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Trump's trade war hits Black America hardest as tariffs drive up costs

By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Senior National Correspondent

President Donald Trump's latest round of tariffs—25% on imports from Canada and Mexico and 10% on imports from China—has sent shockwaves through global markets, sparking retaliatory measures from trade partners and raising concerns about the economic strain on American consumers. But for Black Americans, already facing disproportionate financial burdens, the fallout could be devastating.

"Will there be some pain? Yes, maybe (and maybe not!)," Trump said in a statement. "But we will Make America Great Again, and it will all be worth the price that must be paid."

For many in Black communities, the cost of that "pain" is far from



For many in Black communities, the cost of that "pain" is far from abstract.(Photo via NNPA)

abstract. Chaniqua Jones, a schoolteacher in New York, is already struggling with budget cuts in her district. "First, consider that most of our students struggle with basic necessities like food and shelter, and many tell us that if they can't work, they can't eat," she said. "That and reduced school budgets that we're already dealing with will hurt more

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New research in the fight against cancer

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People In The News ...







Travis Bruton

<u>NDG Quote of the Week:</u> "It is easy to perform a good action, but not easy to acquire a settled habit of performing such actions."

- Aristotle

Charlotte A. Burrows

As if Black America and other minorities needed a reminder that the United States is under a dictatorship, the country is barreling toward one of the darkest periods in its 248-year history.

President Donald Trump fired two of the three Democratic commissioners of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), a move that civil rights advocates warn is aimed at dismantling workplace protections for racial minorities, women, and LGBTQ+ individuals. The Associated Press reported that Trump dismissed Charlotte Burrows and Jocelyn Samuels late Monday night, an unprecedented



action that strips the bipartisan agency of its independence.

The firings, which occurred before the expiration of their five-year terms, leave the agency with just one Democratic commissioner, Kalpana Kotagal, and one Republican commissioner, Andrea Lucas, whom Trump recently ap-

pointed as acting chair. Trump now has the power to fill three vacancies, effectively reshaping the EEOC into a weapon against diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives. Another Republican commissioner, Keith Sonderling, resigned after Trump appointed him Deputy Secretary of Labor.

Burrows and Samuels both indicated they would challenge their removal, calling it a brazen violation of the EEOC's independent mandate. "This undermines the efforts of this agency to protect employees from discrimination, support employers' compliance efforts, and expand public awareness and understanding of federal employment laws," Burrows said in a statement.

The EEOC, created by the

1964 Civil Rights Act, investigates workplace discrimination claims and imposes penalties on employers who violate anti-discrimination laws. It also issues critical guidelines on workplace protections, ensuring that companies comply with laws preventing discrimination based on race, gender, disability, and other protected characteristics.

Trump's latest move appears designed to position the EEOC to target employers with DEI policies, aligning with his administration's broader attack on civil rights protections. Lucas, the new acting chair, signaled this shift last week, vowing to prioritize "root-

ing out unlawful DEImotivated race and sex discrimination," while also advancing anti-transgender policies.

Burrows and Samuels had previously condemned Trump's executive orders targeting DEI programs and protections for transgender workers, stating anti-discrimination laws remain intact despite the administration's aggressive rollback of protections. Samuels, who was appointed by Trump in 2020, called her removal illegal. "This represents a fundamental misunderstanding of the EEOC as an independent agency-not controlled by a single Cabinet secretary

but designed as a multimember body," she said.

In a similarly alarming move, Trump also fired National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) member Gwynne A. Wilcox, the first Black woman to serve on the board since its founding in 1935, along with NLRB General Counsel Jennifer Abruzzo.

Civil rights organizations and labor advocates condemned the firings as a direct attack on workers' rights. "Today's outrageous firings send a cruel message that not all workers can count on the EEOC," said Gaylynn Burroughs,

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Travis Bruton

NLC – Travis Bruton, Glenn Heights City Council Place 3, has been appointed to the National League of Cities (NLC) 2025 Small Cities Council. Bruton was elected to a one-year term to develop and guide programs among local elected officials from similar communities. The appointment was announced by NLC President Steve Patterson, Mayor of Athens, Ohio.

"It is a great privilege to have been chosen to serve on the Small Cities Council," Bruton said. "This position provides me an opportunity to lead, represent and elevate the City of Glenn Heights at a national level. My goal is to bring back valuable resources, programming, and best practices that will contribute to making our city an outstanding place to live and raise a family."

As a member of NLC's



Small Cities Council, Bruton will play a key role among a diverse group of local leaders to encourage collaboration, networking and the development of resources and programs beneficial to communities that share demographics, size or location that can be replicated across the country.

"It is crucial that we bring together local leaders that are representative of all communities to share solutions, and challenges from their hometowns, which are used to develop NLC policies and programs," said National

League of Cities President Steve Patterson, Mayor of Athens, Ohio. "Bringing the experience and leadership of Councilman Travis Bruton to serve as a member on NLC's Small Cities Council this year goes a long way to ensuring every city, town and village has the resources they need to lift up their communities and improve the lives of their residents."

This year's council leadership will consist of:

Chair: Mary Sarver, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Grandview, TX

Vice Chair: Rashad Roberts, Councilmember, Town of Chadbourn, NC

Vice Chair: Gloria Solorio, Council Member, City of Avondale, AZ

Board Liaison: Bianca Motley Broom, Mayor, City of College Park, GA

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Published by

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Assistant Office Coordinator Belda Ibarra

Contributing Writers

Jamal Baker Katherine M. Brown Allen Gray Jackie Hardy Lori Lee Terri Schlichenmeyer

Religious Editor Emeritus Shirley Demus Tarpley ("Sister Tarpley") 1941-2024

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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.

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The threat that unregulated AI poses to civil rights and national security

By April Ryan

"The threat that unregulated AI poses to Civil rights and National Security" is a top priority of the Lawyers Committee on Civil Rights according to its President and Executive Director, Damon Hewitt. The rights organization has been working to reach Trump officials on AI bias data they presented to the major 2024 presidential campaigns during the race for the White House. Just days into the second Trump term, Damon Hewitt says the priority hasn't changed

but the "strategy" will.

The push by the rights group comes on the heels of this week's White House announced partnership between OpenAI, Oracle, and SoftBank, initially formed in 2024. Stargate is funded by the private sector and will build data centers along with electricity generation. Days before the Trump Stargate announcement Hewitt expressed a concern about how the administration "by invitation", will allow "companies to run a muck" when it comes to unregulated AI.

Just last week, Jake Sul-

livan, the outgoing Biden administration National Security advisor told this reporter, "There have been a lot of studies to show that [AI] bias is a genuine challenge." He continued by saying AI bias can" undermine social cohesion in the United States and globally." The former national security advisor also implicated problems in the fight against "terrorism" with biased AI intelligence. When Hewitt learned of Sullivan's statement, he said, "The acknowledgment is important!"

During the Biden admin-

istration, the focus on AI bias was addressed through the administration's AI Bill of Rights and an AI Executive Order. Hewitt believed the Biden administration understood the pervasiveness of the problem. Now Hewitt is working to make Trump officials more aware. A Trump administration staffer emphasized when asked about this AI bias concern that "this is early in the administration and there is more to come." However, it is uncertain if more to come will include addressing the issue of AI

Our Project 2025 to President Trump



Dr. John E. WarrenPublisher,
San Diego
Voice &
Viewpoint

With the wave of setback Executive Orders by President Trump, we must not be gripped by fear and defeatism. Some of us are old enough to remember that our gains in civil and social rights were made many times in spite of prevailing attitudes and not because of them.

First, we must not allow the progress we have made on our merits be redefined under Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) labels no more than we have allowed the concept of Affirmative Action to define our gains and achievements.

Let's get specific in terms of what we must do to fight identified rollbacks. Let us remember that many of us who will cry victim, did not vote, and if we did, some voted for the very person now seeking to bring us "Reconstruction 2.0". As a reminder, following the Civil War, Blacks were flourishing in the South.

There were two Black U.S. Senators, Black Members of Congress, Superintendent of Public Instruction and a host of other gains. The deal that President Rutherford Hayes made with the South in order to keep the Union together was to create "States Rights". In other words, to let the states make their own rules on former slaves and reconstruction of the South.

