



# North Dallas Gazette

"Most respected Voice of the Minority Community"

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

## National crime plummets, defying perception of a crime wave

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

The latest FBI data on Monday, September 23, 2024, revealed a significant drop in national crime rates from 2022 to 2023, contradicting widespread public perception of a crime wave. According to the FBI's annual "Summary of Crime in the Nation," violent crime fell by 3%, while property crime decreased by 2.4%.

The most severe offenses saw particularly dramatic declines: murder and non-negligent manslaughter dropped by 11.6%, marking the most significant single-year decrease in two decades. Rape also declined by 9.4%. These decreases represent a clear shift as the U.S. continues to recover from the instability caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which had previously exacerbated certain criminal activities.

Property crime followed similar trends, with burglary down by



While fear-mongering persists in the American psyche, actual statistics tell a different story. The latest FBI data marks a significant drop in national crime rates from 2022 to 2023. (Photo via NNPA)

7.6%. However, motor vehicle theft incidents spiked from 999,394 in 2022 to over 1.1 million in 2023 — a return to pre-pandemic levels. Experts suggest that these upticks may reflect the reopening of businesses and the return to more typical consumer behavior following the pan-

demic's restrictions and security measures.

While the nation as a whole is experiencing a steady decline in violent crime, the gap between reality and public perception persists. Social media, doorbell cameras, and

See CRIME, Page 6



### The real elephant in the room

- See Page 3



### A link between prison and cancer rates

- See Page 4



### Operatives call out campaign spending

- See Page 5



### A'ja Wilson makes her mark on the WNBA

- See Page 7



### When music and geopolitics collided

- See Page 9



### Sister Tarpley: God's voice in circumstances

- See Page 14

### Inside...

People in the News ..... 2  
Op/Ed ..... 3  
Health ..... 4  
Community ..... 5  
Education ..... 6  
Feature ..... 7-8  
Entertainment ..... 9-10  
Marketplace ..... 12-13  
Religion ..... 14-15  
NDG Book Review ..... 16



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

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

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

### People In The News ...



Cat Glover



Marcellus Williams

*NDG Quote of the Week: "One important key to success is self-confidence. An important key to self-confidence is preparation."*

- Arthur Ashe



## Cat Glover

Prince fans and those in the late icon's sphere knew well the tantalizing and provocative dance moves and background vocals of Catherine Vernice Glover. Recognized worldwide as Cat, the extraordinary dancer, choreographer, and singer who achieved legendary status through her collaborations with Prince, Glover died at 60. Glover's death was announced via her official Facebook page, where a brief statement asked for privacy during this difficult time. No cause of death was provided.

Glover's career is inseparably linked with the Purple



Genius, particularly during his creative peak in the late 1980s. As a key figure in his band, she contributed her energy and talent to unforgettable albums like "Sign o' the Times" and "LoveSexy," helping shape the visual and performance

styles of the era. Her most memorable contribution may have been providing the rap on Prince's hit single "Alphabet St.," but her influence stretched far beyond that.

Born in Chicago on July 23, 1964, Glover was one of six children. She began dancing at age five and attended Esmond Elementary and Morgan Park High Schools. Her love of dance was immediate and undeniable, but her admiration for Prince ignited her professional dreams. "The only thing that got me through my depression from everything was listening to Prince's album Dirty Mind," she told The

Chicago Crusader in 2016 after the legendary music maker's shocking death. "I knew I had to meet him. That was me talking to my inner self."

Determined to carve out a path to stardom, Glover's big break came through the hit television show "Star Search," where she performed as part of the dance duo Pat and Cat alongside Patrick Allen. Their dynamic routines earned them seven victories and two perfect scores, though they ultimately lost in the finals. The exposure, however, skyrocketed Glover's reputation. Rock icon David Bowie took notice, but her musical hero, Prince,

would change her life forever when he invited her to join his band in December 1986.

Glover's talent and Prince's vision meshed perfectly. She choreographed and danced in the 1987 groundbreaking concert film "Sign o' the Times." She became a central figure on the "LoveSexy tour," where she also famously rapped on "Alphabet St." The partnership cemented Glover's status as a powerhouse in the entertainment world. Yet, the connection with Prince was nearly fateful. "I had actually run into him a few times – I remember when he was touring 'Dirty Mind,'" Glover

recalled in an earlier interview. "I was getting into an elevator at a Holiday Inn in Los Angeles just as he was getting out of it."

Her real introduction to Prince came through mutual friends, she said. "I was on 'Star Search,' and I made friends with a young dancer called Devin DeVasquez, who went on to work for Playboy," Glover recalled. "One night, she called me and said, 'Hey, there's a little dinner going at Prince's place, and if you want, you can come with me.'" That dinner changed everything. "He played this brand-new song that he wanted us to

See GLOVER, Page 8

## Marcellus Williams

In a damning display of justice gone wrong, Marcellus Williams, a Missouri death row inmate, was executed, despite overwhelming evidence suggesting his innocence. His death by lethal injection has sparked outrage, with the blame falling squarely on the shoulders of former President Donald Trump, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, Missouri Governor Mike Parson, and the conservative U.S. Supreme Court justices who refused to halt the execution.

Williams, 55, was convicted in 2001 for the 1998 murder of Felicia Gayle in her St. Louis apartment. However, no DNA evidence ever tied him to the crime. The St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, which urged a stay of execution, had supported his legal team in its tenacious fight for clemency. The victim's own family had requested Williams' sentence be commuted to



life without parole, writing, "Marcellus' execution is not necessary."

Yet, the conservative majority on the Supreme Court—Chief Justice John Roberts, Neil Gorsuch, Clarence Thomas, Samuel Alito, Brett Kavanaugh, and Amy Coney Barrett—voted to deny Williams a stay. Their decision condemned an innocent man to death, and it is a stark reminder of how deeply broken the justice system has become under their influence. Liberal justices Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan, and Ketanji Brown Jackson dissented, recognizing the glaring miscarriage of justice.

This execution didn't happen in a vacuum. It is a direct result of the political power play that Trump and McConnell orchestrated. Trump's appointment of three ultra-conservative justices—Gorsuch, Kavanaugh, and Barrett—solidified a Supreme Court more interested in ideology than fairness. McConnell's refusal to consider Barack Obama's 2016 nominee, Merrick Garland, to replace Justice Antonin Scalia was a pivotal move in ensuring this conservative stronghold. He later rushed through Amy Coney Barrett's confirmation weeks before Trump's election loss, fully aware of the long-term consequences.

Gov. Mike Parson, a staunch MAGA Republican, ignored every plea for mercy, including those from the prosecutor's office and over a million citizens and faith leaders who called for clemency. Despite abundant evidence of

See WILLIAMS, Page 5

**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

**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.

**Brenda Peralta**  
Mortgage Loan Officer  
972.716.7379  
NMLS: 2029954



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  
Allen Gray  
Jackie Hardy  
Lori Lee  
Terri Schlichenmeyer

**Religious Editor Emeritus**

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

**Account Executive**  
Teryck Edwards

**Production**  
David Wilfong



**Publisher's Office:**

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

**Sales Department:**

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

**Editorial Department:**

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



**SUBSCRIBE:**

- Library of Interviews
- Community Leaders
- Arts, Entertainment

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



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

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

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

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

# The elephant in the room is not the Republican Party



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

The expression "The Elephant In The Room" often refers to an obstacle in a conversation that appears to be the size of an elephant in a room so large that he takes up most of the space. This is the case with Donald Trump and his race against Vice President Kamala Harris.

