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A Historic Win for Voters, Thanks to Unwavering Civil Rights Groups

By Lori Lee
NDG Contributing Writer

The U.S. Supreme Court allowed an injunction blocking the Trump administration's attempt to impose new federal mail-ballot requirements, finding that the rushed rules threatened voter disenfranchisement and likely exceeded federal authority over state-run elections. (Yucel M / Unsplash)

On September 14th, the Supreme Court of the U.S. (SCOTUS) allowed a preliminary injunction blocking the Trump Administration from putting federal requirements on elections. The ruling prevented the states from having to place citizen voter information in federal hands and from having to use federal envelopes designed to prevent delivery of legitimate ballots. The order came as some states were already mailing out ballots and just weeks before the national election.

While the stated goal of the President's executive order issued March 31 was to verify citizenship, it would have effectively seized control from states and from Congress, allowing USPS, a federal agency, to become a gatekeeper over American ballots, explained John Cusick, assistant counsel at the Legal Defense Fund, speaking at an American Community Media briefing.

The mandate sparked immediate bipartisan pushback from secretaries of state nationwide and the American Postal Workers Union, who warned compliance was physically impossible on such short notice.

According to Cusick, federal district courts agreed, finding that implementing a rushed, untested system would lead to inevitable voter disenfranchisement.

The Voting Rights Project quickly filed suit in a Massachusetts federal

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People In The News ...

Lonnie G. Bunch III

Becky G

NDG Quote of the Week:

"Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope... and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring those ripples build a current that can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance." - Robert F. Kennedy

Predatory Lender Settles Lawsuit

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Lonnie G. Bunch III

Black PR Wire

(Black PR Wire) Lonnie G. Bunch III is the 14th Secretary of the Smithsonian. He assumed his position June 16, 2019. As Secretary, he oversees 19 museums, the National Zoo, numerous libraries and research centers, and several education units and centers.

Two new museums—the National Museum of the American Latino and the Smithsonian American Women's History Museum—are in development.

Since 2024, Bunch has been Honorary Professor of Practice at Queen's University Belfast. Previously, Bunch was the director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture.

When he started as director in July 2005, he had one staff member, no collections, no funding and no site for a museum. Driven by optimism, determination and a commitment to build "a place that would make America better," Bunch transformed a vision into a bold reality.

The museum has welcomed nearly 13 million visitors since it opened in September 2016 and compiled a collection of 40,000 objects that are housed in the first "green building" on the National Mall. In 2019, the creation of the museum became the first Smithsonian effort to be the topic of a Harvard Business Review case study.

Occupying a prominent location next to the Washington Monument, the nearly 400,000-square-foot National Museum of African American History and Culture is the nation's largest and most comprehensive cultural destination devoted exclusively to exploring, documenting and showcasing the African American story and its impact on American and world history.

Before his appointment as director of the museum, Bunch served as the president of the Chicago Historical Society (2001–2005).

There, he led a successful capital campaign to transform the Historical Society in celebration of its 150th anniversary, managed an institutional reorganization, initiated an unprecedented outreach initiative to diverse communities and launched a much-lauded exhibition and program on teenage life titled "Teen Chicago."

A widely published author, Bunch has written on topics ranging from the black military experience, the American presidency and African American History in California, diversity in museum management and the impact of funding and politics on American museums.

His most recent book, A Fool's Errand: Creating the National Museum of African American History and Culture in the Age of Bush, Obama, and Trump, chronicles the making of the museum that would become one of the most popular destinations in Washington.

Bunch received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from the American University in Washington, D.C.

Becky G

Billboard

MIAMI BEACH – Following the release of her fifth studio album Baraja Bendita, which debuted at No. 2 on Billboard's Top Latin Pop Albums chart, and a 2026 Latin GRAMMY nomination for Song of the Year as a songwriter on Santana's "Mi Gran Amor," multi-platinum global superstar Becky G is joining Billboard Latin Music Week 2026 for an exclusive Superstar Q&A.

Billboard recently announced that global music and cultural icon Becky G will join the 2026 edition of Billboard Latin Music Week, which this year is under the umbrella of global consolidation as a unifying theme. Taking place October 19–22, 2026, at the iconic Faena Forum Miami Beach, the event will once again serve as a dynamic platform celebrating the heartbeat of Latin music and culture. Tickets are on sale now at BillboardLatinMusicWeek.com.

Since emerging as a breakout star in the mid-2010s, Becky G has become one of the defining voices in Latin pop, building a global audience across languages, genres, and cultures. The multi-platinum singer, songwriter, entrepreneur, and activist has amassed more than 28 billion career streams worldwide, earning six Latin GRAMMY® nominations, an Academy Award nomination, a Billboard Music Award, American Music Awards, Latin American Music Awards, and E! People's Choice Awards. In 2025, she was named to TIME100 Next, recognizing rising leaders shaping the future across industries.

Becky has continued to evolve creatively while staying connected to her Mexican-American roots. Her 2023 album ESQUINAS surpassed 987 million streams, debuted at No. 3 on Billboard's Regional Mexican Albums chart, and earned a Latin GRAMMY® nomination for "POR EL CONTRARIO." She followed with ENCUENTROS, which debuted at No. 7 on the Latin Albums chart and No. 25 across all genres on Apple Music, leading to her CASA GOMEZ: OTRO CAPÍTULO TOUR and her first sold-out arena shows. Her latest album, Baraja Bendita, debuted at No. 2 on Billboard's Top Latin Pop Albums chart, marking another chapter in her continued musical evolution.

Beyond music, Becky has expanded her influence across fashion, film, and culture, collaborating with leading global designers, performing at Coachella, and appearing in Power Rangers, Empire, and DC's Blue Beetle. In 2024, she performed her Oscar-nominated song "The Fire Inside" from the movie, Flamin' Hot, live at the Academy Awards, while her advocacy for representation and community continues to shape her work on and off stage.

Recognized as the longest-running, highest-profile, and most influential gathering in the Latin music industry, the 2026 Billboard Latin Music Week features multiple days of can't-miss programming, including live performances, exclusive panels, hands-on workshops, brand activations, and networking opportunities, bringing together leading artists, creators, and executives shaping the future of Latin music with fans across the globe, including:

- Exclusive conversations with today's biggest Latin music stars and emerging voices.
- Industry panels with leaders shaping the future of Latin entertainment.
- Dynamic live performances and fan events.
- Networking opportunities with top executives, artists, and tastemakers.

Billboard Latin Music Week will coincide with the Billboard Latin Music Awards which will be presented LIVE Thursday, October 22 at 8 p.m. ET / 7c, on Telemundo and Peacock from the James L. Knight Center in Miami. The event will also be available on Universo and the Telemundo app, as well as throughout Latin America and the Caribbean via Telemundo Internacional.