President Trump's agenda for "Making America Great Again" clearly does not include many of us, so here is what we must do. First, the Black Press must again be recognized as OUR trusted messenger for truth in reporting on proposed changes by this Administration affecting people of color and Blacks in particular.

This means that our Press must step up its game in reporting and accountability. Second, we must act on the information we receive. For example, our response to Book Banning should be the creation of Bookstores and Libraries in our churches. To counter the rollback of Black history and achievements, we have the education and ability to create community learning centers and discussion groups in our homes and churches.

Finally, we must remember that many of our presentday colleges and universities were started by our churches. We have more information, businesses and abilities than our fore-fathers who did so much with so little.

Our challenge is to redefine our priorities. We must monitor corporate America's response to the President's agenda, and we must adjust our spending habits accordingly. We must remember that Corporate America only respects three things: (1) lost profits, (2) bad publicity, and (3) votes cast against their interest

Our currency is U.S. dollars. Black people in America generate enough wealth to be the 10th largest economy in the world. We just don't act accordingly. Let's do our homework and redefine our priorities. As the poet said, "WE WILL NOT GO QUIETLY INTO THE NIGHT."

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UW researchers are designing cancer therapeutics that can kill cancer cells and restore healthy tissue

(Newswise) — Many traditional cancer treatments, such as chemotherapy and radiation, effectively destroy cancer cells but often lead to severe side effects that leave patients feeling even more sick.

Two University of Washington researchers are developing treatments that aim to simultaneously treat cancer and improve patients' quality of life. Migin Zhang, UW professor of materials science and engineering and of neurological surgery in the UW School of Medicine, develops tiny systems that deliver cancer treatment specifically to cancer cells. Dr. Avik Som, UW assistant professor of materials science and engineering and of radiology in the UW School of Medicine, uses interventional radiology to precisely deliver cancer treatment to the

Both Zhang and Som are studying a cancer treatment method called immunotherapy, where a patient's own immune cells are trained to target and destroy cancer cells. The two researchers are now collaborating with the goal of getting their therapeutics into the clinic.

For World Cancer Day, UW News asked Zhang and Som to discuss their novel materials and how these materials can both treat the cancer and the patient.

Tell us about your research in this area.

Miqin Zhang: One of our key research areas is developing biocompatible nanoplatforms for cancer diagnosis, treatment and therapy-response monitoring. For example, one of



our recent advances is using tiny particles called nanoparticles to deliver immunotherapies or vaccines in preclinical animal models. The payloads from these nanoparticles activate immune cells to eradicate drug-resistant solid tumors and metastases.

In general, our nanoplatforms provide tumor specificity in two unique ways:

- The nanoparticles can carry diverse payloads including chemotherapeutics and genetic materials to address tumor heterogeneity
- We can use different methods to trigger our nanoparticles to release their payloads, such as changing the temperature or pH. Other methods include using enzymes or magnetic fields.

Our systems are designed for versatility and can work in tandem with various tumor-targeting and therapeutic agents.

Avik Som: I am a physician-scientist with clinical training in interventional radiology, with a specific focus in interventional oncology. In this field we often deliver therapy directly to single lesions using small needles and wires. This eliminates the need for in-

vasive surgery in patients who are often too sick for surgery.

My research expertise has focused on developing novel drug delivery materials and techniques for interventional radiologists to use, including in the field of immunotherapy. Interventional radiologists have long succeeded at delivering therapy highly precisely within the body. Using the best of material science, my lab looks at changing what we're delivering to heal our patients of both their cancer and the underlying ravages that the cancer has caused.

How can your materials both extend patients' lives and improve their quality of life?

MZ: Our new nanoparticle materials promise more effective and less harmful treatments in a variety of ways. First, the nanoparticles target cancer cells specifically, which minimizes side effects and enables controlled drug release to maintain therapeutic levels without toxicity spikes.

Next, we design these nanoparticles using biocompatible materials, such as iron oxide and chitosan coatings, which reduce immune-response reactions and make the nanoparticles more compatible with longterm use.

Cancer's complex and variable nature means that treatments that are effective for one patient might not work for another, which makes it difficult to create one-size-fits-all solutions. But our nanoparticles support personalized medicine because we can target specific mutated genes in individual patients. Furthermore, we can develop nanoparticles that are multifunctional. For example, a single nanoparticle can have capabilities that enable both monitoring as well as treatment.

AS: The concepts of extending patients' lives and improving their quality of life have effectively been done in parallel for years. For example, the UW has extensive history and expertise in tissue engineering. But it usually isn't combined with cancer care because the two goals often feel contradictory: Tissue engineering results from inducing cell growth, while historically cancer therapy has directly focused on killing cells. So the fields have diverged.

But we can design novel materials to do both: One material can use different release rates to stagger the anti-cancer versus tissueengineering effects. For example, we can use interventional radiology to implant a material directly into a tumor. The material can have an initial burst of drug release that has an anti-cancer effect. And then, after killing the tumor, the residual material can release factors that recruit normal cells to

fill in the gap where the cancer was.

Alternatively, as radiologists, we can see where cancer is and isn't. It is therefore possible to selectively deliver anti-cancer agents to the cancer, while simultaneously delivering pro-tissue engineering agents to normal tissue.

Are any of these treatments currently available in the clinic?

MZ: The process of getting a treatment like this approved is complex and resource-intensive, because it requires extensive research, clinical trials and regulatory approvals. To reduce clinical trial costs, our nanoparticle platform is adaptable for multiple genetic therapies, which offers regulatory advantages and paves the way for FDA approval.

Right now, our nanoparticles are still at the basic research stage and have not yet entered clinical trials. They have, however, demonstrated their efficacy in various pre-clinical animal models. We are now prepared to engage with venture capitalists and major pharmaceutical companies to advance our nanoparticles into clinical trials.

AS: Our research is also still in the basic stage for the moment. We need to determine the best type of material and safest way to deliver it into patients through rigorous pre-clinical testing.

That being said, at the Fred Hutch Cancer Center and UW Medicine, we are leading an intratumoral therapy group that is ramping up clinical trials for patients using therapies that are in development around the country. In addition, we are working on bringing on more minimally invasive tissue engineering trials to the clinic soon.

What part of this collaboration is the most exciting to you?

AS: I was fortunate to meet Miqin during my interview at UW, and we struck up a vibrant conversation. Miqin has been a leader in the fields of biomaterials and drug delivery, and she is an ideal mentor to help me with my goal of bringing these advances to the clinic.

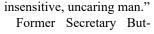
MZ: I have more than 15 years of experience in cancer research, and I strongly believe that interventional radiology is transforming cancer care by offering minimally invasive, precise treatment options that reduce side effects and improve patient outcomes. I am thrilled to collaborate with Avik so that we can apply our advanced materials and his innovative approaches to enhance interventional radiology for cancer treatment and tissue growth in a way that minimizes side effects and improves patients' quality

Zhang's research is funded by the Kuni Foundation and the National Institutes of Health. Zhang is also a faculty researcher with the UW Institute for Nano-Engineered Systems and the Molecular Engineering and Sciences Institute. Som's research has been funded by the Radiologic Society of North America and the National Institutes of Health.

Black reaction to Trump DEI blame on the plane crash

By April Ryan

"We are dealing with a vicious adversary," according to Rev. Al Sharpton, the head of the National Action Network speaking of President Donald Trump and his hate diatribe Thursday morning. President Trump blamed DEI, the Obama and Biden administrations along with former Transportation Sec. Pete Buttigieg for the deadly midair crash over the Potomac last night. 67 people died after an accident between an American Airline Plane and an Army Helicopter. When asked why President Trump thought diversity had something to do with the crash, he said," I have common sense and most people don't." Reverend Al, who is investigating the impact of the Trump anti-DEI efforts in retail believes Trump is "obsessed with race" and he is a "raw,



American..... American Airlines A319 taking off at Charlotte Douglas International

Airport (Photo via NNPA)

tigieg immediately went to social media making a statement saying, Trump should be leading, not lying." Buttigieg also factchecked Trump saying we grew Air Traffic Control and had zero commercial airline crash fatalities out of millions of flights on our watch." Pete Buttigieg (@PeteButtigieg) / X During Trump's rant on DEI at the White House briefing room podium, he asserted, "the FAA's diversity push includes a focus on hiring

people with severe intellectual and psychiatric disabilities. That is amazing. And then it says, the FAA says, people with severe disabilities, the most underrepresented segment of the workforce, and they want them in, and they want them. They can be air traffic controllers. I don't think so." Trump went on to say the prior administrations felt those departments were "too white."