Trump, a convicted felon, with 34 convictions, multiple indictments and major court cases that could send him to prison, appears to be the Presidential Preference for a large number of Americans who want Donald Trump as President, no matter what. This group of voters, who happen to be predominantly White,

are not really interested in positions on policy issues. Donald Trump is the key to the Project 2025 take over of the American government and the abolishment of the U. S. Constitution as we know it,

The elephant in the room

has not put forth a policy issue for anything. He has only talked about the things he wants to do, like pardon the January 6th rioters, which are not based in the use of the Constitution but rather the bypassing of law to release people who have

the people can block it. In the weeks leading up to the November 5th election, let us focus on getting out an overwhelming number of votes that will make the Electoral College count for Vice President Harris so large we go so far beyond the 270 votes needed that there is no room for the challenges that Trump is planning to delay and overthrow the transition of power. Let us remember that the Republican Party has been taken over by the Conservatives that would use Trump to implement Project 2025. Since Donald Trump is their key to changing our system of government to a Dictatorship, Let Vice President Harris be the key to saving Democracy as so many have come to understand. We can beat the elephant in the room, but only with our votes.

*The elephant in the room is the "Browning" of America; that the immigrants and people of color are taking over or will soon take over America in terms of population.*

is the "Browning" of America; that the immigrants and people of color are taking over or will soon take over America in terms of population. Such reasoning is not concerned about policy issues. This is evidenced by the fact that Donald Trump

sworn allegiance to Trump rather than the Constitution.

The only solution to counter this kind of thinking does not rest in the logic of policy discussions but rather in the realization that only the voting will of

## We can't normalize the demonization of our Haitian brothers and sisters

Bobby R. Henry  
Chairman, NNPA

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), representing more than 200 Black-owned print and online media outlets, is outraged by the demonization and blatant lies being spread about Haitian immigrants in Springfield, Ohio, by Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump and his running

mate, J.D. Vance. This purposeful defamation and dehumanization of people legally seeking a better life, like so many immigrants before them, has no place in a country that built its success on the backs of enslaved people and immigrants.

We strongly embrace and respect the diversity and positive contributions of everyone who calls the United States home. This is

a core tenet of our values. Let's be clear — what Donald Trump and J.D. Vance have done by sanctioning and attempting to normalize assaults on immigrants has provided fertile ground for breeding a new generation of hate-mongers. The NNPA will join forces with, and add our voice to, any organization that denounces and takes action against this kind of open bigotry, hate, and violence.

Today, in a country whose foundation rests on a system of true democracy, we must never vote for those whose self-interests conflict with the greater good. Our most powerful weapon to eradicate this behavior is our vote. We must vote them out, or better yet, not vote for them in the first place.

VOTE like your life depends on it — because it does.

Keep up with the news

O N L I N E

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



# New ACS study finds higher incarceration rates associated with higher county- and state-level cancer mortality rates

(Newsweek) — A new nationwide study led by American Cancer Society (ACS) researchers finds that higher county-level jail and state-level prison incarceration rates in the United States were associated with higher county- and state-level cancer mortality rates, especially for liver and lung cancers. The findings are published today in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* (JNCI).

“These results aren’t surprising. Incarceration in the U.S. is recognized as a key element of social determinants of health and is linked to a wide range of adverse health outcomes,” said Dr. Jingxuan Zhao, senior scientist, health services research at the American Cancer Society and lead author of the study. “We con-



DWG Studio

ducted this study to better understand the associations of incarceration and cancer mortality at the community level.”

For the study, researchers analyzed incarceration data from 1995-2018 sourced from national jail and prison data at the county- and state levels, respectively, and categorized them into quartiles. County- and

state-level mortality rates with invasive cancer as the underlying cause of death were obtained from the National Vital Statistics System.

A total of 3,062 U.S. counties, 50 states, and Washington, D.C., were included in the analysis. After adjusting for county-level factors, researchers found that higher county-level jail

incarceration rates were associated with higher cancer mortality rates – compared to the lowest incarceration rate (Quartile (Q)1, Q2, Q3, and Q4 (highest incarceration rate) had 1.3%, 2.3%, and 3.9% higher cancer mortality rates, respectively. Similarly, they also found that higher state-level prison incarceration rates were associated with higher cancer mortality rates – compared to Q1, Q2, Q3, and Q4 of state-level prison incarceration rates had 1.7%, 2.5%, and 3.9% higher cancer mortality rates, respectively. The magnitude of the associations of county-level jail and state-level prison incarceration and cancer mortality were similar for people racialized as White or Black, as well as males

and females. Associations were more pronounced for liver and lung cancers.

“Our findings from this study suggest that programs to address adverse health effects of mass incarceration are warranted, particularly for populations that suffer from inequities in cancer care and outcomes and are disproportionately incarcerated in the U.S.,” Zhao added. “Populations in areas with high incarceration rates may have limited access to cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment. Furthermore, incarceration may disrupt local economics and labor markets and increase strain on social service systems. Multilevel efforts to address these challenges may help decrease cancer disparities at the community level.”

“Having comprehensive health insurance is a critical factor for survivorship against cancer,” said Lisa A. Lacasse, president of ACS CAN. “Medicaid is an important source of health insurance for people who would not otherwise have access to care, including those who are transitioning back to their communities following incarceration. We urge lawmakers in the 10 states that have not expanded Medicaid to do so to improve health outcomes and reduce the burden of cancer.”

*Dr. Robin Yabroff is senior author of the study. Other ACS scientists contributing to the research include Dr. Xuesong Han, Dr. Leticia Nogueira, Dr. Jason Zheng, Dr. Qinjin Fan, and Sylvia Shi.*

# Vaping bad for brain health, first-of-its kind study shows

(Newsweek) — ORLANDO, Fla. – College students who vaped had lower cognitive function scores than those who didn’t, and the more they vaped, the bigger the disparity, according to first-of-its-kind research being presented at the 149th Annual Meeting of the American Neurological Association (ANA).

The study also found college students who vaped and smoked had the lowest scores. While using electronic cigarettes (vaping) has been shown to cause lung damage, the research presented at ANA is groundbreaking because there is little to no information on vaping’s relationship to cognitive function, such as learning,



davide ragusa / Unsplash

memory, problem-solving, critical thinking and decision-making. Cognitive testing is rarely performed in young people.

“People in the study who had previously smoked cigarettes typically smoked three or four a week, but with vaping, they now smoke double, triple, or more, especially if they

smoke and vape,” said Linker Viñan Paucar, lead author of the study and a final-year medical student at Catholic University of Santiago de Guayaquil, Ecuador. “Electronic cigarettes with up to 20,000 puffs are supposed to last three months, but we found many students finished them before the first month

and started using others.”

