reid, Nile Rodgers, Snoop Dogg, The Jacksons, Busta Rhymes, Lil Wayne and more.

SZA is a Grammy Award-winning singer/songwriter who continues to set a new standard on creativity and songwriting by defying genres and shattering records with over 10 billion streams worldwide. In 2017, she released her major label debut album, *Ctrl*, to critical acclaim, launching SZA into stardom by landing at No. 1 on Billboard’s R&B Albums chart, No. 2 on the R&B/Hip Hop Albums chart, and No. 3 on the Billboard 200 chart, where it remained for 371 weeks, the longest run for any Black female artist’s debut album. The RIAA-certified 3x Platinum album received five

Grammy nominations, including Best New Artist. In 2022, she released her long-awaited sophomore effort *SOS*, which debuted at #1 on the Billboard 200 chart and spent ten non-consecutive weeks on top. With the release of *SOS*, SZA peaked at No. 1 on the Billboard Artist 100 chart as the most popular artist across all musical genres, and No. 1 on the Hot 100 Songwriters chart. She also secured the most RIAA certifications of 2023 with 15 titles, including Top Album with 3x Platinum going to *SOS* and Top Single with 5x Platinum “Kill Bill.” SZA closed out 2023 as the most Grammy nominated artist of the year, subsequently winning Best Progressive R&B Album, Best Pop/Duo/Group Performance for “Ghost in the Machine,” and Best R&B Song for “Snooze.”

Over her impressive career, SZA has received four Grammy Awards, a Golden Globe nomination, and an Academy Award nomination. She has earned 10 BMI Awards, one American Music Award, six Billboard Music Awards, three MTV

Video Music Awards, six BET Awards, including Best New Artist in 2018 and Album of the Year in 2023 and received Billboard’s Women in Music Rule Breaker Award in 2019. In 2023, SZA was crowned the Woman of the Year at the Billboard’s Women in Music Awards, named Variety’s Hitmaker of the Year, WSJ Magazine’s Music Innova-

tor of the Year and received R&B Artist of the Year and R&B Song of the Year for “I Hate U” at the iHeartRadio Music Awards. In 2024, she received the Hal David Starlight Award at the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

In receiving this honor, SZA joins previous BMI Champion Award recipients including Inflo, Khalid, Mark Ronson, Residente,

Sebastian Krys, Keith Urban and Lee Thomas Miller, who were honored for their commitment and efforts supporting the next generation of songwriters and music makers.

For more information on the BMI R&B/Hip-Hop Awards, visit https://www.bmi.com/genres/rb_hiphop and use hashtag #BMIRn-BHHAwards on social.

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**

African Methodist Episcopal Church and plaintiffs reach settlement agreement in retirement plan class-action lawsuit, unite to pursue claims against Newport and Symetra

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Aug. 26, 2024 /PRNews-wire/ -- The African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME) and Plaintiffs (who represent a putative class of Plan Participants) have reached a contingent settlement agreement in the class action lawsuit concerning the misappropriation of retirement funds. The settlement is contingent on Court approval, but marks a significant step forward in ad-

ressing the financial harm caused to retirement plan participants and underscores the Church's commitment to its members.

Background

The AME Church was victimized by its own elected General Officer who, in coordination with several Defendants in this lawsuit, embezzled retirement funds and concealed the diversion of other retirement funds into unauthorized,

risky investment vehicles over an extended period of years, for their own financial gain. The undisclosed diversion was discovered upon the retirement of the former General Officer and has resulted in significant financial losses for nearly all clergy members with investments in the retirement plan. After such a significant breach of trust a group of clergy plan participants filed class action lawsuits

against their own Church to ensure accountability and redress. The Church understands why the plaintiffs filed those lawsuits and does not resent their efforts to seek a legal remedy for the loss of the plan's retirement funds. We understand and share their frustration and we harbor no animosity whatsoever towards the plaintiffs.

Settlement Agreement

Despite the emotional

and financial strain on both sides, the Church and the Plaintiffs have come together to reach a settlement that provides immediate restoration of some funds and creates a pathway for the Church and Plaintiffs to restore the balance of the lost retirement funds. The Church has committed to seeking full restoration for all plan participants and sees this contingent settlement as a big step toward

that result.