According to reports FAA staffing has been an

issue since Inauguration Day January 20, 2025. Also, Elon Musk, the head of the White House Office of Government Efficiency is reported to have asked the head of the FAA to resign. Musk FAA Ax Former Black Obama Administration Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx exclusively told this reporter after the Trump statements," I would caution against any definitive conclusions until that work [investigation] is done by trained, experienced professionals."

Foxx, who also worked as a transportation consultant in the Biden administration admonished the Trump address saying, "There is no sugar-coating the tragic midair collision that occurred last night. In my experience, safety has always been the number one focus of the Federal Aviation Administration." Foxx says there is a safety mission to be completed

after this tragedy. "There is a well-practiced root cause process that has been taken in the past. It should be used now with competent professionals. A comprehensive, fact-based investigation will answer the many questions we all have. It would also help guard against future accidents of this type," according to the transportation expert.

Before the completed investigation officially began, President Trump laid the blame for the accident on the Army helicopter. He felt it should have been flying at a different altitude, higher or lower, than the jet. When it comes to the president's corrosive comments, reaction has been swift from the civil rights community. In a statement from the President and CEO of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Derrick Johnson, "The NAACP is disgusted by this display

of unpresidential, divisive behavior." Johnson told this reporter in a text message, "The President has made his decision to put politics over people abundantly clear as he uses the highest office in the land to sow hatred rooted in falsehoods instead of providing us with the leadership we need and deserve."

As Trump worked to distract with his words on DEI, the questions still abound as to what caused the deadly plane crash. Former Sec. Foxx, immediately following the fatal crash last night said. "My worst fear is that something happened with the avionics. I hope and expect that this is not the case. But most aircraft these days run in a form of GPS. Could a warning system have failed? But then, how can two systems fail? That leads to some even more grave concerns about interference with the systems. There are many other potential causes."

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2499	Extreme Green Overall Odds are 1 in 4.07	\$5	3/19/25	9/15/25
2502	Bingo Times 20 Overall Odds are 1 in 4.37	\$5	3/19/25	9/15/25

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-TEXAS-:



Dallas ISD to induct ten into Athletic Hall of Fame

DALLAS — The 2024-2025 Dallas ISD Athletic Hall of Fame class boasts 10 legendary individuals who have made a fundamental impact on sports in the district and beyond. The induction ceremony is slated for Friday, April 11 at the Arts District Mansion in downtown Dallas.

To be selected for the Hall of Fame, individuals must exemplify the highest standards of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and moral character. Inductees were selected for their striking accomplishments and undisputed impact while advancing school athletics. Their successes are not limited to Dallas ISD borders. They have reached recognition on local, state, national, and international levels.

This year's class of inductees includes:

Lauren Blackburn: A 2010 Sunset High School graduate, Blackburn was a two-time team captain and UIL state champion in the 100-meter hurdles, posting a high school-best legal wind time of 13.39 seconds—the fastest in the nation that year. She also ranked fourth nationally in the 300-meter hurdles and was named to the USA Today girls' high school track & field team in 2009 and 2010. In 2010, she was the Dallas Morning News Girls' Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Blackburn continued her career at the University of Southern California, winning the 100-meter hurdles at the 2014 Pac-12 Outdoor Championships. In



2011, she placed second in the event after winning the prestigious Mt. SAC Relays and Texas Relays. Blackburn currently works as a flight attendant for Southwest Airlines.

Jerry Broadnax (1951-1920): A 1969 honors graduate of Dr. L.G. Pinkston Sr. High School, Broadnax was a three-time Outstanding Player of the Year in football. He continued at Southern University and A&M College, excelling as a tight end and track & field athlete, winning the 1972 Southwestern Athletic Conference discus title. Named an Outstanding College Athlete of America in 1972 and 1973, Broadnax earned a spot in the New England Patriots' preseason camp despite going undrafted. He later played for the Houston Texans, the Chicago Wind of the World Football League, and joined the Green Bay Packers' preseason camp in 1976. A dedicated mentor, Broadnax supported youth in West Dallas and at

Pinkston High School. He was inducted into the L.G. Pinkston, Southern University, and Texas Black Sports halls of fame.

Bruce Chambers: A 1976 graduate of David W. Carter High School, Chambers played football for the Cowboys before continuing as a wide receiver at the University of North Texas. He returned to Carter in 1984 to coach the freshmen and junior varsity teams, then became a varsity assistant in 1989. In 1996, Chambers took over as head coach. leading Carter to the state playoffs every season during his 14-year tenure. The Cowboys won the 1988 state championship, four regional titles, and 13 district crowns. As head coach and athletics director in his final two seasons, he posted an 18-6 record, with his teams finishing as district champions and bi-district finalists both years. Chambers mentored several players who went on to the NFL. joining teams like the New York Giants, Washington

Commanders, Kansas City Chiefs, Detroit Lions, and St. Louis Rams. From 1998 to 2014, he was part of the University of Texas football coaching staff and now serves as an assistant athletic director in Arlington ISD.

ic director in Arlington ISD. Ralph Guldahl (1911-1987): Guldahl made his mark in golf at Woodrow Wilson High School, winning the 1929 Dallas City Championship and leading the Wildcats to a state title. The following year, he finished 11th in the Texas Open and decided on the spot to forgo college, take the \$87.50 prize, and turn professional. He qualified for the 1933 U.S. Open, narrowly missing a 4-foot putt in a playoff for the win. In 1936, he tied for eighth in the U.S. Open and won the Western Open, Augusta Open, and Miami Biltmore Open. That year, he also earned the Radix Trophy for the lowest scoring average. Guldahl made his Masters debut in 1937, finishing second, before winning both the U.S. Open and Western Open, becoming the first golfer to hold both titles in the same year. He defended his U.S. Open title in 1938 and became the first golfer to win three consecutive Western Opens. The next year, he secured his elusive Masters victory and reached the PGA Championship semifinals in 1940. A 16-time professional champion, Guldahl was inducted into the Texas Golf Hall of Fame, World Golf Hall of Fame. and Woodrow Wilson High School Hall of Fame.

Dante Jones: A two-year football letterman at Skyline High School, Jones graduated in 1983 after earning all-district linebacker honors in 1982. As a senior, he was named 10-5A District Defensive Player of the Year and selected to the Dallas Morning News All-Star Team and Dallas Times Herald All-Metro Team. Jones continued his football career at the University of Oklahoma, contributing to four Big 8 Conference championships and playing in the Orange Bowl all four vears, helping the Sooners win the 1985 national championship. As a senior team captain, he was named Big 8 Defensive Player of the Year, earned All-Big 8 honors, and was a consensus All-American. He also won the 1987 Orange Bowl MVP and finished third in voting for the Butkus Award, given to the nation's top linebacker. Selected in the second round of the 1988 NFL Draft by the Chicago Bears, Jones played

seven seasons before finishing his career with the Denver Broncos in 1995. In 1993, he ranked second in the NFL with 189 tackles, four interceptions, and three fumble recoveries.

Bill Melton: A 1958 Sunset High School graduate and University of Texas alumnus, Melton began announcing for Dallas ISD in 1966, calling track & field meets and football games for over a decade. His career expanded to college and professional levels, earning him roles at major national events, including the 1996 Olympics, three Super Bowls, 32 Cotton Bowl Classics, 40 Texas Relays, and 32 UIL regional and state track meets. For 40 years, Melton was the PA announcer for SMU and UNT, while his voice became a fixture at Dallas Cowboys and Texas Rangers games, NCAA championships, and global events such as the FIFA World Cup, FIBA World Basketball Championships, and World Championship Tennis. Beyond sports, he served 25 years as Dallas County Treasurer before retiring in 2002.

James Mitchell (1939-2015): A 1959 graduate of Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, Mitchell played basketball before attending Wiley College and later earning a Master of Science in secondary education from Southern Methodist University in

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Black America, the time is now: no more warnings, no more illusions

The war against Black America is no longer theoretical. It is real. It is happening now.