The study included 405 Hispanic college students ages 18-30 who attended one of two universities in Guayaquil, Ecuador: 64 only vaped; 31 only smoked cigarettes; 111 smoked and vaped; and 199 never smoked or vaped. All were given Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) tests, for which scores 26 and above are considered normal and those below 25 may indicate some cognitive impairment. MoCA scores were as follows. Students who:

- Did not smoke or vape scored a median of 26 (low of 18)
- Only vaped scored a median of 24 (low of 16)
- Only smoked cigarettes

scored a median of 25 (low of 22)

- Vaped and smoking together scored a median of 24 (low of 8)

Researchers also determined students who vaped 10 to 20 puffs per day had scores 9.2% lower than those who did not vape or smoke, and those who vaped more than 20 puffs a day had scores 13.7% lower than those who didn’t vape or smoke.

Initially promoted as a safe alternative to cigarettes, vapes actually contain significant levels of nicotine, Viñan Paucar noted. “We believe our research marks a before and after in the field of studying cognitive function regarding vaping,” he

said. “It will be important to study vaping in other college students, including those who are Black, white or Asian and Pacific islander.”

Research has shown smoking can affect cognition by reducing brain volume and narrowing the blood vessels, lowering blood flow and oxygen to the brain. Further, nicotine can cause neurotoxicity that damages brain cells.

In 2021, 4.5% of U.S. adults 18 and over – and 11% of those 18-24 – vaped, and white adults (5.2%) were more likely to vape than Hispanic (3.3%), Black (2.4%) or Asian (2.9%) adults, according to the National Center for Health Statistics.

# Black operatives reportedly furious over Kamala Harris campaign's spending decisions

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National  
Correspondent

Black Democratic operatives and minority-owned firms are raising alarms over spending practices in Vice President Kamala Harris' presidential campaign. They accuse the campaign of favoring white-owned vendors while sidelining Black-owned firms. The controversy, first reported by NOTUS, a nonprofit newsroom created by the Allbritton Journalism Institute, has caused growing frustration among Democratic leaders, operatives, and donors. Many fear that these missteps could harm Harris' standing with voters of color in the crucial weeks before Election Day.

Derrick Johnson, president of the NAACP, expressed frustration in an August call with Harris's



Photo via NNPA

campaign. Alongside other prominent Black leaders, Johnson questioned why minority-owned political firms—historically integral to Democratic campaigns—were not receiving a fair share of the campaign's record-breaking fundraising, nearly \$1 billion since Harris became the Democratic nominee.

"If Black voters are the base, it should be Black vendors telling the story," a participant on the call told NOTUS. Yet despite pressing the issue, many left the conversation with no clear

resolution. Johnson and other leaders reportedly vowed to escalate their concerns, demanding transparency on how the campaign allocates its funds and why there appears to be a lack of equitable spending with minority-owned firms.

One point of contention is Harris' underinvestment in the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), representing more than 200 Black-owned newspapers and media companies collectively known as the Black Press of America. In June, the

Harris campaign signed a modest \$1.5 million advertising and partnership deal with NNPA, which pales compared to the near-billion-dollar fundraising total. The Black Press, which has been a trusted voice in Black communities for nearly 198 years, has long played a crucial role in informing and mobilizing Black voters.

Founded in New York in 1827, before the end of slavery, the Black Press of America remains a cornerstone of communication within Black communities. As the NNPA prepares to celebrate the Black Press' 200th anniversary, many argue that a stronger investment from Harris, who has publicly vowed to support Black businesses, is warranted and necessary.

### A Long-Standing Issue for Democrats

The marginalization of

Black-owned political firms is not new to Democratic campaigns, but Harris' candidacy has sharpened the issue. Black operatives and media companies argue that Harris' campaign is following a pattern of taking Black vendors for granted despite their critical role in past Democratic victories.

Insiders say the problem is not just a Harris issue but one inherited from the Biden campaign, where similar grievances were raised in 2020. Still, the stakes are higher for Harris, who, as the first Black and Southeast Asian woman to lead a major party ticket, faces calls to align her campaign's spending with her historic candidacy.

One Democratic consultant close to the campaign told NOTUS, "It's not just the media. It's the get-out-the-vote operations and grassroots efforts too.

Every time we push for more Black spending, it's met with resistance, and the amounts we're talking about are just a fraction of what's being spent on the general market. It's getting pretty insulting."

### Internal Campaign Friction

Frustration has also been mounting within the campaign itself. NOTUS reported that sources close to the campaign said while Harris has repeatedly directed her team to prioritize spending with minority-owned vendors, that directive has not been consistently implemented. Over a dozen campaign staffers, vendors, and external advisers told NOTUS that they have seen little follow-through.

Minyon Moore, a close adviser to Harris and chair

See HARRIS, Page 11

## LEGAL NOTICE

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

Game #	Game Name / Odds	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
2388	Match 3 Tripler Overall Odds are 1 in 4.31	\$2	11/20/24	5/19/25
2476	Lucky Dog/Cool Cat Overall Odds are 1 in 4.29	\$2	11/20/24	5/19/25
2509	Super Loteria Overall Odds are 1 in 3.77	\$5	11/20/24	5/19/25
2559	Lucky 7s Overall Odds are 1 in 4.11	\$5	11/20/24	5/19/25
2535	\$85,000,000 Explosion Overall Odds are 1 in 9.21	\$20	11/20/24	5/19/25

Texaslottery.com is the official source for all pertinent game information. Game closing procedures may be initiated for documented business reasons. These games may have prizes unclaimed, including top prizes. In addition, game closing procedures will be initiated when all top prizes have been claimed. During closing, games may be sold even after all top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. For help with a gambling problem, ncpgambling.org. © 2024 Texas Lottery Commission. PLAY RESPONSIBLY.



## 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!



# New policies, enrollment growth, and looking ahead to the future



**Joyce Foreman**  
Dallas ISD  
District 6

**New safety protocol at athletic events:** To enhance safety at athletic events, Dallas ISD now requires all students attending district-hosted games without a parent, guardian, or other adult

responsible for the student to present a current student badge for entry. The badge must be for the Dallas ISD school that is competing in the athletic event. This requirement also applies to visiting non-Dallas ISD schools.

Students without a school-issued ID, and Dallas ISD students from other high schools, will not be permitted to enter the event unless accompanied by an

adult. Middle and elementary school students must be accompanied by an adult to enter any athletic event.

Stadium safety and security personnel will be on-site to assist students who need to contact a parent or guardian for a ride home. The new protocol does not apply to students participating in the athletic event as competitors.

## Dallas ISD Enrollment

**Grows:** Dallas ISD enrollment is growing for the first time in over a decade. We have bucked a statewide trend of decreasing enrollment and welcomed more than 139,000+ students this year. We've already exceeded last year's enrollment and are continuing to climb. Incredible credit goes to the Dallas ISD teachers and staff for their hard work. Dallas ISD's continuing commit-

ment to innovation—with investments in early learning, school choice, quality teachers and leadership, and amazing new workforce programs—is paying off.