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Publisher
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Contributing Writers
Jamal Baker
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Allen Gray
Jackie Hardy
Lori Lee
Terri Schlichenmeyer

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

Production
David Wilfong

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Publisher's Office:
publisher@northdallasgazette.com
Sales Department:
marketing@northdallasgazette.com
Editorial Department:
editor@northdallasgazette.com

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P.O. Box 763866 - Dallas, Texas 75736-3866
Phone: 972-432-5219 - Fax: 972-509-9058

70% of Consumers Struggle with Multiple Affordability Issues

By Charlene Crowell

As the nation's affordability crisis continues, a growing body of new research finds that rising gas and grocery costs are but two of many factors causing consumers' financial stress. Moreover, today's financial stress is deemed a function of both old and newer consumer concerns.

Research from the Georgetown Law Center on Poverty and Inequality exposes how 70 percent of all Americans struggle with multiple affordability issues like housing, food, health care, and childcare, according to its Family Economic Well-Being Index. Nationally, 41 percent of Americans face a health care burden, 33 percent face a housing burden, and nearly one-third face a food burden.

"While families in poverty face the greatest difficulty affording the basics, this struggle reaches well into the middle class," said Lelaine Bigelow, the organization's executive director. "Millions of people are working hard and still can't get ahead of these costs. The data make clear that affordability isn't a narrow problem that can be solved with narrow policies. The scale of the response must match the scale of the challenge."

A longer-term view from the Brookings Institution finds the origin of America's affordability challenges festered for more than a decade, beginning in 2014.

"Over the 2014-to-2024 period, the shares of Black and Latino or Hispanic households making ends meet were the lowest of any demographic group," according to its policy brief, States of Affordability: Where and why US households struggle to make ends meet:

"This trend mirrors the income and wage gaps that continue to persist by race and ethnicity… When the costs for housing, health care, education, and food rise faster than wages, families fall behind not because they are failing, but because the math no longer works in their favor."

These findings are substantiated by updated median household income statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau. Although 2025's median household income of $87,460 was the highest on record dating back to 1967, nagging and historic income disparities by race and gender remain largely unchanged.

Last year, non-Hispanic whites had a median income of $75,030, lower than that of Asian Americans who topped this earning category at $90,430. At the same time, Black median income was $55,100, and Hispanics even lower at $51,500. Similarly, by gender, 2025 female median income of $60,760 remained lower than that of men at $72,380.

In other words, for every dollar in 2025 earned by white, non-Hispanic men working full time, year-round, Black women were paid just 64 cents, Hispanic women 60 cents, white women 81 cents, and Asian women 99 cents, as analyzed by the Center for American Progress.

The stark jump in childcare costs – even when regional variances are considered - illustrate how hard these gender and racial statistics hit families.

Just as housing is defined 'affordable' when it costs no more than 30 percent of income, similarly childcare costs are generally considered affordable when they cost no more than seven percent of income. Last year, the $13,184 national average annual price of childcare cost 33 percent of single parent households' income, according to Child Care Aware of America's 2025 National Trends report published this May.

Nor was this disproportionate cost of care limited to one year. This same report found that childcare costs rose:

• 23 percent from 2021 to 2025;

• In 47 states, two children (an infant and a 4-year–old) in a center are more expensive than median annual rent payments;

• In 39 states, two children in a center are more expensive than median annual mortgage payments; and

• In 38 states, infant care is more expensive than in-state, public college tuition.

"Families struggle to find and afford childcare, the childcare workforce is woefully underpaid, childcare programs operate on razor thin margins, and businesses are suffering lost productivity and workforce turnover due to childcare issues," states the report. "Children, families, and communities across America remain on an uneven playing field when it comes to state childcare and preschool funding."

This June Julie Margetta Morgan, President of The Century Foundation, testified at a hearing convened by the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. Succinctly summarizing the affordability crisis, she challenged lawmakers to enact meaningful reforms for consumers and businesses alike:

"Policymakers are focused on the cost of a gallon of gas today, but millions of Americans are still paying off last week's tank of gas, plus more than 20 percent interest on those fuel costs…Given the role that financial institutions are playing in compounding families' affordability woes, there is plenty that this Committee, and banking regulators could be doing to dramatically reduce families' financial burdens."

Charlene Crowell is a senior fellow with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.

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Nearly Twice as Many People Quit Smoking When Offered Cash Rewards

(Newswise) — PHILADELPHIA—Offering financial incentives of up to $600 nearly doubled smoking cessation rates among medically underserved adults undergoing lung cancer screening, according to a large randomized clinical trial. The findings were published today in JAMA.

The study, led by researchers from the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and collaborators nationwide, enrolled more than 3,200 patients referred for low-dose CT lung cancer screening who still actively smoke tobacco across Penn Medicine, Geisinger, Henry Ford Health, and Kaiser Permanente Southern California. Annual lung cancer screening is currently recommended for adults ages 50 to 80 who have at least a 20 pack-year smoking history and currently smoke or have quit within the past 15 years. Participants were predominantly from populations that traditionally face barriers to high-quality health care, including individuals with lower incomes, those living in rural communities, and Black and Hispanic adults.

Pawel Czerwinski/ Unsplash

"These participants had smoked for decades and likely made multiple unsuccessful quit attempts in the past. We found that adding financial incentives increased quit rates in a population that can be especially difficult to reach with traditional smoking cessation approaches," said senior author Scott D. Halpern, MD, PhD, director of the Palliative and Advanced Illness Research (PAIR) Center at Penn.

Smoking is the leading cause of preventable illness and death worldwide. While rates have drastically declined since the 1960s, smoking is still estimated to cause about 450,000 deaths in the U.S. each year.

Comparing strategies used to quit smoking

Researchers tested four smoking cessation strategies: standard ask-advise-refer care, which included referrals to resources available in the community or health system; standard care plus free smoking cessation medications; standard care plus free medications and financial incentives; and the same package plus a text-based behavioral tool called FutureMe, which prompted participants to imagine their future smoke-free selves.

After six months, smoking abstinence rates, confirmed through blood or urine tests, were:

• 3 percent with usual care alone

• 1 percent with free smoking cessation medications

• 8 percent with free medications plus financial incentives

• 2 percent with free medications, incentives, and FutureMe

The findings showed that financial incentives resulted in higher quit rates compared to usual care and free medications alone. Participants could earn up to $600 through a series of payments contingent on providing a blood or urine sample that verified smoking cessation: $100 at two weeks, $200 at three months, and $300 at six months.