Efforts Against Newport and Symetra

The settlement agreement allows for the Church and Plaintiffs to continue pursuing claims against all remaining defendants including Newport and Symetra, the corporate entities on whom the Church relied. Newport's and Symetra's significant cul-

See SETTLEMENT, Page 14

HARRIS, from Page 5

campaign's unprecedented fundraising totals reflect the combined efforts of Harris for President, the Democratic National Committee, and joint fundraising committees.

vention also marked a significant outreach effort to conservative and independent voters, featuring six Republican speakers on stage and several more in videos, including former Trump administration officials—more than any previous Democratic convention. The event became the one history's most bipartisan national political gathering. Notably, conservative legal scholar Judge J. Michael Luttig, a George H.W. Bush appointee, joined a dozen Republican lawyers who served under Presidents Reagan, George H.W. Bush,

and George W. Bush in endorsing Harris. They joined the growing list of Republicans, including Congressman Joe Walsh, Congresswoman Barbara Comstock, and Congressman Adam Kinzinger, who have publicly supported Harris.

Dillon said organizers are now gearing up to engage voters on critical issues such as reproductive freedom, the cost of living, and Social Security and Medicare protection. This week, Harris and Walz will embark on a bus tour through South Georgia, their first joint campaign event in the state. With its diverse mix of rural, suburban, and urban communities, including a significant proportion of Black voters and working-class families, this region epitomizes the Harris-Walz coalition. The

tour will culminate in a rally in Savannah, where Harris will directly address Georgians about the upcoming election's stakes.

The Harris-Walz campaign is also making significant investments in paid outreach. The campaign launched a new TV ad across battleground states, highlighting Harris's eco-

nomie vision and her commitment to building an opportunity economy where everyone who works hard can get ahead. The ad is part of August's \$150 million television buy, with \$370 million in television and digital reservations.

"Headed into Labor Day, our campaign is using those resources and enthusiasm

to build on our momentum, taking no voters for granted and communicating relentlessly with battleground voters every single day between now and Election

Day—all the while, Trump is focused on very little beyond online tantrums and attacking the voters critical to winning 270 electoral votes," Dillon remarked.

DOUBLE CRYPT FOR SALE

CRYPT #6 LOCATED IN OAK GROVE GARDEN MAUSOLEUM IN IRVING, TEXAS

\$8,000.00

CONTACT
214-207-0811

 **GARLAND**
TEXAS MADE HERE

Attention Suppliers of Goods, Services and Construction

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

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

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

 **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

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.

I Didn't Lose My Marbles They Just Retired

Dr. James L. Snyder

For some people, getting old is a real challenge. And it probably is for many people, but it hasn't been too much of an issue for me.

Don't let this get out, but getting old has been more of a blessing than a curse for me. I thought it would be terrible and didn't know what I would do when I reached that magical retirement age. Fortunately for me, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is several years ahead of me, so she is leading the way.

I like it when she is in charge like this because that means I don't have to wear out my brain by trying to figure out anything.

When she acknowledges that she is old, I will accept it and look forward to get-

ting old myself.

The other day, for example, she complained about her bones aching, and I said, "Well, my dear, you're just getting old."

Of course, that did not go well with her. She replied, "No, it has nothing to do with my age. There is a storm coming, and Mother Nature is warning me to get ready for the storm."

Am I losing it, or have I heard that before? Evidently, she's in contact with Mother Nature, who messages her when a storm is coming.

Because I do not like pain, I went along with her story. When she walked out of the living room, I said, "Tell Mother Nature I said hello."

She looked at me with one of her looks, and she

was not laughing, although I was laughing, at least on the inside.

Getting old does have its privileges. Because I'm old, for instance, I have the privilege of not remembering things.

Whenever The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage asks me about something, I reply sadly, "Oh, I must be getting old because I don't remember that."

So far, I've gotten away with that.

The only problem is that I need to have a good memory to remember what I don't remember. Oh boy.

For me, the greatest pleasure of getting old has to do with my eating habits.

I can complain about some food and say to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, "I don't think

I'm able to eat that sort of thing anymore, it stirs up my stomach."

Right here, I need to have a very good memory to know what I don't want to eat. After all, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage has an excellent memory, and I'm banking on that for sure.

Certain vegetables are off-limits to me because I'm older now. If it's green, it can't be seen, at least on my plate.

Last week, I got caught complaining that I couldn't eat certain vegetables, and my stomach could not handle it anymore. I snuck into the kitchen and got several cookies, and as I turned around to walk out, who was standing in front of me but The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage?

"What are you eating?" She said very sternly. "I thought at dinner you said your stomach couldn't handle anything more for the day."