**Dallas ISD seeks community input on the district's five-year priorities:** Dallas ISD is resetting its five-year priorities, which serve as a guide for student achievement goals and the overall direction of the dis-

trict. To ensure the community's voice is heard, the Board of Trustees will hold Community Listening events across the city of Dallas. Parents, students, staff, and community members are encouraged to participate and play an active role in shaping the future of the district.

Visit the district's website to find a meeting near you and take the online survey.

## WILLIAMS, from Page 2

Williams' innocence, Parson's decision to carry out the execution was viewed by many as cruel and motivated by bloodlust.

"This was a lynching. Make no mistake, this was state-sanctioned murder of an innocent Black man," NAACP President Derrick Johnson declared. "Governor Parson had the responsibility to save a life, and he didn't. When DNA evidence exonerates a man, capital punishment is not justice—it is murder. Trump, McConnell, and the conservative Supreme

Court justices now have blood on their hands."

Johnson added that Williams' final moments were a tragic reminder of the human cost of this injustice. Reportedly, Williams lay conversing with a spiritual advisor as the lethal injection took effect. His chest heaved a few times before he went still, as his son and two attorneys watched helplessly from another room. No one from Gayle's family was present to witness the execution—likely because they had asked for his life to be spared.

Cori Bush, Missouri's Democratic Representative and staunch opponent of the death penalty, minced no words in condemning Parson's role. "Governor Parson didn't just end Marcellus Williams' life—he demonstrated how the death penalty is wielded without any regard for innocence, compassion, equity, or humanity," Bush stated. "He ignored the facts, the evidence, and the pleas from all sides. The so-called 'beyond a reasonable doubt' standard was tossed out, because Marcellus was a Black man in a system rigged against him."

Many also said the hypocrisy of the so-called "pro-life" conservatives was laid bare. A U.S. Army veteran and activist, Charlotte Clymer blasted the justices responsible, saying, "These people don't care about life. They only care about control."

Williams' case, much like so many others involving Black men and the death penalty, exposed the deep racial bias embedded in America's legal system. His attorneys had raised significant concerns about racial discrimination during jury selection, and the lack of credible evidence—es-

pecially DNA that didn't match Williams—only underscored the injustice of his conviction. Yet, the political machinery of Trump, McConnell, Parson, and the Supreme Court moved forward without pause, ensuring his death.

As Bush and others stated, Williams's death wasn't just an issue of a broken justice system—this was a political execution. Like Parson, the U.S. Supreme Court chose to ignore the evidence, the pleas, and the humanity of Williams. A litany of social media users posted comments demanding that Williams' blood is

on the hands of Republicans, and the country must reckon with the brutal truth that our highest court, and the leaders who enable it, can no longer be trusted to protect the innocent.

Williams' execution, despite overwhelming evidence of his innocence, is a searing indictment of a broken system where political power and racial bias outweigh truth and justice, Bush noted. "This was not just an execution," she railed. "This was a state-sponsored lynching, and every person responsible for it must be held accountable."

## CRIME, from Page 1

neighborhood apps have all contributed to increased awareness, which has increased the visibility of individual incidents and created an exaggerated sense of widespread danger.

Despite this, FBI data shows a consistent downward trend, with the violent crime rate falling from

377.1 per 100,000 people in 2022 to 363.8 per 100,000 people in 2023. The data also refutes claims by former President Donald Trump, who in a recent debate with Vice President Kamala Harris, dismissed the FBI's numbers as fraudulent and painted a picture of a nation gripped

by chaos. Trump claimed that major cities were excluded from the FBI's data, but the bureau clarified that it accounted for reporting gaps in its estimates and included data from every city with a population exceeding one million.

The FBI's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) gathered data from over 700 ad-

ditional agencies in 2023 compared to 2022, covering more than 315 million people—94.3% of the U.S. population.

President Joe Biden responded to the FBI report by highlighting the success of his administration's efforts to combat crime and bolster public safety. In a statement, Biden noted, "Americans are safer today

than when we took office. None of this happened by accident. Vice President Harris and I made historic investments in public safety, and the results are clear."

Biden emphasized the role of the American Rescue Plan, which provided over \$15 billion to help state and local governments fund critical public

safety measures, including preventing cuts to police budgets and supporting violence intervention programs. "We've taken decisive action to stop the illegal flow of guns and strengthen community policing. As the numbers show, we're making progress in keeping our communities safe," Biden added.



## Check us out on Facebook!

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





# A'ja Wilson cements herself on WNBA's Mount Rushmore

By Jamal Baker  
NDG Contributing Writer

A'ja Riyadh Wilson.

That is it, that is the tweet.

When you have the type of special historic 2024 season Ms. Wilson just had, it calls for her full government name. Becoming only the second player in the history of the WNBA to win the Most Valuable Player award unanimously, Wilson joins Cynthia Cooper who carried the honor in 1997.

The numbers speak for themselves as the three-time MVP averaged 26.9 points, 11.9 rebounds, 2.3 assists, 1.8 steals



A'ja Wilson just received her third WNBA MVP award. (Photo: Jon Mac CC BY 2.0, Composite by David Wilfong / NDG)

and 2.6 blocks to go along with a 51.8 percent field goal percentage.

"It's truly a blessing to get

an MVP as a whole but to say that this is my third, it's a good

See WILSON, Page 12

**READY TO BUY?  
WE'RE HERE  
TO HELP.**

**FREE Admission**

**20th Anniversary**

**Saturday Oct 19**

**11am - 5pm**  
Haggard Park, Plano

**Food Trucks**

**Music & Dance**

**Cultural Booths**

**Kids' Activities**

**PLANO International FESTIVAL**

**Cultural fun for the whole family!**

**Don't miss our Wellness Fair!**  
FREE health services and screenings for all ages!  
**11am - 2pm**

**www.planointernationalfestival.org**

Funded in part by the City of Plano

**FHA  
VA  
USDA  
PRIMARY RESIDENCES  
INVESTMENT PROPERTIES  
FIRST TIME HOME BUYER ASSISTANCE**

Start your homebuying process knowing you have the best local team behind your next purchase or refi.



[city.bank/mortgage](https://city.bank/mortgage)

132 E. Main St. Suite 107  
Grand Prairie, TX 75050

**City Bank**  
MORTGAGE

*We make it happen. You make it home.*

©2024 City Bank. All Rights Reserved. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender. Some restrictions apply. This is not a commitment to lend. Subject to credit approval. See bank for details. NMLS # 438822



# Life-Saving Omega Men...



The Alpha Iota Iota chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. exceeded its \$10,000 goal and won 1st place in the 9th district (comprising the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas) with total donations of \$11,845 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. "A special thanks to all Omega men and their supporters for the generous donations," the organizers noted. "Together we are helping the kids, and their families achieve health and wellness." For more about Omega and its community service projects, visit [northdallasques.com](http://northdallasques.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](http://www.TheStudyHero.com)



## GLOVER, from Page 2

hear—it was ‘Housequake,’ and he had just come from the studio and recorded it. It was amazing.”