By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Senior National Correspondent

America has reached a precipice. There is no more waiting, no more wondering, no more giving the benefit of the doubt. The war against Black America is no longer theoretical. It is real. It is happening now. And those who still don't see it—or worse, refuse to act—are signing their own death warrants.

Donald Trump, the Heritage Foundation, and their Project 2025 blueprint for tyranny have made it clear: this is a full-scale attack on African Americans. Yes, other marginalized groups—Latinos, the LG-BTQ+ community, women—are in the crosshairs, but if history is our guide, Black America has the fewest allies when the bul-



lets start flying. How many times have we watched those who should stand with us scatter at the first sign of trouble?

When the MAGA mob chants about "DEI" and "wokeness," they are not talking about policies. They are saying the N-word in polite company.

When they slash funding for Black institutions, ban Black books, and rewrite Black history, they are sharpening the knife for what comes next. The Smithsonian Institution has already closed its diversity office. Black History Month, Juneteenth, and MLK Day are banned from federal recognition. The National Museum of African American History and Culture? Next. HBCUs? Next. The Black Press? In their sights.

Trump and his regime of bigotry are gutting every Black institution and opportunity they can. They want to strip our culture, our legacy, our very existence from America's history books, then from its present, and finally, from its future.

And let's talk about pettiness—because being petty helped put us here.

Petty revenge. Petty feuds. Petty ignorance.

DNC Chair Jaime Harrison and the Democratic Party ignored the power of the Black Press. They dismissed Black media, possibly because of a short-sighted grudge over someone's association with a group that had zero impact on the election. But the consequences of their pettiness were very real.

That same ignorance was among several things that cost Kamala Harris the election.

Before ceding power to a dictator, the Democratic establishment did nothing to fortify Black media, Black organizations, or Black institutions, the very entities whose purpose is to uplift and inform Black America.

We do not have the luxury of pettiness anymore. We do not have time for grudges. The enemy is no longer at the gates. The enemy has crashed through the walls.

No More Talk—Only Action

It is time for Black America to mobilize. Not with hashtags. Not with statements. With action. With money. With power.

Black institutions must unite like never before. The NAACP, the National Urban League, the National Action Network, the National Newspaper Publishers Association, Rainbow PUSH, the Congressional Black Caucus—now is the time. No more

operating in silos. No more petty differences. This is an emergency. It is the type of emergency that may have been ignored a little more than 400 years ago when a group of about 20 Africans were brought to the new colony of Virginia and traded as slaves for food.

Black billionaires, celebrities, and business moguls—we need you now. Oprah. Tyler Perry. LeBron James. Jay-Z. Rihanna. Tiger Woods. Michael Jordan. Magic Johnson. Robert Smith. Alex Karp. Wemimo Abbey. Iman Abuzeid. Joshua Aviv. Melissa Bradley. We need you. And, make no mistake, Trump is coming for you too.

Kanye West learned a hard lesson when he bragged that they couldn't

See NOW, Page 9

HOF, from Page 6

1974. Known as "Coach Mitchell," he spent over 30 years teaching and coaching at James Madison High School, leading girls' athletics in track & field, cross country, and volleyball while assisting with basketball. He prioritized academics alongside athletics, with many of his studentathletes graduating at the top of their class. Mitchell coached numerous district, regional, and state champions, leading Madison to its first UIL state track title in 1992. His cross-country teams won back-to-back district titles, producing multiple regional top-10 finishers and two state qualifiers, while his volleyball teams claimed two district championships. His legacy includes a Dallas Morning News Athlete of the Year and a six-time NCAA Division I All-American.

Donna Ramsey: A trailblazer in sports medicine, Ramsey became Dallas ISD's first female athletic trainer in 1978 and the nation's first full-time female athletic trainer at the secondary level. A 1971 W.T. White graduate, she attended the University of North Texas before dedicating her career to Dallas ISD. She served as a central athletic trainer at P.C. Cobb Athletic Complex and later Alfred J. Loos Athletic Complex, earning a reputation for her superior clinical knowledge and injury treatment. Ramsey helped countless student-athletes recover and return to competition, with many advancing to college, professional sports, and even the Olympics. She was deeply respected for her mentorship and unwavering commitment to students, remaining a vital part of Dallas ISD's athletic programs until her retirement in 2008.

Charlie Shepard (1933-2009): A standout football player at Dallas High School, formerly known as Crozier Technical High School, Shepard graduated in 1951 and became a four-year letterman at the University of North Texas. As a team captain, he earned All-Gulf Coast Conference honors before being drafted by the Baltimore Colts in 1955. In 1956, he played

for the Pittsburgh Steelers, rushing for 91 yards in 12 games, before finding success in the Canadian Football League with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers. A dominant punter and running back from 1957 to 1962, Shepard set a league record with a 95-vard punt and was named MVP of the 1959 Grey Cup. He rushed for 1.076 vards that season and totaled 3,768 career rushing yards, never averaging less than 43.1 yards per punt in a season. A five-time Grey Cup finalist and four-time champion, Shepard was inducted into the CFL Winnipeg Hall of Fame in 1992 and the University of North Texas Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005.

Richmond Webb: A 1985 salutatorian and football

star at Franklin D. Roosevelt High School of Innovation, Webb went on to Texas A&M University, where he helped the Aggies earn four straight bowl appearances and win back-to-back Southwest champion-Conference ships in 1986 and 1987. As a senior, Webb served as team captain, earned all-conference honors, and received the Aggie Heart Award. The Miami Dolphins selected him ninth overall in the 1990 NFL Draft, and Webb quickly made his mark, earning NFL Rookie of the Year honors from The Sporting News and a seven-time Pro Bowl selection in his first seven seasons. He was also a two-time All-Pro and a

member of the NFL 1990s

All-Decade Team. Known for protecting quarterback Dan Marino's blindside, he set a Dolphins record with 118 consecutive starts. After 11 seasons in Miami, Webb finished his career with the Cincinnati Bengals in 2001-2002. There, the offensive line allowed the fourth-fewest sacks in team history and contributed to the franchise's second-best individual rushing performance. Webb is a member of the Miami Dolphins Ring of Honor and the Texas A&M Athletics Hall of Fame. He will be inducted into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame later this month.

For more information, please visit the Dallas ISD Athletic Hall of Fame website.

End of an Era for Luka Doncic in Dallas

By Jamal Baker NDG Contributing Writer

Hey Alexa, play "It's So Hard to Say Goodbye to Yesterday" by Boyz II Men. The Dallas Mavericks have done the unthinkable and traded away their 25-yearold superstar Luka Doncic to the Los Angeles Lakers. The Lakers will also receive Maxi Kleber and Markieff Morris while the Mavs get Anthony Davis, Max Christie, and a 2029 first-round pick in return. The Utah Jazz served as the third team involved in this blockbuster trade—receiving Jalen Hood-Schifino, and two 2025 second round picks. After reaching the finals last season Mavs fans were left asking one simple question, why.

Mavericks' general man-



done an admirable job assembling and reshaping the Dallas roster from the moment he took the job back

his latest move in an interview with The Dallas Morning News.

"I understand why they

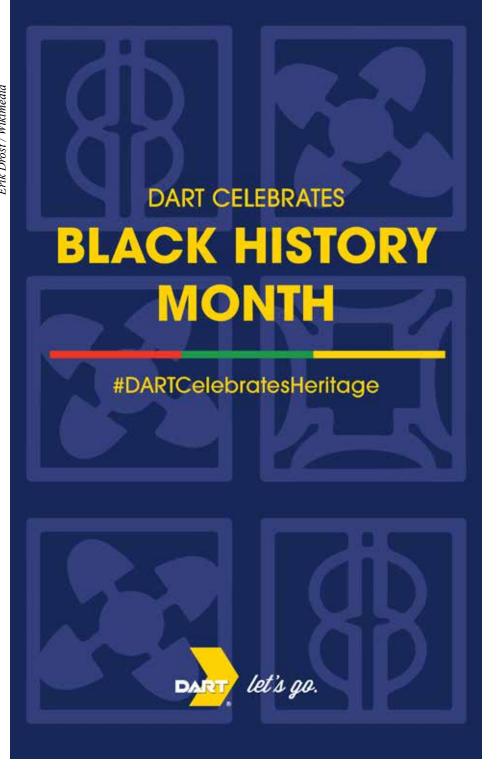
ly," Harrison told the Dallas Morning News. "But I do believe that we positioned ourselves to win now and also win in the future. And that's ultimately the goal and why we're here. It's one of those things where it's my job to make the

tough decisions that put our goals first and foremost."