The study is believed to be the largest trial to evaluate financial incentives for smoking cessation among patients referred for lung cancer screening and one of the largest conducted among medically underserved populations. "Finding new approaches that help people successfully stop smoking can have an enormous impact, not only on their health but also on their quality of life," said Joanna L. Hart, MD, an assistant professor in Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care and the study's lead author.

The investigators are now exploring how best to implement incentive-based cessation programs more broadly and studying public perceptions of paying people to quit smoking.

(Editor's Note: Research reported in this study was funded through a Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute® (PCORI®) Award (PCS-2018C1-11326). The statements presented in this report are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the PCORI®.)

Research Uncovers How Bacteria Fight Viruses, Opening the Door to Better Virus-Based Antibiotics

(Newswise) — In the fight to find better treatments for bacterial infections, one rapidly evolving therapy is a group of viruses called bacteriophages (phages). Phages can attack and kill dangerous bacteria while leaving human cells unharmed and bypassing antibiotic resistance.

But bacteria have their own defenses against viruses, and learning how these immune defenses work can help researchers develop better disease-fighting viruses.

Now, new research has revealed that bacteria detect viruses when a viral enzyme cuts an important sensor molecule in the bacterium, kicking off the immune response. The discovery paves the way for development of better phage therapies that can evade the bacterial immune system.

"This is one of the most common forms of bacterial immunity, so when we finally figured it out, it was a total eureka moment," says Sam Hobbs, PhD, assistant professor of biochemistry at University of Utah Health and the first author on a paper describing the research.

The results are published in *Science*.

A last resort defense

One part of the bacterial immune system, called CBASS, leads to a "last resort" immune response that kills the bacterium before viruses can spread to its neighbors. With such a dire consequence for the bacterium, precise sensing of the viral trigger is a necessity.

The sensing mechanism detects a molecule that the virus needs to survive, Hobbs found. "Certain kinds of phages have a pro-

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Dallas CASA Classic Raises $1.1 Million Benefiting Children in Foster Care

The Dallas CASA Classic returned for its 29th year, raising $1.1 million to support Dallas CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) and children who have experienced abuse or neglect and are living in protective care.

Hosted by AT&T, Energy Leaderboard and Goldman Sachs, the tournament brought together hundreds of golfers and corporate partners from across the country in support of Dallas CASA's mission to protect children, restore childhood and help every child reach their full potential.

Since its founding in 1998, the Dallas CASA Classic has generated more than $30 million for Dallas CASA, helping transform the agency from serving 407 children annually to serving 2,350 children in 2025. Tournament support has played a vital role in the agency's growth, helping Dallas CASA expand its volunteer advocate program and, ultimately, accept 100% of court appointments to Dallas County child welfare cases beginning in 2019, a goal it strives to achieve year after year.

Tim Heltman / Courtesy

"Nearly three decades ago, leaders of the Archon Group had a vision that every child in foster care should have a strong advocate," said Kathleen M. LaValle, president and CEO of Dallas CASA. "The Dallas CASA Classic helped turn that belief into reality. Because of the extraordinary commitment of our hosts, sponsors and golfers, Dallas CASA has grown from serving a fraction of the children who needed us to ensuring thousands of children have a dedicated advocate by their side."

In 2025, 1,117 Dallas CASA volunteers advocated for 2,350 children living in protective care. Since 2019, the agency has served more than 8,700 children with nearly 3,200 volunteer advocates. Dallas CASA serves more children than any of the more than 900 CASA programs nationwide.

"Goldman Sachs has been proud to support the Dallas CASA Classic since its earliest days," said Andrew White, managing director at Goldman Sachs and Dallas CASA board member. "What makes this tournament special is that its impact extends far beyond a single day on the golf course. Year after year, it has helped build the capacity of Dallas CASA to serve more children, recruit more volunteers and ensure that vulnerable children have a voice during one of the most difficult times in their lives."

Dallas CASA volunteers are trained and supervised community advocates who are appointed by judges to represent the best interests of children who have experienced abuse or neglect. Volunteers work alongside judges, attorneys, educators, therapists, medical professionals and family members to promote children's safety, well-being and permanency.

Andy Hendricks, president and CEO of Patterson-UTI Energy, said, "The growth of Dallas CASA over the past three decades is a remarkable example of what can happen when businesses, community leaders and volunteers come together around a shared purpose. We are proud to help ensure children facing uncertainty have someone advocating for their future."

"ExxonMobil is honored to be part of a partnership that has created lasting change for children throughout Dallas County," said Rich Dealy, vice president for the Permian Basin, ExxonMobil.

The tournament was founded in 1998 by Archon Group, later acquired by Goldman Sachs. AT&T joined as a host in 2013, and Energy Leaderboard, a partnership among ExxonMobil, H&P and Patterson-UTI, now joins Goldman Sachs and AT&T in leading the event. Together, the hosts have helped create one of North Texas' most successful charitable golf tournaments.

"For children in foster care, having one trusted adult who consistently shows up can make a tremendous difference," said Corey Anthony, senior vice president, AT&T, and also a Dallas CASA board member and volunteer advocate. "That's why AT&T is proud to support Dallas CASA and the volunteers who stand beside children during uncertain times. The Dallas CASA Classic is an opportunity for our business community to invest in better futures for children and families throughout Dallas County."

All proceeds from the Dallas CASA Classic support Dallas CASA's mission and volunteer advocacy programs serving children who have experienced abuse or neglect.

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tein called a protease, which degrades other proteins," he explains. "We found that the protease from the phage actually acts directly on the host protein, and that is the signal that turns on the whole signaling pathway."

It's a very different trigger mechanism than what's found in related antiviral immune pathways, which are activated by the presence of viral genetic material. "This is a totally new mechanism for how these host proteins are activated," Hobbs says. "I never would have guessed that this was the way it was going to work."

Hobbs adds that understanding CBASS may also advance our knowledge of the human immune system. CBASS is related to a similar immune pathway in humans, indicating that this pathway has persisted at least since bacteria and humans had a common ancestor. And because bacteria have such a rapid life cycle, scientists can use them to very quickly answer questions about how the immune system works, which they can then test in models closer to people.

"The fact that these systems are conserved between bacteria and humans suggests that they've been maintained in these different organisms for that entire evolutionary trajectory," Hobbs says. "The cells are telling us that this is a really important pathway because they've maintained it for billions of years. It's incredibly fascinating, and it's a cool window into what's important in maintaining the ability to fight viruses."

Collin College Electronic Engineering Technology Program and Dean of Academic Affairs and Workforce Programs Receive 2026 Tech Titans Award

(Collin College) ech Titans recognized the Electronic Engineering Technology (EET) program at Collin College and the Technical Campus Dean of Academic Affairs and Workforce Programs, Tripat Baweja, for her contribution to the program by awarding the Tech Titans of the Future- College/University Award. The program serves more than 160 students through stackable credentials, Dual Credit ISD partnerships, and a Raytheon apprenticeship.