That evening culminated in a trip to a Beverly Hills club called Voila. Glover recalled that despite the celebrity-filled room, she danced freely and wildly. “I got out of my seat, did

my ‘Cat Scat,’ got down on the dance floor, jumped on and off tables,” she said. “I was going nuts! And I heard Prince say to his manager, ‘I want her in my band.’”

In 1989, Glover left Prince’s band to explore her own artistic path, releasing an EP titled “Catwoman.” While it would be her only

solo musical project, Glover continued to work as a dancer and choreographer, making a brief return to Prince’s world in 1994 with a rap on the track “Cindy C” from “The Black Album.”

“It was an experience that will always be with me,” Glover admitted. “He was a genius, and I was just grateful to be part of that world.”

**GoPass**  
**SAVE \$5**

**24 DAYS OF FUN.**  
**FRONT-DOOR SERVICE.**  
**BIG-TIME SAVINGS.**

Plan your trip at [DART.org/StateFair](http://DART.org/StateFair)

STATE FAIR OF TEXAS  
DART let's go.



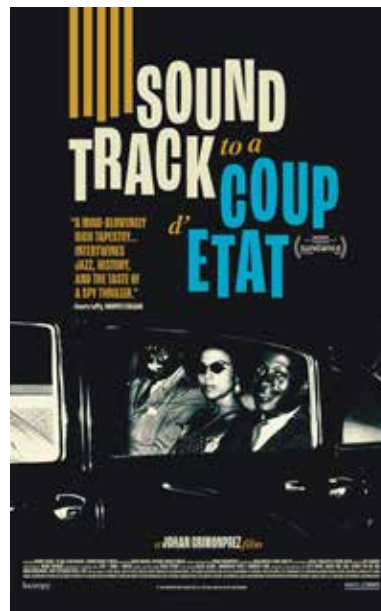
## New documentary explores where 1960s music and geopolitics collided

Kino Lorber is pleased to present Soundtrack To A Coup D'etat, a vibrant, kinetic documentary from acclaimed filmmaker Johan Grimont. Soundtrack To A Coup D'etat made its World Premiere at the 2024 Sundance Film Festival, where it won the Special Jury Award for Cinematic Innovation, and is an official selection of CPH:DOX, IDFA, San Sebastian Film Festival, and BFI London Film Festival.

Soundtrack To A Coup D'etat opens in New York on Nov. 1 at Film Forum, with national expansion to follow.

United Nations, 1960: the Global South ignites a political earthquake, jazz musicians Abbey Lincoln and Max Roach crash the Security Council, Nikita Khrushchev bangs his shoe, and the U.S. State Department swings into action,

See COUP, Page 11



ALPHA IOTA IOTA CHAPTER OF OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.  
HOME OF THE 2023 INTERNATIONAL TALENT HUNT CHAMPION

# 34TH ANNUAL PERFORMING ARTS TALENT HUNT AUDITIONS

9th – 12th Grades  
Video Submission Due:  
November 13, 2024

Instrumental & Voice (Classical, Semi-Classical, Gospel, Jazz, Top 40)

Dance (Ballet, Modern Dance, Hip Hop, Tap)

Visual Arts (Sculpture, Photography, Drawing, Painting)

Drama Interpretations (Poetry, Monologue, Oration, Rap)

Send 6 minute or less video submission to :

Bro. Horace Satisfield

Email: [ubsatisfied12@gmail.com](mailto:ubsatisfied12@gmail.com)  
Phone: (214) 436-7456




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](http://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](http://army.tcu.edu)



# UNT College of Music receives first-ever Latin Grammy Nomination

The University of North Texas College of Music is nominated for its first-ever Latin Grammy. In the Best Classical Contemporary Composition category, Eugene Migliaro Corporon conducted the North Texas Wind Symphony in its performance of the nominated track, Caribbean Berceuse, composed by Paquito D’Rivera. Also performing on the track from the album “Panamericano” are the Barcelona Clarinet Players and Paquito D’Rivera.

Caribbean Berceuse was recorded in the Margot and Bill Winspear Performance Hall in the Murchison Performing Arts Center at the University of North Texas.

Eugene Migliaro Corporon is the conductor of the North Texas Wind Symphony, a Regents Professor of



UNT College of Music / Youtube

Music, and the Wind Studies Area Coordinator at the University of North Texas. Corporon has been with the university for more than 30 years. A world-renowned conductor and educator, Eugene Migliaro Corporon is in high demand throughout the world. He has served as a guest conductor at the Showa University of Music in Kawasaki City, Japan,

and his ensembles have performed at international conferences. The North Texas Wind Symphony is internationally recognized as one of the premier ensembles of its kind, and is selected from the most outstanding musicians attending the University of North Texas College of Music. Ranked a Tier One re-

search university by the Carnegie Classification and designated a Hispanic- and Minority-Serving Institution, UNT is the flagship of the UNT System and is located in Denton. Boast-

ing 250 degree programs and a thriving community of nearly 47,000 students, UNT serves the North Texas region and helps drive the state’s economy through innovative research, educational excellence focused on career readiness, and a spirit of entrepreneurship. Together, with its branch campus in Frisco, UNT students earned more than 12,000 degrees last year. The University of North Texas College of Music is the largest public university music program in the United States and one of the most globally respected. Faculty and staff

include internationally acclaimed artists and scholars in composition, conducting, ethnomusicology, jazz studies, music education, music business, music history, music theory, commercial music and performance. The college presents nearly 1,000 music events annually. Students perform in more than 70 ensembles in eight campus venues and can be viewed worldwide via free superior quality live streaming. UNT music alumni can be found around the world in impressive, award-winning careers across a wide range of music professions.

**Boyz II Men**

WITH VERY SPECIAL GUEST  
**ROBIN THICKE**

OCTOBER 13  
THE PAVILION AT TOYOTA MUSIC FACTORY

LIVE NATION

**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)



# \$148 million returned to consumers due to two CFPB actions

*New poll shows CFPB popular among Democrat, Independent and Republican voters*

By Charlene Crowell

Recent back-to-back financial enforcement actions taken by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) underscore why the nation's sole agency dedicated to consumer financial fairness retains broad and strong voter support.

On September 11, TD

Bank, the nation's 10th largest commercial bank with 1,200 branches and 2,600 ATMs in 15 states and the District of Columbia was ordered for the second time by CFPB to pay restitution to thousands of consumers for illegally tarnishing credit reports of tens of thousands consumers. It repeatedly provided

consumer credit bureaus with inaccurate information on its customers about personal bankruptcies and credit card delinquencies. It also failed to properly investigate and resolve customer disputes linked to the faulty information. Given the widespread use of credit reports, the bank's actions threatened customers' abil-

ity to get a loan, job, or housing.

Under the terms of the recent order, the bank will return \$7.76 million to its harmed consumers and pay a \$20 million penalty as well.

"The CFPB's investigation found that TD Bank illegally threatened the consumer reports of its

customers with fraudulent information and then barely lifted a finger to fix it," said CFPB Director Rohit Chopra. "Rather than treating its customers fairly and following the law, TD Bank's management clearly cared more about growth and expanding its empire through mergers. Regulators will need to focus major atten-

tion on TD Bank to change its course."