I looked at her, tried to smile, and said, "But, my dear, I can't resist your cookies. You make such delicious and wonderful cookies." Then, I tried to smile more broadly.

"For your information," she said while staring at me, "I did not make those cookies I bought them for our great-granddaughter."

I was careful what I was going to say next because anything I said, she would remember until the day of my funeral.

The game of forgetfulness can be a wonderful game. However, the Gracious Mistress of the Par-

sonage does not know that she's playing it. Because of that, I usually win.

I'm really not as forgetful as I let on, because sometimes it is important not to remember something. Some things are not worth remembering and my problem as I get older is I remember what I should forget and forget what I should remember.

How I get out of this mess will be something to treasure the rest of my life.

The other day, I had one of those forgetful issues. I was trying to find something in my office, but I just could not find it. I looked everywhere, but it didn't show up. I was a little bit frustrated.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage came and

See SNYDER, Page 15

SETTLEMENT, from Page 13

pability has been revealed through evidence obtained from deposition testimony and documents that have been discovered since the lawsuit was filed. These entities, each of which benefited financially, played a critical role in enabling the fraudulent activities that led to the financial losses of innocent ministers and their families.

Statements from Leadership

AME Church's General Counsel, Douglass P. Selby: "On behalf of the AME Church, we are relieved to have reached today's settlement which allows us to continue our focus on re-

storing the retirement benefits of the Church's valued clergy members.

The agreement reached today demonstrates the Church's ongoing commitment to its clergy and the determination to hold those truly responsible accountable. The prayer of the Church is that this settlement, and the reforms to which the Church has committed itself, will help to close a painful chapter in the denomination's history, and begin the path towards healing and recovery of faith and trust among its members and in the systems of the Church.

The Church is commit-

ted to a vigorous, sustained pursuit of all avenues of recovery and all lawful claims until its plan participants' savings are fully restored."

Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel, Matthew Lee: "While the decision to sue the Church was difficult, it was necessary to reach this point. This settlement enables the restoration of some of the funds while other culpable defendants continue to hide from their responsibility to make the plan participants whole. We look forward to seeking justice from Newport, Symetra and other Defendants, who played a significant role in this tragic situation."

wellbeing.

Sponsors and Partners for their Dallas Season Opener include: Alzheimer's Association, SonRise Project, Project Unity, and Compassion International. This season opener concert will provide a snapshot of the upcoming gospel competition season.

For more information about the Gospel Music Initiative and upcoming events, visit attpac.org.

Commitment to Transparency and Reform

The AME Church is also introducing major reforms to the operations of the Department of Retirement Services to prevent future mismanagement. These reforms include transitioning

to Wespath for future contributions and implementing stricter controls and oversight.

Conclusion

This settlement marks a new chapter for the AME Church and its members. By resolving the Plaintiffs' claims against the Church,

the Church and the Plaintiffs have demonstrated their shared commitment to justice and financial stability. The Church remains dedicated to its mission and to the well-being of its members, and this agreement is a testament to that dedication.

GOSPEL, from Page 10

the Winspear Opera House, Sept. 5 at 7:30 p.m. "How Sweet The Sound" is a national gospel music competition tour that celebrates the sound of gospel music across American communities. Established in 2007, the competition rapidly emerged as a significant platform in the American gospel music scene.

The competition fea-

tures choirs, soloists, praise teams, spoken word artists, and dance ensembles. Over the years, it has awarded thousands of dollars to talented contestants.

"How Sweet The Sound" is committed to elevating the importance of mental health and encourage people in the Black community to take a proactive approach to their emotional

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

Avoiding Conflict



Sister Tarpley
NDG
Religion
Editor



“Then Joab went to Geshur and brought Absalom back to Jerusalem. But the king said, “He must go to his own house; he must not see my face.” So Absalom went to his own house and did not see the face of the king.” **2 Samuel 14:23-24.**

Many people hate conflict to the point they will never confront a wrong. Taking this path will only lead to later hardship. Such was the case for Absalom and his father King David.

Amnon, also a son of David, raped his sister Tamar. When this happened, David was furious but he did not punish Amnon for his actions.

Absalom saw this as a terrible injustice for his sister. So, Absalom plotted to kill Amnon at the right

time. He patiently waited for two years before he set up a situation to have him killed.

David was heartbroken over the death of Amnon and held Absalom responsible. At the same time.