Tech Titans and Collin College

Founded in 1994, the Tech Titans Awards celebrate the visionaries, innovators, entrepreneurs, educators, and leaders who shape the future of technology in North Texas. The success of the EET program and Baweja's vision for it are a testament to what it takes to establish an educational pathway for students pursuing degrees and certificates in technology.

"The EET program has expanded tremendously over the last five years, engaging with ISDs and industries to strengthen the pipeline between education and industry," said Dr. Brenden Mesch, provost of the Collin College Technical Campus. "This award demonstrates the importance of having a deep connection with industry partners who support Collin College programs, students, and graduates. The success of the EET program is a function of years of hard work from a team of dedicated subject matter experts."

Baweja and her team were instrumental in updating the degree plan, creating stackable credentials, and incorporating industry tours and presentations into the curriculum. Her participation in the workforce development project led by the North Texas Semiconductor Institute led to partnerships with regional employers and community colleges. She secured over $500,000 in grants from the Department of Defense, Department of Energy, and the Department of Commerce to enhance laboratory equipment and promote the electronics industry in the community.

"To receive this prestigious award in front of 500 guests, including North Texas technology leaders, for work that took years to complete, is indeed an honor and a privilege that I could not have achieved without great leadership and an awesome team," Baweja said. "Working for a college that thrives on innovation and expansion to build pathways for our students motivates me to pursue the same vision."

To learn more about the EET program, visit www.collin.edu/department/engineering/electronic_engi-

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court on behalf of a broad coalition of civic organizations, including the League of Women Voters, the Association of Americans Resident Overseas, the U.S. Vote Foundation, OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates, and the Delta Sigma Theta sorority.

"We made two basic arguments in court," said Ethan Herrenstein, a staff attorney for the Voting Rights Project. "First, the Constitution gives states the primary responsibility of administering federal elections, subject only to Congress's power to change those rules. The president has absolutely no authority to override how states conduct their elections."

"Second, we argued that according to law, the postal service is required to deliver the mail," Herrenstein added.

Although technical complications stalled the lawsuit for the first few months, things started moving quickly in August.

On August 3rd, a whistleblower report, submitted to Senator Blumenthal and the U.S. Inspector General, said the system was designed to reject lawful ballots, even when working perfectly.

On August 11th, we got our first win, said Herrenstein when a district court entered a preliminary injunction blocking the postal service from implementation during the 2026 elections. But two weeks later, SCOTUS ruled that a state challenge to the executive order led by California was brought too early.

The high court indicated that plaintiffs could not challenge the executive order itself but could sue once the concrete USPS rules threatened immediate harm.

States were then ordered to use the USPS ballot envelopes, provide the postal service with voter information through a portal, and use voter-specific barcodes that had to match exactly or else USPS could refuse delivery.

Our basic argument remained unchanged, Herrenstein said. Election regulation belongs to Congress and the states, and Congress never gave the Postal Service permission to refuse the delivery of mail ballots. Finally, with the midterms drawing near, there was no way the postal service could implement the new rule in time.

Then, on September 4th, the decision came—the district court issueing a second preliminary injunction, confirming both the executive order and the rule were illegal, emphasizing the limited timeframe would "guarantee significantly disenfranchised, eligible voters."

The Postal Service fought back, then asking SCOTUS to block the preliminary injunction. While Justices Alito and Thomas dissented, Justice Kavanaugh voted to leave the injunction in place, noting "election officials do not have sufficient time to reasonably implement the rule before the elections."

Yet since the ruling was a preliminary injunction, the Supreme Court decision won't be the final word, noted Herrenstein. They will continue confidently at the district court level, seeking a permanent injunction, given the Supreme Court's conclusion that the Postal Service likely lacks authority to regulate elections.

Without the injunction, voters from all walks of life would be impacted—those with disabilities, students, Asian Americans, overseas military, rural voters, and others lacking poll access.

Ballots are being sent now, Herrenstein assured, and the postal service is required by law to deliver them.

"Our organizations will remain vigilant and will fight, including going back to court if needed, to ensure that elections are protected and are conducted in accordance with the law."

The win means future attempts by the president to change election rules should fail, the ruling offering a clear signal, said Herrenstein.

The decision ensures that those who prefer or rely on mail-in ballots can vote without last-minute barriers, concluded Niyati Shah, senior director of litigation at Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAJC).

"Around one in three eligible Americans rely on mail voting as secure and reliable, and it's especially important for voters in rural communities, voters with disabilities, and students," added Justin Lam, counsel for democracy at the Brennan Center for Justice.

Lam urged voters to utilize whatever secure method works best for their individual schedules.

"Whether returning your ballot in person, through a secure drop box if that's an option, or through the mail—do your best to vote early," he said.

National nonpartisan election protection hotlines remain open for voters seeking clarity ahead of November.

Cowboys Show Their Resilience in Houston

By Jamal Baker
NDG Sportswriter

NDG Composite

After last week's disappointing loss in Rio de Janeiro, the Dallas Cowboys came through in the clutch to defeat their in-state rival Houston Texans 34-30 at Reliant Stadium.

It was a tale of two halves as the Dallas offense failed to get anything going in the first half—only scoring six points on two Brandon Aubrey field goals.

However, the Cowboys came out firing on all cylinders in the second half by scoring on three straight drives to take a 27-23 lead with 11 minutes to play in the fourth quarter.

Houston would later regain a 30-27 lead on a six-yard touchdown run by Woody Marks with 2:23 remaining in the game.

Quarterback Dak Prescott showed why he's one of the few elite signal callers in the league—orchestrating an 11 play, 74-yard drive that ended on a 12-yard touchdown pass to CeeDee Lamb to give the Cowboys an exciting come-from-behind victory.

"There's nothing like winning," Prescott said. "I want to say it fixes all the problems, but it doesn't. It makes you feel good at least for a day or so. But at this point, we got to turn the page and get ready for Thursday. We can't sit here and have some winning hangover so early in the season."

"It's no different than last week's loss, when I told you guys we got to turn the page and make sure we come out and perform like we want to in Houston. We didn't start that way, but we got it going in the second half on offense particularly. Did enough, and just shows the resilience of this team to win. So now it's about stacking these wins with great momentum and just belief in the team that we've created."

Prescott finished the game 32/45 for 335 yards and a touchdown. Lamb accounted for over half of Prescott completions—posting 17 receptions for 189 yards and a touchdown.