On the following day, September 12, CFPB ordered another repeat offender, Navient – formerly known as Sallie Mae – to pay more restitution and banned it from ever servicing student loans again.

**See CFPB, Page 13**

## HARRIS, from Page 5

of the 2024 Democratic National Convention, emphasized that Harris values engaging voters through trusted voices from their communities. "Certainly, it is important to her that she reaches voters through the lens of people that can communicate with them," Moore told NOTUS. "That's her value system."

Yet, many Black operatives feel the campaign is not meeting those values. Principal Deputy Campaign Manager Quentin Fulks has come under fire for being unresponsive to internal and external requests for more equitable spending. Fulks is reportedly quick to reject proposals related to Black outreach efforts, frustrating many in the campaign with his budget handling. Some have even accused Fulks of

downplaying the need for Black-owned firms, arguing that using white-owned firms with Black associates on the project should be seen as equivalent to hiring Black-owned vendors—an assertion that has only deepened the frustration among Black operatives.

### A Lack of Investment Could Cost Support

The underinvestment in Black-owned firms goes beyond finances; it's a problem that could threaten Harris' standing with Black voters. In 2020, Black voters overwhelmingly supported Joe Biden, with 92% backing his candidacy, according to Pew Research. However, that support has softened in 2024. A recent poll from Howard University showed that Black voter support for Harris had dropped to 82%.

An even more troubling sign for the Harris campaign comes from a recent NAACP poll showing that one in four Black men under 50 now support Donald Trump. This shift is deeply concerning for Democrats, who have relied heavily on the Black vote in past elections. For many Black operatives, the solution is clear: Harris must direct more resources to Black-owned firms that know how to mobilize Black voters effectively.

Adrienne Shropshire, executive director of BlackPAC, which targets Black voters, told NOTUS that while Harris has a compelling story, the real question is whether the campaign will spend enough to reach skeptical voters. "They very clearly understand the need to increase communication with Black voters," Shropshire said. "But can

they reach enough voters to turn enthusiasm into actual votes?"

### Calls for Urgent Action

With only weeks left until Election Day, many opera-

tives across racial lines call for swift course correction. While the Harris campaign has added some Black-owned firms, including HIT Strategies and Walton Isaa-

son, overall spending with minority-owned vendors remains significantly lower than with white-owned firms—a gap that could have lasting repercussions.

## COUP, from Page 9

sending jazz ambassador Louis Armstrong to the Congo to deflect attention from the CIA-backed coup. Director Johan Grimont (dial H-I-S-T-O-R-Y, Shadow World) explores a moment when jazz, colonialism, and espionage collided, constructing a rivet-

ing historical rollercoaster that illuminates the political machinations behind the 1961 assassination of Congolese independence leader Patrice Lumumba.

The result is a revelatory documentary richly illustrated by eyewitness accounts, official govern-

ment memos, testimonies from mercenaries and CIA operatives, speeches from Lumumba himself, and a veritable canon of jazz icons. Soundtrack to a Coup d'Etat interrogates colonial history to tell an urgent and timely story that resonates more than ever in today's geopolitical climate.



## Ed Bell Construction Company

An Equal Opportunity Employer

October 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)**
- **Field Mechanic (must have driver's license)**
- **Barricade Servicer (must have driver's license)**
- **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](http://www.edbellconstruction.com/careers)**  
**Or email your resume to: [careers@edbellconstruction.com](mailto:careers@edbellconstruction.com)**



# Congressional Black Caucus releases corporate accountability report on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

*New report finds strong support among Fortune 500 companies for workforce diversity, equity, and inclusion despite ongoing attacks. Report outlines 'best practices' guide to strengthen corporate diversity across sectors*

(Black PR Wire) Recently, Congressional Black Caucus Chairman Steven Horsford (NV-04) and members of the Congressional Black Caucus released its new corporate accountability report, "What Good Looks Like": A Corporate Accountability Report on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – a first-of-its-kind report to hold Fortune 500 companies — across all sectors — accountable to their diversity, equity, and inclusion commitments and racial equity investments post-George

Floyd.

The new report commissioned by the CBC finds that the majority of Fortune 500 companies that responded to a survey by the CBC remain committed to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace despite right wing attacks in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to overturn affirmative action in the landmark *Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard* in June 2023. Since the ruling, diversity initiatives have come under at-

tack in corporate America, on college campuses in nearly 30 states, and in federal programs and venture capital firms for Black and minority businesses, despite research from institutions such as the Black Economic Alliance Foundation, which proves that 78 percent of Americans agree that corporate America should reflect the racial diversity of the American population, and McKinsey & Company showing that companies with racially diverse executive teams outperform their peers in

profitability by 39%.

The report analyzes corporate diversity practices based on data shared with the CBC aggregated by industry according to the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) and the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Of the Fortune 500 companies reflected in the GICS data, a majority have made progress to their commitments to workplace diversity and racial equity.

The report further outlines 12 Best Practices and innovative approaches (or

"What Good Looks Like"), taken by companies across various industries to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in their workplaces and beyond, which the CBC hopes corporations will use as a standardized tool to strengthen, magnify, and expand diversity, equity, and inclusion practices across industries.

The report comes nearly 10 months after the CBC issued its corporate accountability letter in December 2023 in response to the ongoing attacks on diversity initiatives in the

private sector. The letter urged corporate America, particularly those in the Fortune 500 who made public pledges to diversity and racial equity post-George Floyd, to stand firm in their commitments and to update congressional members on the progress of their commitments.

Congressional Black Caucus Chairman Steven Horsford offered the following quote:

"The CBC commends corporate leaders who have

**See CBC, Page 14**

## ← WILSON, from Page 7 →

feeling, it really is," Wilson stated.

The Las Vegas Aces center broke the league's single-season scoring record and became the first player to reach 1,000 points in a season.

Wilson is the first player to lead the league in total points, rebounds and blocks in a season.

The history books were continually rewritten as her accolades stacked on top of each other throughout the year. Her 26.9 points per game broke Diana Taurasi's record set at 25.3 points in 2006. Displaying special traits as a glass cleaner, she averaged the highest defensive rebounds per game (9.8) in a single-season. Wilson also put her greatness on display on the world's biggest sporting stage at the Paris Olympics winning her second Olym-

pic gold medal with Team USA.

Hailing from Colombia, South Carolina, the former Gamecock is immortalized with a statue at her alma mater. The great Dawn Staley, current University of South Carolina women's basketball head coach, is someone A'ja Wilson gives credit for developing her fiery nature and relentless effort on the court.

"She was someone that instilled just that boss, the leader," Wilson declared.

Wilson's leadership will certainly be on display throughout the WNBA playoffs as the Aces look to three-peat—a feat that has only been done by the Houston Comets when they won the first four titles of the league from 1997 to 2000.

The WNBA playoffs kicked off Sunday, Sept.

22 with the Aces winning Game 1 against Jewell Lloyd and the Seattle Storm. Posting the most consecutive games with 20 or more points this season, Wilson carried over her regular season success into the playoffs. She stuffed the stat sheet with 21 points, 8 rebounds, and 5 blocks.