Harrison also admitted that Lakers' general manager Rob Pelinka initially thought the trade pitch was a joke when he approached Pelinka about a potential trade centered around Doncic and Davis. According to Kirk Goldsberry of The Ringer, Pelinka was able to convince Harrison to reduce the deal by not including an extra first round pick and Dalton Knecht due to

See DONCIC, Page 14





Film Review: 'Ricky' — 2025 Sundance Film Fest — Filmmaker Rashad Frett wins 'Directing Award: U.S. Dramatic'

By Dwight Brown NNPA Film Critic

(**1/2) What is life like after being locked up in prison from age 15 to 30?

How do you adjust to an outside world without the human development skills your contemporaries have? Writer/director Rashad Frett has a clue and fathoms it, along with co-screenwriter Lin Que Ayoung, in his intense, harsh reality, post-incarceration drama.

Ricardo "Ricky" Smith (Stephan James, Race) walks nervously around his old Hartford, Connecticut neighborhood. Disoriented in a place where he once ran the streets. Hoodlums threaten him. People are standoffish. wondering where he's been. The little self-esteem he musters comes from his hair cutting skills. He's a barber. He can make a living. And he must. His parole officer (Sheryl Lee Ralph) is on his ass, and he's got to attend group



therapy meetings, get on someone's payroll and rehab himself.

Fortunately, Ricky's has a great comradery with his younger brother James (Maliq Johnson, TV's The Equalizer). Unfortunately, a testy relationship with his strong-willed Caribbean mother (Simbi Kali) keeps him off kilter. He's recon-

nected with old friends and bad influences like Terrence (Sean Nelson, Fresh), flirts with Jaz (Imani Lewis), young single mom from around the way, and is hotly pursued by the older woman (Andrene Ward-Hammond) from his ex-offender's support group. It would all be much easier to navigate if Ricky had parental training, a strong father figure, positive role models and friends he could trust. He doesn't.

As he tries to pull his life together and stay out of the pen, he does so lacking coping tools, maturity and basic discipline—like being on time. Ricky's a man/boy living in a man's world that's passed him by. A vulnerable novice with

technology (smartphones), dating etiquette, rules of the street and sexual interludes. The script sets the character's persona and situation well. You know where his heart and ambitions are, but that doesn't negate his lack of abilities. For every good choice he makes, there's a bad one. Easy to blame the system or his home life. But it's really on him.

Frett's direction is inobtrusive. Very casual. Involving. Like you're just hanging out with the good and bad angels on Ricky's shoulder tagging along for the ride. No wonder his cinema verité style won a 2025 Sundance directing award.

Frett can share accolades for the film's pacing with editor Daysha Broadway. Sam Motamedi's cinematography deftly captures faces in a cars, sex scenes by lamplight and the awkwardness of car crashes. Production designer Aariyan Googe's taste in interiors and exteriors reflect

a working-class neighborhood. Everyone's clothes look like they're off the rack from T.J. Maxx, like they should, thanks to costume designer Ari Fulton. While any musical score that includes Nat King Cole singing "Fallen Leaves" and the very hip trio of Alex Isley, Masego and Jack Dine jamming on "Good & Plenty" is setting a nice cross-generational vibe.

The footage cruises by in 1h 49m and the rhythm doesn't die until the audience has exhausted all hope for Ricky taking charge and turning his life around. If he doesn't, what's the point of the film? If he does it too quick, will it feel too Hallmark greeting card easy? The former is more the case. It's easy to feel like the plotline slams too many heavy, negative incidents against the protagonist. Ricky, "I never thought I'd live this long." Neither will

See FILM, Page 10

NOW, from Page 7

touch him because he was a billionaire. The very next day, he lost nearly \$1 billion in wealth. They are on a "Show you better than I can tell you" mission.

They are coming for all of us. Rich or poor. Young or old. Educated or not. Famous or unknown.

We are in this together,

whether we like it or not. And the only way to win—or even survive—is to finally band together and reject the selfish mindset of "I've got mine; you get yours."

Because soon, none of us will have anything.

The Black Press Must Survive Our battle begins with collaboration, and at the heart of it, Black Americans must support Blackowned newspapers, media, and businesses like our ancestors did during Jim Crow. The NNPA and the Black Press need resources to keep telling our stories. Contribute at NNPAfund. org. Subscribe to a Black newspaper. Follow Let It

Be Known News, Make It Plain, April Ryan, WIN-TV, and other Black media outlets. If we do not control our own narrative, Trump will write it for us.

Everyday people? Contribute. Spread the word. Heck, you can even hit \$Mrmedia2022 on CashApp. Whatever you can, donate to our organizations. This is not just

a fight for survival. It is a fight for our continued existence

The Endgame Is Clear
Do not be fooled. They
want us erased.

They want to destroy the institutions that sustain us. They want to police and profile us and imprison us. They want to deport Black migrants and dismantle civil rights protections.

They want to crush everything Black people have built in this country.

We are watching the most racist administration in modern history wage an unrelenting war against us. There is no more time to wake up. We are already in the fire.

The question now is: will we fight, or will we burn?

The time is now.

BURROWS, from Page 2

vice president for education and workplace justice at the National Women's Law Center. "Under the EEOC envisioned by Trump, the government will no longer have your back if you are a transgender or gay worker seeking fair treatment. And if you are a person of color or a woman, your success at work is evidence of 'illegal DEI."

Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) called Trump's decision another sign of his disregard for the law. "These

are yet more lawless actions by a president who thinks he is above the law and clearly could not care less about the rights of workers," she said

Rep. Bobby Scott (D-Va.),

ranking member of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, warned that the firings severely undermine the agency's mission. "Ensuring that the EEOC can carry out its vital work should not be a partisan issue. In the end, President Trump's actions fundamentally hurt workers and undermine the civil rights laws of this nation," Scott said. Entertainment Too! www.NorthDallasGazette.com

`Ain't Too Proud' hits the Bass Hall stage in Fort Worth, Feb. 11-16

FORT WORTH - Performing Arts Fort Worth, the non-profit owner and operator of Bass Performance Hall, announced today that tickets are on sale now for Ain't Too Proud - The Life And Times Of The Temptations. The Broadway smash hit musical comes to Fort Worth just in time for Valentine's Day, playing Bass Hall in a limited engagement Feb. 11-16 as part of the 2024-25 Broadway at the Bass Season presented by PNC Bank.

Tickets start at \$44 and can be purchased online at www.basshall.com/aint-tooproud or by calling 817-212-4280. The Performing Arts Fort Worth (PAFW) box office hours are Monday-Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. For group sales discounts please visit www.basshall.com/groups.

Featuring the Grammywinning songs and Tonywinning moves, Ain't Too Proud is the electrifying musical that follows The Temptations' extraordinary journey from the streets of Detroit to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. With their signature dance moves and unmistakable harmonies, they rose to the top of the charts creating an amazing 42 Top Ten Hits with 14 reaching number one and being voted the greatest R&B group of all time by Billboard Magazine in

The rest is history — how they met, the groundbreaking heights they hit, and how personal and political conflicts threatened to tear the group apart as the United States fell into civil



unrest. This thrilling story of brotherhood, family, loyalty, and betrayal is set to the beat of the group's treasured hits, including "My Girl," "Just My Imagination," "Get Ready," "Papa Was a Rolling Stone," and so many more.

The musical, which opened on Broadway on Thursday, March 21, 2019, and was nominated for 12 Tony Awards including Best Musical, brings the incredible true story of the greatest R&B group of all time to the stage. With a Tony Award nominated book by Dominique Morisseau. Ain't Too Proud features an iconic score made up of The Temptations' legendary songs. Two-time Tony Award winner Des McAnuff directs, with Tony Award®-winning choreography by Sergio Trujillo.