"CeeDee's been great," Prescott said. "Obviously today, but just throughout the whole season. Just his demeanor, his mindset, his mentality, communication throughout each and every play, and I think today was just a great example of that."

The impact of fellow star receiver George Pickens was felt beyond the stat sheet in addition to his two catches for 75 yards. Texans' defenders were shading extra help to Pickens, providing Lamb with open space to operate.

"If you're going to play to George like that, and leave CeeDee one on one and give him those opportunities, we're going to go to the open guy," Prescott said. "CeeDee just does a great job of feeling the zone, beating his man, whatever it is, and getting open."

The defense deserves their flowers as well.

Yes, they gave up 30 points, but the Texans struggled to run the ball and newly acquired star cornerback Joey Porter Jr. made an impact in his limited snaps.

Porter Jr. played 24 of the Cowboys' 52 defensive snaps (46.2%) and shutdown his side of the field by only being targeted once and not allowing a catch.

"I'm a dog at the end of the day, and I want to be out there with the guys," Porter said. So I have to prove why they got me here, and I feel like I did that today."

The Cowboys are on a short week, and will look to get their second consecutive win against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers Thursday night at AT&T Stadium.

Let us hear from you!

If there is any news, events or anything else we need to know about, give us an e-mail at:

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'Atonement' is a Golden Nugget from the Toronto Film Festival

By Dwight Brown
NNPA Film Critic

(***1/2)

Courtesy of Toronto Film Festival

Remorse has no expiration date.

That's why Marine Second Lieutenant Lou D'Alessandro (Boyd Holbrook) can't get past a moment frozen in his head. Inner torment haunts him and shadows every move. Every thought. That sorrow is the emotional core of screenwriter/director Reed Van Dyk's poignant screenplay. His script is based on journalist Dexter Filkins' 2012 New Yorker article about a Marine haunted by a deadly encounter with an Iraqi family. Filkins, a war correspondent, became the real-life liaison between that broken man seeking forgiveness and the family seeking answers.

Kenneth Branagh plays Michael Reid, the New Yorker reporter who becomes the bridge between the Marine and the family. Hiam Abbass (Palestine '36) portrays Mariam, the family matriarch, holder of its grace and dignity. Van Dyk marks his feature film debut with the wisdom and restraint of a veteran filmmaker, choosing realism over melodrama.

Jon Peter's cinematography, Erin Magill's production design and costumes by Annell Brodeur and Zeina Soufan vividly distinguish the film's shifting locations and periods. Van Dyk weaves jubilant family gatherings, brutal war violence, revealing therapy sessions, bursts of anger, tears and fear into the fabric of each scene. It's hard to stay detached from what's on view, from who's suffering and who holds the key to redemption. All of it leads back to a fated day.

During the early days of the 2003 Iraq War, a platoon of Marines returns enemy fire from a rooftop in Baghdad. Buzzing streets go from full to empty in seconds. Bullets blaze through the air. All are jumpy. Then, inexplicably, cars drive into an intersection in the middle of the melee. The vehicles' presence is suspicious. Even when the cars stop and the drivers and passengers indicate surrender, D'Alessandro and his unit open fire and ask questions later.

Bodies lie on the ground. Some members of Mariam's family never get up. Ever. Initially callous, D'Alessandro becomes increasingly troubled as the enormity of his actions sinks in. "This is a family that suffered because of what I did." Ten years later, guilt paralyzes the Marine as deeply as loss torments Mariam. Her family's enduring grief and trauma are on view, too. All need healing, if healing is possible. The parallels between the two sides are striking. Atonement works in two directions: reconciliation is a dual process.

From the friendly opening to the ball of confusion, lingering smell of death and cloud of regret, Reed Van Dyk takes you through all the stages of a jarring incident, its aftermath and the possibility of hope. Never histrionic or clawing. The emotions felt are hard earned. The 118-minute running time passes quickly, thanks to Chelsi Johnston's crisp editing. The mood remains tense because Zak Engel's musical score deftly intensifies the emotional stakes.

Holbrook wears Lou's shame like prison shackles. Branagh, as the go-between, wisely stays understated. Michael is a facilitator, a background presence who allows Holbrook and Abbass to take the lead. The screen firmly belongs to Abbass, whose stoic performance matches the strength of the pivotal character. She's the one who can restore some equilibrium. She conveys it through her eyes, tone, facial expressions and mannerisms.

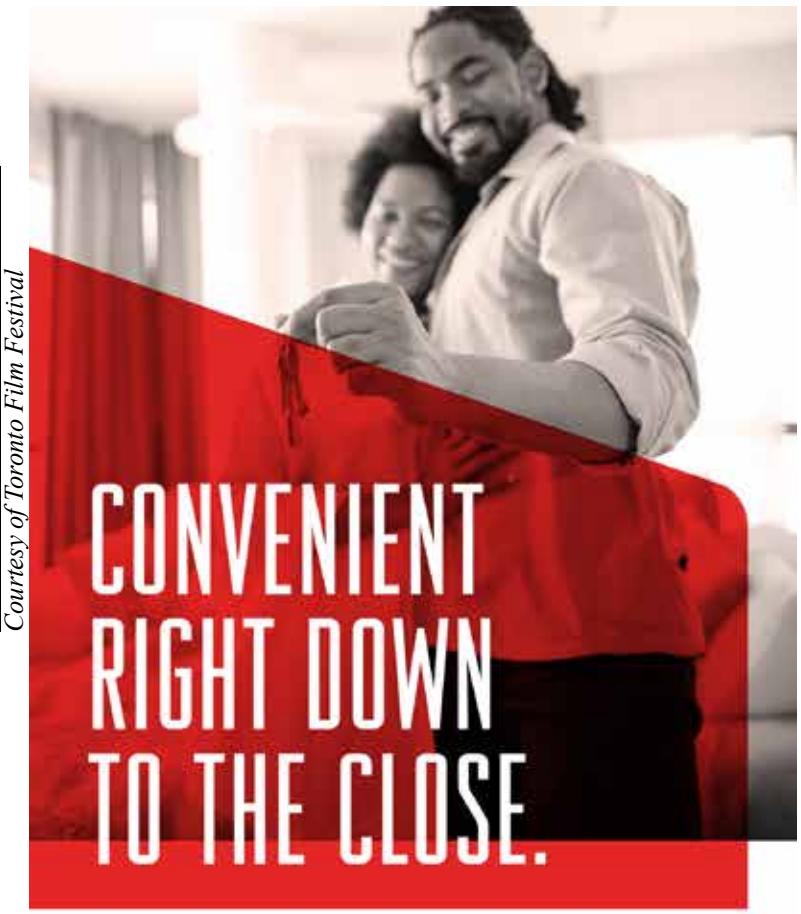
Hearts are broken. Healing is necessary. Viewers want to know if this wrong can be righted one day. That's the mark of a compelling storyline and characters who inspire empathy. As D'Alessandro's beleaguered girlfriend (Gratiela Brancusi) puts it, "When you pick up a gun and shoot, the bullet goes both ways." A lesson for soldiers. A lesson for those who bear arms. A lesson for those who start wars.