"We locked in and understood the assignment which was just the task at hand. We need to focus on our matchups and slow them down. Seattle has great players, so we just got to make it difficult for them and I think we did that," Wilson claimed postgame.

A'ja Wilson is must see TV and anyone not tuning in to witness one of the greatest talents not only the WNBA has seen but the game of basketball will undoubtedly regret it when her illustrious career is over.

At still just 28 years

old, one can argue that she is just now entering her prime. Greats such as Sheryl Swoopes, Cynthia Cooper, Maya Moore, Candace Parker, and Diana Taurasi

all can make strong cases as the greatest women's basketball player of all time.

However, the A'ja Wilson era is in full effect, and she will continue to be a force

for years to come. A'ja Wilson is H.E.R.—a hero for the next generation, an exceptional talent that cannot be stopped, and a rare human being people love.

**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**



## CFPB, from Page 3

Under the terms of the order, Navient would have to pay \$100 million to harmed borrowers, and a \$20 million penalty.

The efforts to remove Navient from future student loan servicing followed several previous enforcement actions including:

- A 2014 \$100 million joint order by the Department of Justice and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation for illegally overcharging nearly 78,000 military servicemembers;
- A 2021 order from the Department of Education to return more than \$22 million in overcharges; and
- In 2022, a \$1.85 billion settlement brought by 39 state attorneys general for originating predatory student loans in addition to its forbearance steering practices.

Consumer advocates also applauded the most recent Navient order.

“This is a step toward accountability and sends a powerful message to all student loan servicers that such behavior will not be condoned”, said Jaylon Herbin, director of federal campaigns at the Center

for Responsible Lending (CRL). “For decades, Navient used deceptive tactics to steer borrowers into high-cost, long-term forbearances instead of placing them in affordable income-driven repayment (IDR) plans, leaving countless borrowers – many of whom were borrowers of color and low-income students – trapped in a cycle of debt.”

These and other actions that together demonstrate governmental support for financial fairness and are underscored in findings from a recent survey. Fresh data shows that voters of all or no political affiliations support the CFPB’s crack down on junk fees, discrimination, and other harmful actions from financial firms.

A bipartisan polling team from Lake Research Partners and Chesapeake Beach Consulting conducted the survey commissioned by Americans for Financial Reform (AFR) and CRL. Released on September 9, the survey showed:

- Nine in ten voters (91%) believe it is important to regulate financial services to ensure they are fair for

consumers; this includes 95% of Democrats, 87% of Republicans, and 88% of independents;

- After reading information about overdraft fees, 84% of voters support limiting the price banks can charge to only what the overdraft costs them, with no additional profit; a majority support this policy strongly;

- 82% support the CFPB using all the tools available to hold financial companies accountable for discrimination in lending, with over three quarters in support across party lines;

- 82% of voters support government regulators capping credit card late fees at \$8 per month, down from

\$32 per month; at least three quarters of voters across party lines are supportive, with at least half strongly supporting the cap; and

- After hearing a short description of the CFPB and its mission, four in five voters (81%) express support for the agency; favorability for the Consumer Bureau has been consistently very high over the past decade, ticking up slightly in 2020 and remaining at an elevated level.

“Whether the subject is credit card late fees, medical debt, or private equity’s growing impact in health care, voters favor tough regulation and oversight of the financial sector,” said Lisa Donner, executive di-

rector at Americans for Financial Reform.

“Voters of all political persuasions understand the need for the Consumer Bureau – a government watchdog that protects consumers from financial firms’ junk fees, illegal discrimination, and other misconduct,” said Mike Calhoun, president at the Center for Responsible Lending. “This poll reaffirms that politicians, regardless of their political affiliation, would best represent their constituents by supporting the Consumer Bureau and by keeping

their hands off its funding structure.”

The survey has a range of additional questions, including on fintech, small business lending, and bank failures. To read the complete poll, visit: <https://www.responsiblelending.org/research-publication/voters-strongly-support-consumer-bureaus-mission-across-political-spectrum>.

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



**GARLAND**  
TEXAS MADE HERE

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

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

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

972-205-2415

**TISEO PAVING COMPANY**

419 E. Hwy. 80, Mesquite, TX 75150  
Tel: (972) 289-0723 Fax (972) 216-5637  
[www.tiseopaving.com](http://www.tiseopaving.com)

Performing Concrete Street Paving in the Metroplex Area

We Accept Subcontracting Bids For All Public Works Projects in the Dallas Area.

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

**Equal Opportunity Employer**

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

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

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

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



**IRVING TEXAS**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**DOUBLE CRYPT FOR SALE**

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

**\$8,000.00**

CONTACT  
**214-207-0811**



# Oh, For the Life of an Old Geezer

Dr. James L. Snyder

I am not given to complaining, except when I'm awake. That's according to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

Lately, I've been leaning towards a complaining attitude. I've reached the point of being an old geezer. I'm older than both of my grandfathers, and in three years, I'll be up to where my father was when he passed away.

I don't think of myself as old, just older.

There are some benefits to getting older, but I've discovered just as many negative aspects. I'm not as energetic as I used to be. I can't walk as fast as I used to. When someone talks to me, I have to think a bit about their name.

Don't let me get on about my health issues. When I was young, I didn't have all of these health issues, but now, I'm at that point in life where I do have health issues.

Seeing my doctors is second only to seeing The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. All the nurses in the various medical places I go know me by my first name. I don't know if that's

good or if it's bad. I'm going to lean in the direction of good. After all, at my age I'm leaning in some direction.

When I was younger, I never thought about getting old. Every time I celebrated a birthday, it never occurred to me that this would continue until I became an old geezer. At the time, I used to make fun of my old grandfathers. Now, much to my disgust, I have become my old grandfathers.

I'm glad they're not alive to see that I have become just like them. They would've died laughing.

My father passed away when he was five years older than I am right now. So, in five years, I will be at my father's level. I'm unsure what level that is, and I do not even want to know.

I remember that, as kids, my siblings and I would sit around and laugh at our grandparents. I'm wondering if my grandchildren are sitting around laughing at me! I wouldn't blame them if they were.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I recently ate lunch together. I suppose we were celebrating something, but for the life of me, I can't remem-

ber what it was. We were at a restaurant enjoying ourselves.

When the waitress came to our table to take our order, she asked how we were, and I responded, "Well, for an old geezer, we were doing fine."

She smiled at me and said, "Does that mean that you both are senior citizens?"

I usually take offense at that classification. But under the circumstances I nodded my head and said, "Yes, we are senior citizens but I prefer old geezers."

Looking at me, the waitress smiled and said, "You are in luck today. We have a senior citizen discount on everything on the menu."

I looked up at her and said, "Why, yes. We're both senior citizens."

"In that case, you can get a 20% discount on everything you order today."

She took our coffee order and then went to get it for us. As she was gone, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage said, "Are we old geezers or senior citizens?"

I smiled and said, "Today we are senior citizens and tomorrow will go back to being old geezers."

"I guess it's only about the money for you," she smiled.

After thinking for a moment, I finally responded, "I've never heard of an old geezer discount. Have you?"