The creative team also includes Tony Award nominee Robert Brill (scenic design), Sue Makkoo (costume design) and Tony Award winner Paul Tazewell (original costume de-

sign), Ryan O'Gara (lighting design), Jeff Human (sound design), Drama Desk Award winner Peter Nigrini (projection design), Ashley Rae Callahan (hair and wig design) and Drama Desk Award winner Charles G. LaPointe (original hair and wig design), Steve Rankin (fight direction), Brian Harlan Brooks (tour resident director), Brett Michael Lockley (associate choreographer), Rick Hip-Flores (music supervisor), and Jenna Wadleigh (production stage manager). Orchestrations are by Tony Award recipient Harold Wheeler, with music arrangements by Kenny Seymour. Casting is by Whitley Theatrical.

The 2nd National Tour of AIN'T TOO PROUD is produced and general managed by Work Light Productions.

Ain't Too Proud – The Life And Times Of The Temptations comes to Bass Hall as part of the 2024-2025 Broadway at the Bass Season presented by PNC Ban

Up next on the season is Beetlejuice, the hit Broadway musical based on the Tim Burton classic, haunting the Hall this Halloween.

Everyone's favorite Scottish nanny is coming to Fort Worth in the new musical comedy, Mrs. Doubtfire, followed by Dr. Seuss' How The Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical ringing in the holidays.

Continuing the season in 2025 is the return of the world's most popular musical, Le Misérables; the uproarious new play based on the ultimate whodunit

game, Clue; a rare look at the creative mind and collaborative spirit of Michael Jackson, MJ; Baz Luhrmann's revolutionary musical mashup, remixed for the stage, Moulin Rouge! The Musical; the highly anticipated revival of the innovative twist on the Wizard of Oz that took Broadway by storm, The Wiz; and completing the season, the original musical from award-winning country music songwriters Brandy Clark and Mineral Wells native Shane McAnally, Shucked.

Visit www.basshall.com/batb for more information.







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Financial Expert: Trump's tariffs could bring economic pain to Black and Brown communities

By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Senior National Correspondent

President Donald Trump's sweeping tariffs on Canada, China, and Mexico-America's largest trading partners—have already begun to rattle markets and consumers. The policy, which imposes a 25 percent tax on all imports from Canada and Mexico and a 10 percent tariff on Chinese goods, is being framed as an aggressive move to curb migration, drug trafficking, and China's role in fentanyl production. However, the economic consequences are already being felt, with financial markets in turmoil



and everyday Americans bracing for price hikes in critical sectors such as fuel, food, and automobiles.

Financial expert Allan Boomer, a seasoned Wall Street veteran with more than two decades of experience, discussed the economic fallout in an interview with the Black Press. Boomer, who spent years advising institutional clients and managing multimillion-dollar investment portfolios at Goldman Sachs before founding his firm Momentum Advisors,

assessed the current financial landscape. "The markets are constantly moving," Boomer said. "The Dow was down a bunch earlier today, but it's already rebounding somewhat. Still, what the market is really bracing for is an all-out trade war."

Boomer pointed to the deep economic ties between the United States and its neighboring trading partners. "Mexico and Canada each send more than 80 percent of their exports to the United States, and retaliatory tariffs from these countries could have severe consequences," he

said. "The ultimate loser in this situation is the consumer. Ultimately, this results in higher prices." Gas prices in the Midwest have already risen by as much as 50 cents per gallon, as Canada and Mexico supply over 70 percent of crude oil imports to U.S. refineries. The auto industry is also seeing immediate effects, with tariffs threatening to add as much as \$3,000 to the price of some vehicles. Meanwhile, grocery

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PAIN, from Page 11

costs are expected to rise, as Mexico supplies more than 60 percent of America's vegetable imports and nearly half of its fruit and nut imports.

"We're going to feel this in Black and brown communities," Boomer said. "Any community that spends money as a high percentage of their wealth—whether Black, white, or Latino—is going to be hit hard. But for Black and brown people, who statistically spend the most as a percentage of wealth,

the impact is going to be severe." Boomer questioned the broader strategy behind Trump's trade policies, noting that while the administration touts these tariffs to strengthen the U.S. economy, the reality may be different. "This is a president who said he would strengthen the United States at the expense of our partners," Boomer said. "But what you're seeing is that it's really at our own expense. We import a bunch of things—lumber, oil, tequila, avocadosand these tariffs have big knock-on effects in our economy on a day-to-day basis."

Trump has positioned tariffs as a tool to pressure Canada and Mexico to make policy concessions. "Trump is looking to leverage these tariffs for some sort of win," Boomer said. "For example, he's pointing out that U.S. banks can't operate in Canada, and he'll try to push for some small victories, but the question is, does anyone care?"

With markets in flux and fears of an economic

downturn growing, Boomer advised investors to think long-term. "You can't invest just for today—you have to invest for tomorrow and for 10 years down the road," he said. "Right now, we're in a really challenging political climate, but in the next two years. with the midterms, we might see a backing off of these extreme positions." Boomer encouraged investors to consider where they put their money. "I'd be wary of companies that are backing off their DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) initiatives," he said.

"I just don't think companies that aren't inclusive in hiring are going to do well in the long run."

He also urged investors to be mindful of who is managing their money. "Am I investing in funds managed by diverse professionals or am I turning my money over to nondiverse money managers?" he asked. "These are things people should be paying attention to in this climate." National Urban League President Marc Morial addressed broader concerns about Trump's policies on federal assistance, which

could leave millions of Americans without critical support, including food assistance, education funding, small-business grants, and VA benefits for veterans.

"This administration's reckless action has already stirred widespread chaos and may cause recessionary impacts such as increased poverty, job losses, and economic stagnation," Morial said. "This is not a blueprint to 'Make America Great Again.' This is not putting 'America First.' This is leaving millions of Americans behind."

TARIFFS, from Page 1

because, something to remember, we can only use one vendor that the Department of Education approves for supplies, and that vendor can charge anything they want, including, if they choose, as much as \$10 for a pencil."

Jones' concerns echoed by business owners, truck drivers, and families who will feel the effects of higher prices in ways the White House appears to have ignored. Jonathan Dolphin, a truck driver from Pennsylvania, sees the changes already. "The trucking industry isn't the same anymore," he said. "Hauling heavier loads doesn't pay us more, and the brokers still charge higher rates. Those people who voted for Trump now have to see how idiotic that was."

Fuel prices are among the biggest concerns for working-class Black Americans. Canada, the largest supplier of crude oil to the U.S., is now facing a 10% tariff on energy exports. Gas prices in some parts of the country are expected to rise by 30 to 70 cents per gallon, dispro-

portionately impacting on lower-income families who spend a higher percentage of their income on transpor-

George McKenzie, a wildlife photographer in Florida, has already seen gas prices climbing. "I'm honestly worried about the price of gas and food going up," he said. "As someone who travels frequently for work, any increase in fuel costs directly affects my livelihood."

Existing disparities in Black communities compound the economic damage from the tariffs. The median household income for African Americans in 2023 was \$52,860—well below the national median of \$74,580. The racial wealth gap, exacerbated by decades of discriminatory housing and employment policies, means Black families have fewer financial reserves to absorb rising costs.

The tariffs also threaten the already fragile food security in Black communities. The U.S. imports 63% of its vegetables and 47% of its fruits and nuts from Mexico, and tariffs could push grocery prices even higher. Many predominantly Black neighborhoods already struggle with food deserts—areas with limited access to affordable, healthy food. Higher food costs could worsen the crisis.

"It's already expensive to eat healthy where I live," said Alicia Brown, a 28-year-old mother of two in Chicago's South Side. "A gallon of milk is already \$5. If they start charging more for fresh produce, people are going to have to make tough choices between food and rent."

The auto industry, another key economic driver, is also set to take a hit. In 2023, the U.S. imported \$69 billion worth of cars and light trucks from Mexico and \$37 billion from Canada. Ford F-Series pickups and Mustang sports coupes rely on engines manufactured in Canada. Tariffs on auto parts will drive up costs, adding an estimated \$3,000 to the price of some vehicles.

For Black auto workers in cities like Detroit and Atlanta, job security is now in question. Many automakers are considering layoffs or plant closures if production costs soar.

"We're looking at a repeat of what happened in 2018 when Trump's first tariffs led to layoffs," said Maurice Richardson, a 58-year-old autoworker in Michigan. "Except this time, it's going to be worse."