David still desired to have a relationship with

Absalom, but because he failed to address the situation with Amnon when it happened, it led to more serious consequences in the family.

Absalom was banished for three years because of David’s anger towards him which allowed seeds of resentment to grown in his heart. Absalom then conspired to overthrow David’s kingdom.

It is imperative to confront problems when they arise no matter how uncomfortable it might be.

We are called to speak the truth in love. “Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into Him who is the Head, that is, Christ.”

Ephesians 4:15-16.

Failure to confront in love allows the enemy to sow greater seeds of conflict.

Is there someone in your life that you need to confront in love?

Make plans now to get with this person and work through the issues that divide you.

Ask God to let you feel His peace in your life today. God has promised peace, and you can experience God’s perfect peace beyond all understanding in times of life that are just plan hard.

There is so much going on in this world, in our

country, in our community; so many prayer requests and needs in my church family; and needs in my own family.

Ask God to continue to touch us, have mercy upon us, guide us and protect us. Please help us to feel Your presence and experience Your peace in the midst of it all.

Thank God for being a loving and merciful God. In the name of Jesus Christ we should pray because He is The One who paid the price with His precious blood.

(Editor’s Note: This column originally ran in August 2017.)

SNYDER, from Page 14

said, “What’s wrong? Have you lost your marbles?” And she looked at me and laughed and laughed.

I responded to her by saying, “No, my dear, I have not lost my marbles, they just have retired.”

Looking at me she grinned and said, “Well, maybe you should retire too.”

She has something there that I’m going to think about.

While I was thinking about my memories I was reminded of what King David said, “I remember the days of old; I meditate on all thy works; I muse on the work of thy hands” (Psalm 143:5).

Even David thought re-

membering good things was important. His reflection was on the good things God had done. It is easy for me to forget what God has done in my life.

It’s easy to think of all those bad times in my life. I do that quite often. David’s focus was to meditate on the “good things God has done.” Although there have been bad times in my past, it is important to recognize

God’s activity in my life.

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 **IBOX**
Pastor Rickie G. Rush

7701 S. Westmoreland Rd
Dallas, TX 75237
972.672.4262 (IBOC)
www.IBOCCHURCH.org

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

Back to SCHOOL

Back to VACCINES

IMMUNIZATIONS

- ✓ Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis
- ✓ Polio
- ✓ Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)
- ✓ Hepatitis A and B
- ✓ Varicella
- ✓ Meningococcal

Parkland Health is in your neighborhood!
Find a clinic near you by visiting parklandhealth.org/locations

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:

Thursday, Aug 29 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Thursday, Sept 12 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Friday, Aug 6 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Friday, Oct 4 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

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

NDG Book Review: 'A Passionate Mind in Relentless Pursuit' is inspiring

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Ten feet tall. Larger than life.

Surely, that describes the person in history you most admire. He was a giant among men. Her actions were bigger than anyone could imagine in her time and place. You think about that a lot, and the rest of their story. Is there, as in "A Passionate Mind in Relentless Pursuit" by Noliwe Rooks, more to learn?

In the early winter of 1938, Eleanor Roosevelt took a stand when she followed her friend, Mary McLeod Bethune into the Southern Conference for Human Welfare and sat beside Bethune, defying the racist Public Safety Commissioner of Birmingham,



Alabama. That's an account that's easy to find anywhere, and it's thrilling, but the story misses something: at one point, the conference's organizer asked for "Mary" to come up to the platform.

Bethune drew herself up and told the organizer "My name is Mrs. Bethune."

Says Rooks, it was un-

common for a Black woman to demand that she be called by a name she chose. That Bethune did is just one of the things that stick in Rooks' mind.

Bethune was her parents' fifteenth child and the first one born free. That wasn't her last "first": she was the first Black woman to establish a hospital for Black Floridians, and the first Black woman to launch an HBCU for young Black women in the eastern U.S.. Rooks says that Bethune conceived of the idea of the Tuskegee Airmen, she was the founder of several civil rights organizations and served on the boards and committees of others; she was a teacher who held literacy classes for Black adult voters in the South; and she opened Flor-

ida's first beach exclusively "for Black people."

Rooks says that her grandparents knew Bethune and, in doing research for this book, her understanding of Bethune was totally changed. Bethune was more than an activist – she was also a dream maker and "the first lady of Black America."

Here's something you won't often see in this column: "A Passionate Mind in Relentless Pursuit" is not lengthy enough. Not by a long shot.