She shook her head and said, "I'll let you be a senior citizen today and will see what tomorrow might bring."

That next week, whenever we went out to a restaurant and, the waitress would say, "How are you doing today?" I would always respond by saying, "Do you have any senior citizen's discounts today?"

If they said "no," I would always respond by saying, "I'm just an old geezer today."

If they said "yes," I would respond by saying, "I'm a senior citizen today."

I'm trying to determine the differences between an old geezer and a senior citizen. Apart from the discount, I can't find any difference between the two. I'm an old geezer one day, and the next day, I have a senior citizen. Maybe I have the case of dementia.

At one restaurant this past week, the waiter came up and greeted me. I was having a rather crazy day, to put it mildly, so I told him, "I'm just an old geezer today."

"Well," said the waiter, "this is my last day here at this restaurant and so I'm going to give you an old geezer discount. You sorta remind me of my grandfather."

I was so sorry that The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage wasn't with me. We could have enjoyed a

two-way ticket for the old geezer discount. She would have been happy, I think. If I keep from calling her an old geezer, my day is happy.

In thinking about this I remembered a verse in the Bible that addresses old age. "They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing" (Psalm 92:14).

God still has work for me even as an old geezer. Finding that work is the joy of my life each day. This is not based on what I use to do, but what God has for me today.

*Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamesnsnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamesnsnyderministries.com.*

## CBC, from Page 12

overwhelmingly reaffirmed their company's commitment to advancing diversity, equity and inclusion in their business practices and operations, and those who believe, like most Americans, that diversity

is a business and talent imperative. We cannot allow a handful of right-wing agitators to bully corporations, and this report offers corporate America a guide to strengthening their diversity practices. This re-

port is the initial step in a strategic effort to ensure the tools of economic opportunity are protected as we work to advance our Black wealth and economic prosperity agenda in the next Congress to close the Black-white wealth gap in America."



Facebook.com/  
NorthDallasGazette

## 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**



# God Speaks through Circumstances



**Sister Tarpley**  
NDG  
Religion  
Editor

“As you do not know the path of the wind, or how the body is formed in a mother’s womb, so you cannot understand the work of God, the Maker of all things” Ecclesiastes 11:5.

God will often use circumstances in our lives to direct us in making and confirming decisions.

The story is told of a man that lunched a magazine designed for Christians in the workplace and he was having lunch with a Christian leader named Larry who headed a ministry that helps men and women apply biblical principles to



managing money.

During their lunch, he explained to Larry that he had noticed that there were many grassroots workplace ministries cropping up all over the country.

He asked Larry if he was familiar with some of the groups since he had taught a course and wrote a book on operating a business on biblical principles.

But Larry said he was not. He then asked, “It would be nice to know what all these groups are doing so we don’t duplicate efforts.

Do you think you could invite some of these groups for a roundtable discussion?” Larry told him that he would and he proceeded to invite four main workplace ministries that he had

worked with in the past.

Then something unexpected began to happen. The man began to get requests from the ministries all around the country that had heard about the gathering and they were asking if they could attend the roundtable.

By the time the event actually took place, 54 people showed up representing 45 organizations from around the country! Unfortunately, Larry had a last minute conflict and was not able to attend, and he informed me that he would have to host the meeting himself.

That was the birth of Marketplace Leaders, the ministry he now lead full time. He often joke that God tricked him into starting this ministry because God knows never he would have done that on his own

at that time.

God often confirms His direction through circumstances. Be on alert that when God sets up situations that are out of your control - He may be giving you direction through these circumstances.

Dear God, today I lift up all teachers to you. I pray for your anointing upon their lives, their work, their ministry. I pray you will give them wisdom,

knowledge, guidance, patience, love, protection, understanding, insight and everything they need to be a positive life-changing influence upon those they teach.

I pray you will keep them safe from all harm and evil. I pray you will bring to their minds the lessons and information they need to teach and the ability and skills to do what is good,

**See TARPLEY, Page 16**



# NDG Book Review: 'The Barn' can be a tough, but good read

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You've driven past it so many times, that you haven't actually seen it in ages.

After all these years, it's just a part of the scenery, something you barely even notice anymore. But what's its story?

Through the years, Wright Thompson has drawn a map of his Mississippi homeland dozens of times. Drive down this road, turn here, there, and you're at a spot that was laid out over two centuries ago, Township 22 North, Range 4 West. It's an area where the Blues were born, the Civil Rights Movement was sparked, and the Klan began.

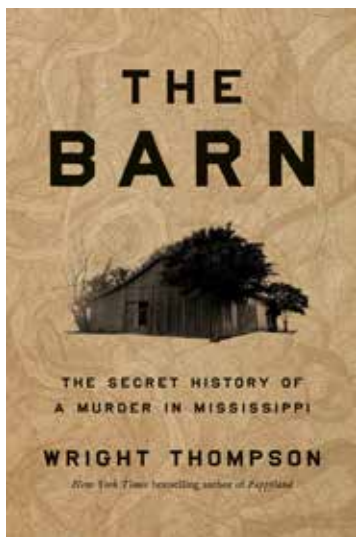
Inside that thirty-six-mile square is the barn where Emmett Till was murdered.

So why has the barn – a place that Thompson has visited hundreds of times, a place that holds Christmas decorations, lawn equipment, and ghosts – been largely ignored?

People knew what happened there. People heard things, and were intimidated into keeping quiet. Others bravely confronted Till's murderers in court.

No doubt, you know this story. You had nightmares about it for years. Be prepared to sleep with the lights on again, then, once you've read "The Barn."

Much like a love letter written in arsenic, author Wright Thompson describes his beloved home area in lush words with horror behind them, which



is both good and bad. Ever actually been to this square of Mississippi? If not, there's a lot of geographical information inside this book, and it's not going to mean much to you.

No, the meaning lies in the rest of the story of a murder that changed American history and that still has the power to make readers shudder. Thompson uses a narrow barn as a pivot point to reach back in history, to Reconstruction and slavery, Jim Crow and differences in racism in the North and South, Delta culture, and the biography of a boy, in a story that's both personal and local, and that'll keep you glued to your seat.

"The Barn" is a tale that's hard to read, but also one you can't look away from. If you need an update, or a book to help you better understand the Till case, you'll want to see this one.

## TARPLEY, from Page 15

right, and best in every situation.

I pray that each one will not see their profession and standing as just a job, but as an opportunity to make a difference in lives and show your love to others.

May they be salt and light in this world. May they rely on your strength and grace each

and every day to accomplish that which you would have them do.

Bless them, father, as your servants and children. And may they be a blessing to others with whom they work and teach. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

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

SEPT. 27 *Thru* OCT. 20

# STATE FAIR OF TEXAS

THE BEST 24 DAYS OF THE YEAR

FUN FAIR FOOD · DAILY CONCERTS · NIGHTLY FIREWORKS  
THRILLING RIDES · EXCITING GAMES · SHOPPING · A 55-FOOT COWBOY!

★ ★ SAVE BIG ★ ★

➔ GET YOUR DISCOUNTED TICKETS AT ➔

**BIGTEX.COM/SAVE**