The trade war has already drawn strong pushback from U.S. allies. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau called Trump's move "short-sighted and reckless," adding, "If he thinks Canada will just sit back and accept these tariffs without response, he is gravely mistaken." Canada has announced its own retaliatory measures, imposing a 25% tariff on \$155 billion worth of U.S. goods.

Mexico, meanwhile, has slammed Trump's justification for the tariffs, with President Claudia Sheinbaum calling it "an unjustified economic attack." Mexico has signaled it may retaliate with tariffs on American exports, including corn and soybeans—moves that would further impact U.S. farmers and lead to even higher grocery prices.

China, the third nation targeted by Trump's new

tariffs, has also vowed to take action. The Chinese Ministry of Commerce announced plans to file a complaint with the World Trade Organization, warning that "the U.S. has chosen a path of confrontation that will hurt American workers more than anyone else."

In Washington, Congress's response has been swift. Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer criticized the tariffs. "It would be nice if Donald Trump could start focusing on getting the prices down instead of making them go up," Schumer stated.

"All tariffs are not created equal. Donald Trump is aiming his new tariffs at Mexico, Canada, and China, but they will likely hit Americans in their wallets. I am concerned these new tariffs will further drive-up costs for American consumers."

The senate leader continued:

"We should be focused on

going hard against competitors who rig the game, like China, rather than attacking our allies. If these tariffs go into full effect, they will raise prices for everything from groceries to cars, to gas, making it even harder for middle-class families to just get by."

The economic storm created by Trump's trade war is already brewing. The U.S. economy saw inflation drop from its peak in 2022, but analysts now predict a sharp reversal, with costs climbing for everyday necessities. African Americans, who have historically been left behind in economic recoveries, are likely to bear the brunt of the damage.

"This is what happens when policy is made without thinking about the people who will be most affected," said Dr. Jamal Reed, a District of Columbia-based economist. "This isn't just an inconvenience. It's an economic disaster waiting to happen."

Let us hear from youl

If there is any news, events or anything else we need to know about, give us an e-mail at publisher@northdallasgazette.com

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FILM, from Page 9

the audience. Ricky finding redemption becomes a sticking point. One that will stymy audience appeal.

Holding it down for the young formally imprisoned men who've done their time and sought salvation, is the intuitive actor Stephan James. In his hands, Ricky's inner turmoil feels real. Pity that the character's anxiety is too often depicted with visual tricks and the filmmakers

didn't trust James' angst to do the job. His approach to Ricky is more like a subtle Ice Cube roaming the neighborhood than a Denzil Washington imposing his strong-willed character. James doesn't overact; he inhabits the role. Ralph is the exact opposite; her performance is showy, and she isn't helped by cumbersome dialogue. Love the natural portrayals by Johnson as the jovial sibling, Lewis as the love interest who gives Ricky hope and Ward-Hammond as the lecherous witch who abuses him.

Frett and the script will pay a price for not taking Ricky out of his failure spiral soon enough. Yet anyone watching this ex-con in the hood tale will appreciate Frett's directing. An instinctive sense of guidance to an everyday reality that feels lived in.

For more information about the Sundance Film Festival go to: https://festival.sundance.org

Visit Film Critic Dwight Brown at DwightBrownInk. com.



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My Days of Wonder in the Hospital

Dr. James L. Snyder

My plans for the New Year were horribly changed by ending up in the hospi-

Around the middle of the month, it seemed like I may have had the flu. After all, everybody around me had the flu, and I just wanted to fit in with society in gen-

I had to cancel my Sunday ministry because of this which is something I do not like to do. But. The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage said I had to do it to protect anybody who would come to the service and catch my flu.

Everybody around me seemed to have the flu, so I went along with her.

A certain incident happened on a Sunday afternoon. It was the first Sunday in a long time that I had not been at our Sunday morning ministry. I was in the bathroom, and on the floor of the bathroom was a little rug so that I wouldn't get water all over the floor.

When I stepped on that

rug, it slipped out from under me, and I went crashing to the floor. It was unexpected at the time. As I lay there on the floor, I could not, for some reason, get back up on my feet. I didn't seem to have any strength.

With no other option, I had to call out to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage to come and help me. It took me several minutes to put that all together, and I had no other choice.

She came and was not able to help me get up, so she immediately called the ambulance, who came and helped me out of the bathroom and into my bed. But the situation was a little more than I understood, and so the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage had the ambulance take me to the hospital for some examination.

That was the beginning of four days of wonderment. By that, I mean every day, I wondered if this would be the last day and if I would go home today. I had never wondered so much in my life.

The medical team as-

sumed I probably had a heart attack, and so I was up for every examination known in the civilized world. I had so many needles plunged into my body that I began looking like a porcupine.

I went through one examination after another after another. They were trying to find out some evidence I had a heart attack. But, to my satisfaction, I did not have a heart attack. They did find out I probably had pneumonia.

Because I fell, I was not allowed to get out of bed without a nurse supervising. I had to go to the bathroom so many times, but I needed a nurse to help me get out of bed. If a nurse wasn't there, a little motion light and siren went off if I stepped away from my bed.

In order to go to the bathroom, I had to call for the nurse to come and make sure I didn't fall. Many times, the nurse wasn't available at the time.

Every day, I asked if this was the day I was going to be released from the hospital. Much to my discouragement, the nurses all said that I would have to wait one more day. The next day, the same news came to me: I had to wait just one more day. Oh, just one more day.

I wanted to figure out how I could get out of here.

All of the nurses looked at me and said that I was not allowed to leave the room. I told them I wanted to sneak out, run away, and go home. All of the nurses looked at me and said, "I will never allow you to do that."

As I lay in bed one afternoon, I thought of how I could escape this hospital room. Then, it occurred to me that if I could harass the nurses enough, they would get so perturbed that they would want to let me go immediately.

I worked on my little plan and tried to figure out ways to harass the nurses to make them want me to leave. However, the more I harassed them, the more they made sure they were not going to let me leave.

There are times in life when I wish I wasn't so charming, and this was one of them. I wanted to be one of those patients the nurses wanted to get rid of quickly.

Every time I did something to harass the nurse, that nurse would always look at me and laugh out loud, and then, with both hands on her hips, would look at me and say, "That's not going to work today." Then, she would leave the room laughing.

I needed some plan to get out of the hospital, and I wondered day after day

how can I accomplish that.

Laying on my hospital bed some scripture came to my mind.

"My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing" (James 1:2-4).

Either the stress in my life can frustrate me or, I can let it work for my good. I'm anxious to see the good that will come out of this frustration.

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Doncic being a "risky" asset. Yeah, right. Doncic is as special as they come, and the Lakers organization will be in good hands for years to come. With Doncic's looming contract extension this summer, which would have required Dallas to pay a five-year, \$345 million supermax deal, Harrison cited this as another reason for the shocking trade.

"We really feel like we got ahead of what was going to be a tumultuous summer, him being eligible for the supermax and also a year away from him being

able to opt out of any contract," Harrison said. "And so we really felt like we got out in front of that. We know teams, they've had it out there, teams have been loading up to try to sign him once that comes available."

Doncic will certainly be missed by fans in Dallas—he served the community well both on and off the court. While the departure of Doncic is far from ideal, the Mavs are welcoming another special talent in Davis to the team. Davis is averaging 25.7 points, 11.9

rebounds, and 3.4 assists while shooting 52.8 percent from the field this season. He will be able to play his natural and preferred power forward position, forming a formidable front court rotation along with Daniel Gafford and Dereck Lively II. Defense is usually the key to winning championships, and adding two elite defenders like Christie and Davis keeps Dallas' title hopes very much alive. Currently, Dallas will enjoy the dynamic duo of Kyrie Irving and Davis running the show, but only time will tell how this trade plays out in the years to come.

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Black History Continues



Sister Tarpley NDG Religion Editor

Of course there have been many and great improvements on these items since their inventions: but still, L.R. Johnson invented the bicycle frame in 1899; G.T. Sampson invented the clothes dryer in 1862. O. Dorsey invented the doorknob and doorstop in 1878. Lewis Latimer invented the electric lamp bulb in 1882; Alexander Miles invented the elevator in 1867.