Remorse has no expiration date. Repairing a wrong is a step in the right direction.

A gripping drama. A cautionary tale.

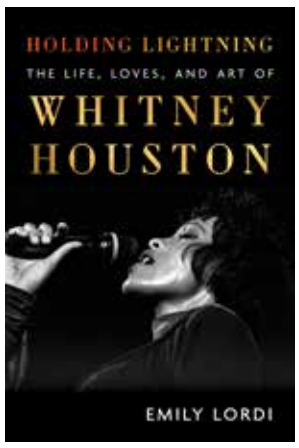
For more information about the Toronto International Film Festival go to https://tiff.net/.

Visit Film Critic Dwight Brown at DwightBrownInk.com.



NDG Bookshelf: 'Holding Lightning Offers a New Glimpse of a Music Legend

By Terri Schlichenmeyer



Round and round they go in your head.

Snippets of tunes, entire songs you loved decades ago, dance moves you copied and videos you never missed. Those things were essential to your youth, they were a soundtrack of your life, so read "Holding Lightning" by Emily Lordi and learn about the woman whose music you can still remember at full volume.

In the nearly fifteen years since she died, Whitney Houston, says Lordi, has been "widely considered to be one of the greatest singers of all time." Her mother, Cissy Houston, and record executive Clive Davis are generally "credited for her rise." Her ex-husband is "frequently blamed for her fall."

Says Lordi, "This… frame has made it impossible to see how hard Whitney worked to become herself…"

Houston was born in August 1963, the child of musical royalty. Her mother was a renowned back-up singer; her cousin was Dionne Warwick. The family was immersed in music from church to concert, and Houston happily took take her place among them.

"Whitney… loved the sound of her voice," says Lordi, which is apparently rare for a singer. As Houston's talents grew, she became a "diva" and that was important: "she understood what it meant to claim this superlative status as a Black woman." She was likewise focused and "worked hard to develop the aptitude she'd inherited."

She also played hard: early in her career, she and her best-friend-turned-lover, Robyn, did drugs sometimes but it didn't affect Houston's work then. Houston was energetic, on top of her career, topping the charts, and she made it all look easy. It seemed as though she was everywhere, dancing in heels and using that amazing voice – and yet, her success brought criticism from those who questioned her musical choices and her Blackness.

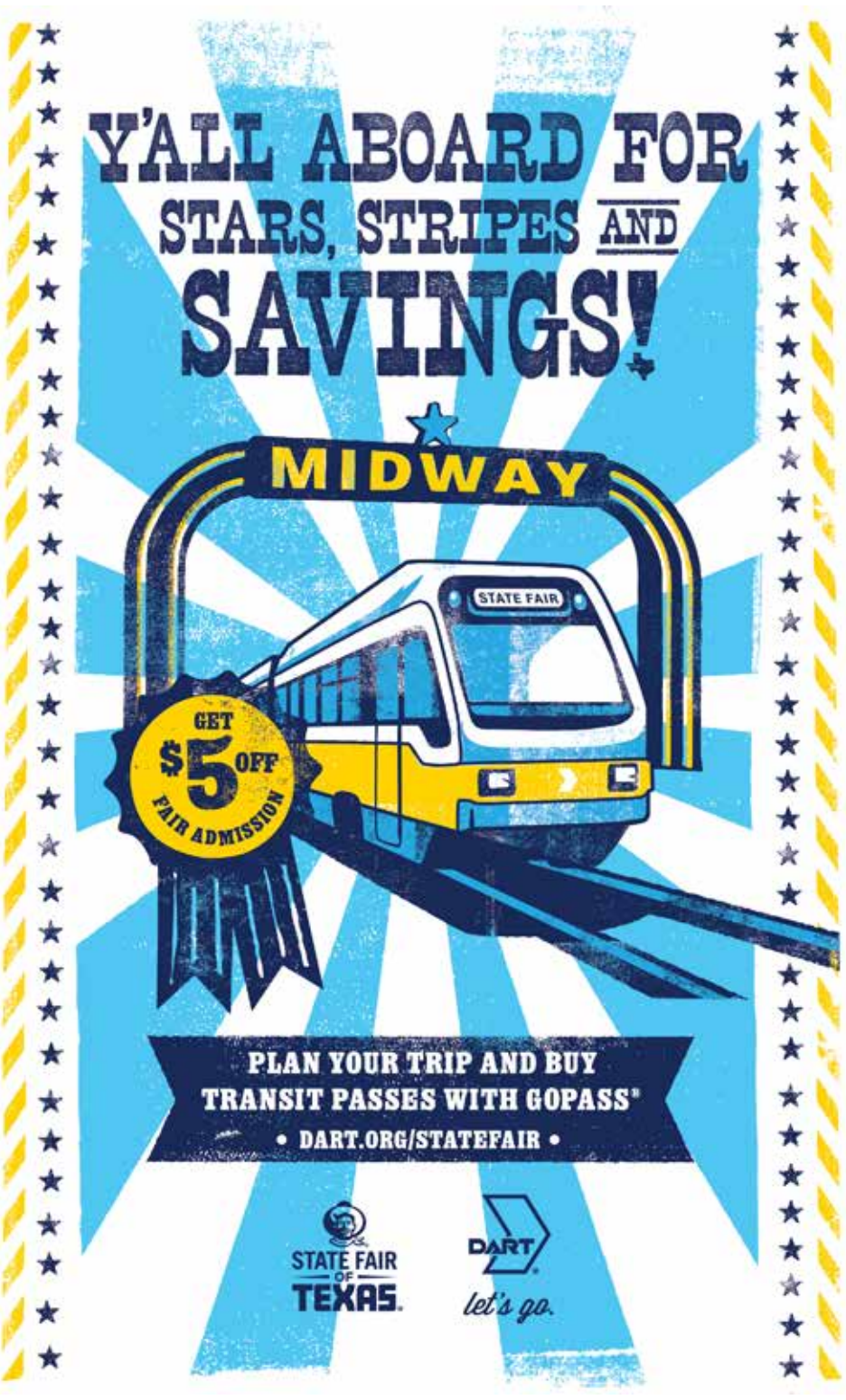
By the early part of this century, Houston was struggling. Substance abuse plagued her. She was "stressed out all the time," seemingly refusing to fail but also ready to stop…

It's called an earworm, when you just can't get a song out of your head, when it rolls around and around for days. That's what's going to happen when you read "Holding Lightning."