Author Noliwe Rooks brings the story of Mary McLeod Bethune to readers' attention, but there could've been more. We get a nice, albeit scattered, list of Bethune's work and accomplishments, but you may be

left with the sense that the list is somehow incomplete. Even Rooks' thoughts and the stories of her own ancestors is so good that you'll be left wanting.

If only this book was longer.

This means you'll devour what is here: the stories, the jaw-dropping achievements, and a lingering feeling that Bethune never felt like she was done, like there was always more to do. Like Rooks, you may find that that, and Bethune, stick in your mind awhile.

Absolutely, this book will send you looking for more information on this talented, driven, brilliant woman. What you'll find here is a little short on substance but still, as an account of the magnitude of

one woman's accomplishments, "A Passionate Mind in Relentless Pursuit" is a "ten."

If you're up for more unique history, look for "On a Move: Philadelphia's Notorious Bombing and a Native Son's Lifelong Battle for Justice" by Mike Africa, Jr. It's the story of MOVE, a Black Civil Liberties organization and the eleven people killed in a police bombing in 1985. One of those affected in the aftermath was Africa, whose parents were incarcerated and who remembers the bombing and the ensuing questions surrounding it. This is a deeply moving story that sheds light on a little-discussed chapter in history.

EARLY, from Page 6

goal. Understanding the context of their daily life and perceptions of specialized training is crucial for boosting the number of credentialed early childhood teachers. And it's especially urgent for underserved communities both in Texas and beyond.

That will be a challenge for educators and for those who support them. Still, the effort is worthwhile. Educators with credentials produce better outcomes for children, according to the many studies that Usma

cites. And she provides recommendations that can help lower the roadblocks early childhood teachers face to earning credentials. For example, states and localities can build a more qualified workforce by using block grants and funding to help educators earn an ECE certification or credential. Center directors can urge teachers to make credentials a priority and show them how it would enhance their teaching skills. Accreditation organizations can provide

detailed rationales for the importance of teacher certification. Credentialing organizations can tailor their outreach to highlight specific benefits for centers, teachers, and students.

Future studies should explore incentives for uncertified teachers to pursue certification nationwide. These efforts should take account of teachers' real-life challenges and stories, like the ones that Usma heard. Her insights contribute to an understanding of why more teachers don't earn credentials, ways to help them succeed in doing so, and why it

matters so much. Granted, early childhood teachers contend with other commitments and face constraints on their time. But Usma

urges policymakers and education leaders to find ways to help more teachers earn credentials for the sake of those they serve. Qualified

early childhood teachers, as she points out, have the skills to help young children someday tell success stories of their own.

DELIVERANCE, from Page 9

is so unbridled she beats up the neighborhood kids who bully her children. Day is too refined to make that persona believable. It's like she's acting like a tough girl but isn't one. However, her vulnerable scenes are much more credible. E.g. when she sees her angelic son and questions her mothering: "I don't know how such a good person came out of somebody like me."

When Mo'Nique enters the picture as an agent from Child Protection Services, she has an air about her that shows a strength and street

savvy Day feigns. The two actresses should have been cast in each other's roles. Aunjanue Ellis-Taylor (King Richard) turns the character of Apostle Bernice James, the exorcist who will do the "The Deliverance," into that of a strong woman of god. She crusades against the devil in a holy fight-for-life battle. Guarding the mother, she warns: "Ebony that demon wants your son!" Then she forcefully challenges the evil monster: "I rebuke you in the name of Jesus!" Unfortunately, Close is

miscast as the white trash older woman who loves Black men. Not believable in one single frame. A cameo by Omar Epps, as Ebony's husband, is appreciated but not long enough for him to show his talent.

This horror/thriller plays on your mind, but not enough to scare the bejesus out of you. That's a clear sign of a flailing Exorcist wannabe. Many will expect more from Lee Daniels. Many will be disappointed. Maybe the devil made him do it.

Visit Film Critic Dwight Brown at DwightBrownInk.com.

For Adults 18+ with Uncontrolled High Blood Pressure



HYPERTENSION RESEARCH

NEEDS YOU ...

If your high blood pressure is not adequately controlled with current medication

Qualified participants may receive:

- ✓ Reimbursement for study related time and travel
- ✓ No-cost trial-related care from local doctors
- ✓ No-cost trial medication

No health insurance needed

Call: 469-424-4054

Visit: www.TheStudyHero.com


SYNEXUS