P. Johnson invented the eyes protector on November 2,1880 which comes in many types depending upon the threat that is to be



reduced. The threats can be particles, light, wind blast, heat, sea spray, some type of ball or puck used in February 28, 1899.

Joseph W. Winters, an abolitionist and inventor. patented a wagon-mounted fire escape ladder for the city of Chambersburg, PA in 1878; T. Marshall invented the fire extinguisher in 1872; Robert Flemming, Jr. invented the guitar in 1886; Norbet Rillieux improved sugar making in

1846; A.C. Richard invented an

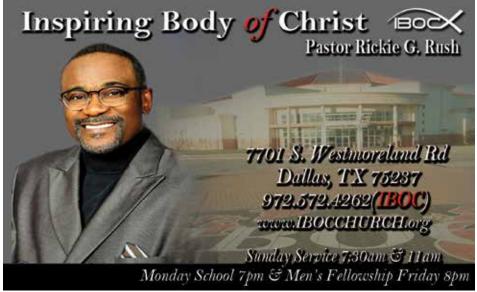
Insect-Destroyer Gun on

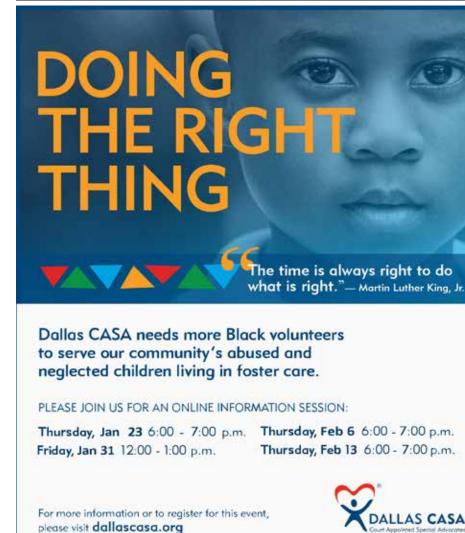
L.A. Burr invented the lawn mower in 1889. J.W. Smith invented the lawn sprinkler in 1897; F.J. Loudin invented the key chain in 1894; W.A. Martin invented the lock in the 1800's (no exact year was given.) Paul L. Downing invented the mailbox on October 27, 1891. J. Standard, the refrigerator on

June 14, 1891; W.D. Davis, the riding saddles on October 6, 1895; (Ft. Worth had its Stock Show celebration recently; I know a lot of people should be thanking W.D. Davis. Edmond Berger the sparkplug

in 1839. The Automatic Transmission by R.B.

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NDG Book Review www.NorthDallasGazette.com

NDG Book Review: Black History books for kids by various authors and illustrators

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Your mother tells you stories.

She talks about things that happened before you were born; Grandpa does it, too, and you like to hear every tale. So why not have these stories about Black History on your shelves?

For the boy who loves looking good, "Saturday Morning at the 'Shop" by Keenan Jones, illustrated by Ken Daley (Beach Lane Books, \$18.99) is a great book to have around. One day each week, everything happens at the barber shop, and not just haircuts! This is a fun read and a cultural touchstone for boys ages 4 to 8.

Young cooks will love "Jollof Day" by Bernard Mensah, illustrated by Annalise Barber-Opp (Dial, \$19.99), the story of father and son in the kitchen for a special event that starts early and ends in mouthwatering goodness. Kids will love the story, parents will love the recipe at books' end.

The child who has activism in their soul will want "We Miss You, George Floyd" by Shannon Gibney, illustrated by Leeya Rose Jackson (University of Min-



nesota Press, \$17.95). It's a brief but well-done look at the life and murder of Floyd and why it's important. Younger kids will like the pictures but older children will understand the story best.

It's also important for kids to know about their heroes, and "Sharing the Dream" by Shelia P. Moses, illustrated by Keith Mallett (Nancy Paulsen Books, \$18.99) begins with an exciting trip: the whole family's going to the March on Washington and young Agnes knows why it's important. Read this story to children ages 3-to-8 and be sure your older ones know about the biographies at books' end.

Speaking of heroes, "Unstoppable John" by Pat Zietlow Miller, illustrated by Jerry Jordan (Viking, \$18.99) is a slice-of-life story that's perfect for kids who crave books. It's the tale of young John Lewis, who loved to read almost anything he could get his

hands on – but he couldn't get a library card. Back then, libraries were only for white folks but John knew that if he was persistent and kept working on it, soon libraries and other places would open up to people who looked like him. This is a heroic book for 5-to-9-

year-olds and a nice launching point for other, similar biographies.

And finally, for the child who loves world history, "Through Sand and Salt" by Elizabeth Zunon (Bloomsbury, \$18.99) is a book you'll want. It's the tale of a young Malik who travels

with his father's caravan across the Sahara desert to take salt to Timbuktu. It's a long journey filled with danger and excitement, new friends and old lessons. Just beware, there's a lot to this book, in a longer story that's perhaps too much for a small child in one sitting.

Break it up into two readalouds, or give it to older kids, ages 9 to 12. They'll enjoy it much more.

And if these Black History Month books aren't enough, be sure to ask your favorite bookseller or librarian for more. For kids of all ages, they've got stories.



603 N. Tennessee St. * McKinney, TX 75069 www.mckinneyha.org

McKinney Housing Authority 2025 ANNUAL & FIVE-YEAR PLAN

PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

The Quality Housing & Work Responsibility Act of 1998 requires the McKinney Housing Authority to submit an Agency Plan each year.

The PHA Plan is a comprehensive guide to public housing agency (PHA) policies, programs, operations, and strategies for meeting local housing needs and goals. There are two parts to the PHA Plan: the 5-Year Plan, which each PHA submits to HUD once every 5th PHA fiscal year, and the Annual Plan, which is submitted to HUD every year.

Below is a list of meetings that are scheduled to review and discuss the Agency Plan documents for the 2025 fiscal year.

Program participants, the public and staff are encouraged to attend the meetings.

Autoridad de Vivienda McKinney PLAN ANUAL Y QUINQUENAL 2025

REUNIONES DARSE CUENTA

La Ley de Vivienda y Responsabilidad Laboral de Calidad de 1998 requiere que la Autoridad de Vivienda de McKinney presente un Plan de la Agencia cada año.

El Plan PHA es una guía completa de las políticas, programas, operaciones y estrategias de las agencias de vivienda pública (PHA) para satisfacer las necesidades y los objetivos de vivienda locales. Hay dos partes en el Plan PHA: el Plan de 5 años, que cada PHA presenta a HUD una vez cada quinto año fiscal de PHA, y el Plan anual, que se envía a HUD cada año.

A continuación hay una lista de reuniones que están programadas para revisar y analizar los documentos del Plan de la Agencia para el año fiscal 2025.

Se anima a los participantes del programa, al público y al personal a asistir a las reuniones

Tuesday January 28, 2025	4:30pm	Board of Commissioners Meeting	Merritt Homes Community Center	1200 N. Tennessee St. McKinney, TX 75069
Thursday February 13, 2025	4:30pm	Public Meeting	Newsome Homes Community Center	1450 Amscott St. McKinney, TX 75069
Tuesday February 25, 2025	4:30pm	Board of Commissioners Meeting	Merritt Homes Community Center	1200 N. Tennessee St. McKinney, TX 75069

A draft of the proposed ANNUAL and Five Year Plan is available for review at the MHA main office located at: 603 N. Tennessee St. McKinney, TX.

Comments can be submitted by hand delivery, mail, or email to McKinney Housing Authority Main Office; 603 North Tennessee Street; Attn: Roslyn Miller; McKinney, TX 75069 or info@mckinneyha.org. The final public hearing for plan adoption will be held on Tuesday, March 25th at 4:30pm – Merritt Homes community center.

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Spikes.

Imhotep, a doctor, architect, a high priest, scribe and vizier to King Djoser. His name means "the one that comes in peace" existed as a mythological figure in the minds of most scholars until the end of the 19th century when he was established as a real historical person, invented the stethoscope in Ancient Egypt and he was first

named architect who built Egypt's first pyramid.

Granville T. Woods invented a much improved phone transmitter in 1884. Lloyd Hall, a chemist, his invention of asphalt that is used on streets, tennis courts and our bridges is greatly appreciated by drivers world-wide.

(This column originally ran in February 2012. It has been edited for space.)