If you're a fan, you won't mind. Whitney Houston's music is a good accompaniment to this book – and a needed one, since, aside from the occasional insight and surprising tidbit, author Emily Lordi doesn't offer much new about Houston's life here.

Still, Houston's story is a classic tale of a rising and falling star, the kind that movies are made of. That doesn't make it any easier to read, nor is it easy to look away because Houston was (and still is) everywhere. Even though what's in this book may feel like it's all been covered before, even though there may be repetition, even though the narrative can lag some, you'll be left with earworms and sadness.

That should make fans old and new eager to get ahold of "Holding Lightning." So find it and turn up the volume; here's a book to wrap your hands around.



Social Media May Make Investors Feel More Confident Than They Should Be

By Juleah Carl

(Newswise) — Investment advice is only a scroll away. But new research from the University of Georgia suggests social media may leave some investors feeling more knowledgeable than they actually are.

The researchers found people who relied on social media to guide their investment decisions felt very confident in their investment knowledge. But they struggled to answer basic questions on investment-related topics like corporate stocks and selling short.

People who gleaned their investment information from traditional media, such as newspapers, magazines, TV and radio, felt like they knew their stuff and actually did.

"People have a lot of ways to access information now," said Xiaoyuan Sun, first author of the study and a doctoral student in UGA's College of Family and Consumer Sciences. "But if they're getting their investment information off social media, they probably don't know the deeper things. They don't know how it works, and they cannot verify that an investment product is the right fit for them."

"Basically, we find that when people are using social media, it increases their confidence but not their real knowledge," added Swarn Chatterjee, corresponding author of the study and a professor of financial planning, housing and consumer economics.

1 in 5 people reported using social media to guide investment choices

To determine whether investors' confidence matched their actual knowledge, the researchers relied on data from two national surveys of more than 2,500 U.S. adults with investments outside of their retirement accounts.

People were first asked to rate how much they thought they knew about investing on a scale from 1 to 7. Then came the reality check.

The respondents answered 11 multiple-choice questions about investing, covering everything from stocks and bonds to risk and return, index funds, short selling and options. The survey included questions such as "have you ever purchased a 'meme stock' or other investment that was trending on social media?" and "have you ever heard of bitcoin or cryptocurrencies?"

The survey also asked whether respondents relied on social media groups or message boards when choosing investments and whether they used platforms like YouTube, Facebook, Reddit and TikTok to learn about investing.

And plenty of them did.

More than one in four said they used social media for investment information, while about one in five relied on it when deciding what stocks to invest in. Meanwhile, nearly 75% used traditional media for investment information.

The study found the participants who used social media for information tended to trade more often than those who preferred traditional media sources.

Chatterjee said the fear of missing out, or FOMO, may play a role. "If you're constantly seeing people talk about the next big stock or investment opportunity, it can be tempting to jump in before you feel like you've missed your chance."

Social media makes investing information more accessible

That doesn't mean social media is all bad news for investors. Platforms like YouTube and Reddit make financial information easier to find, especially for people who may have previously found investing intimidating or confusing.

"In some ways, social media is democratizing that," Chatterjee said. "So it's helping expand access to people."

But easier access doesn't always mean better information.

Financial professionals have rules and regulations that govern what they do; people on social media don't. On social media, anyone can offer financial information or opinions. And while short videos and posts can make complicated topics easier to under-

See INVESTORS, Page 12

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Study Details How Businesses Are Adapting to Climate Change

(Newswise) — The first key finding of the Business and Climate Change Adaptation Observatory concerns the growing gap between organisations' public statements and the reality of the risks they are already facing.

DWG Studio

Climate impacts are already being felt

The summer of 2026 did more than confirm the conclusions of this report: it made them tangible. Businesses and citizens are now on the front line of climate disruption. More than one hundred municipalities had to be supplied with drinking water by tanker trucks, wildfires burned more than 115,000 hectares of forest, and numerous factories, farms and construction sites had to slow their operations, bring forward harvests, suspend work or reorganise their schedules.

These disruptions affect everything from employees' ability to work outdoors to supply chains, childcare arrangements and transportation. They are impacting sectors as diverse as healthcare, industry and agriculture.

Several economic analyses published this summer point in the same direction: extreme heat could reduce French economic growth by more than one percentage point of GDP in 2026. The government, for its part, has estimated the direct and indirect cost of the 2026 season at between €10 billion and €15 billion.

"The summer we have just experienced confirms what we document in this Observatory: businesses can no longer treat climate change as a distant and abstract risk. It is already an operational reality," says Aurélien Acquier, co-author of the study.

Beware of still waters: beneath the apparent calm, risks are accumulating

Most businesses feel they have begun to address the issue: climate reporting is improving, regulatory frameworks such as the CSRD are developing, and resilience measures often show favourable returns on investment. However, according to the Observatory, this reassuring picture conceals a more fragile reality.

While mitigation can be measured with increasing precision, adaptation remains largely qualitative and difficult to compare from one report to another. Moreover, identifying and addressing a risk can be costly, while the associated benefits remain diffuse. The result is confident messaging on the surface, even as vulnerabilities continue to accumulate.

In response to these limitations, the study proposes a new framework for understanding climate risks: the "PUSH" framework. This acronym refers to four structural characteristics that distinguish climate risks from traditional risks and explain why conventional risk-management methods struggle to address them:

• Predetermined: Some of the warming to come is already locked in by decades of past emissions.

• Unique: There is no historical precedent that allows the scale of future damage to be estimated accurately.

• Systemic: Risks spread through supply chains, financial systems, infrastructure and territories, creating cascading effects that are difficult to anticipate.

• Heterogeneous: Risks vary considerably according to geography, sector and business model.

This framework has significant implications for businesses: the uncertainty surrounding climate risks is not a temporary problem that will disappear as data becomes more precise. It is structural and inherent to the very nature of these risks. However advanced their quantification methods may become, businesses will never be able to eliminate this uncertainty entirely.

This requires a change in mindset. Rather than waiting for quantified certainty before taking action, businesses must learn to make decisions and build resilience in a context where uncertainty will remain the norm.

Five recommendations for building genuine resilience

In response to this situation, the Observatory puts forward five recommendations to help businesses prepare more effectively:

• Strengthen understanding of climate risks at the highest levels of the organisation;

• Learn to make decisions in a context of radical uncertainty;

• Move from exposure to vulnerability, drawing more heavily on the field-based knowledge of operational teams;

• Explore disruption scenarios to stress-test the organisation's true resilience;

• Build resilience collectively by integrating climate risk into governance and developing active cooperation.

"No business can adapt alone. The goal is not to eliminate climate risk, but to learn collectively how to live, make decisions and act amid uncertainty," says Antoine Poincaré, Managing Director of Apave Climate School.

An Observatory designed to equip business decision-makers

Based on nearly a year of work involving researchers, experts and businesses, and informed by their practical experience, this Observatory is intended for executives, risk, CSR and sustainability departments, as well as all stakeholders concerned with organisational resilience in the face of climate change.

INVESTORS, from Page 11

stand, details can get lost along the way.

Trust but verify investment advice you find online

The researchers aren't telling investors to delete their apps. But they do advise consumers to get better at questioning the financial information they find there.

Chatterjee compared it to searching for medical advice online. The internet might give you an idea of what's wrong, but you should probably consult a doctor before making an important medical decision.

The same principle applies to money.

"It's good to seek information. And social media can be a sounding board," Chatterjee said. But before making major financial decisions, he recommends verifying that information and seeking professional guidance.

And that may mean learning to navigate a whole lot of noise.

"Investment knowledge still matters," Chatterjee said. "Proceed with caution."

The study was published in the International Journal of Bank Marketing.

TWC Announces 11th Annual Texas HireAbility Campaign

AUSTIN – The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) is partnering with the Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities for the 11th annual Texas HireAbility campaign to raise awareness about the benefits of hiring people with disabilities. Gov. Greg Abbott has issued a proclamation designating October 2026 as Disability Employment Awareness Month in Texas.

"October is our month to honor the nearly two million Texans with disabilities in our workforce," said Governor Abbott. "Texas is open to all who want to work and succeed. Their success is Texas success. HireAbility and Disability Employment Awareness Month exist so every Texan can reach their dreams."

Throughout the month of October, TWC and its partners will host job fairs and disability awareness events across the state. The Texas HireAbility campaign offers employers an opportunity to learn how they can strengthen their workforce by hiring talented Texans with disabilities.

"Texans with disabilities bring valuable skills and experience to the workplace, and employers benefit when they tap into this highly motivated talent pipeline," said TWC Chairman Joe Esparza. "Through our Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Texas HireAbility Campaign, TWC helps employers offer meaningful employment to Texans with disabilities—more than 700,000 of whom hold a bachelor's degree or higher."

TWC's We Hire Ability employer recognition program honors Texas-based businesses with a workforce comprised of at least 10% employees with disabilities. Employers receive a We Hire Ability decal for both their online media and physical locations.

"Innovation in the workplace thrives when we embrace a diverse range of perspectives and abilities," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Alberto Treviño III. "The Texas HireAbility campaign is a vital tool for employers to discover new talent and build teams that reflect the true strength and ingenuity of the Lone Star State."

The Texas HireAbility Employer Forum will be held Oct. 21 at Collin College - McKinney Campus Conference Center in McKinney. Notable presenters include Isaac Shapiro, Co-CEO and President of Clean Logic, and representatives from Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center, City of Fort Worth and CVS. The event also features the Lex Frieden Employment Awards, presented by the Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities, which recognize the commitment of individuals and businesses to hiring and supporting the employment of Texans with disabilities.

"When TWC resources enable employers to access the talent of all Texans, the entire state wins," said TWC Commissioner Representing the Public Brent Connett. "The 11th annual Texas HireAbility campaign provides the perfect opportunity for businesses of all sizes to collaborate with TWC, hire from a motivated talent pool, and secure the dependable workers needed to gain a competitive edge."

To find a Texas HireAbility hiring event or webinar near you, please visit the twc.texas.gov/texashireability.

TWC's Vocational Rehabilitation program helps eligible Texans with disabilities prepare for, get, keep, and advance in competitive integrated employment. Last year, TWC served more than 71,000 participants and helped more than 10,000 Texans with disabilities achieve their employment goal.

TECH, from Page 6

neering_technology.

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Not Everything in Life is Funny

By Dr. James L. Snyder

I'm the kind of person who finds a sliver of humor in just about everything in life. If I can't laugh, I guess I'm not awake yet.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is not on board with my attitude. It takes her quite a while to find something to laugh at. If only she could see my bathroom mirror in the morning, she could find something to laugh about.

Several years ago, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I celebrated our birthdays which are two days apart. We went to a restaurant to celebrate. I told the waitress that we were celebrating our birthdays.

She looked at me, smiled, and said, "Tell me, sir, how does it feel to be old?" Then she laughed.

Of course, I laughed back at her, then reached across the table and began squeezing the arm of The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. I looked back at the waitress and said, "It sure feels good." The waitress and I were laughing, and the only one not laughing was sitting across the table from me. For some reason she didn't think it was funny.

I worried she might bring it up on the way home, but she never did.

Brian Lundquist / Unsplash

I always find ways to turn something around and laugh at it.

Often, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage would start a conversation by saying, "I was thinking…"

Then, without thinking, I interrupted her and responded, "With what?" Then I would laugh hysterically. Of course, I was the only one laughing at the time. She would look at me with one of "her looks," and I could tell she was not laughing, even on the inside.

Laughing has been one of my hobbies throughout life. If I can't laugh, then what good is anything? So I make it a practice to find something to laugh about every day.

After 55 years of marital bliss, I have had many occasions to laugh. Even when people make fun of me, I join in the laughter, which is all right with me.

Driving across town last week, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage was driving the Sissy Van. She was coming close to a red light, and being the knucklehead that I am, I said to her, "There's a red light, make sure you stop."

Looking at me, she said, "You think that is funny?"

I must've, because I was laughing then. She, on the other hand, was not laughing at all. Looking at me, she said, "Would you like to walk home?"

The one thing that The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is afraid of is a cockroach. She sees one, grabs her broom, and chases it until she can get rid of it.

Once, as we were going to bed, before she turned off the light, she saw a cockroach right under her pillow. She had a screaming moment and then got her shoe and tried to kill that old cockroach.

Upon getting rid of the cockroach, she looked at me and said, "Did you plant that cockroach under my pillow?"

Of course I shook my head in the negative, but as I thought about it, that would've been a good plan for me to use. I had never thought of doing something like that. But it was another bullet in my arsenal.

Several weeks later, I thought about that. In the kitchen, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage had a box of sugar-free cookies, and I was only allowed one per day.

I wanted my second sugar-free cookie, and I didn't know how to get it without getting caught. The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage was in the kitchen, and there was no way I could sneak in and get a cookie. So when I came into the kitchen, I looked back down the hallway and said, "Oh, is that a cockroach down the hallway?"

I sounded serious, so she got up to get that cockroach while I sneaked across the kitchen and picked out one more sugar-free cookie without being caught.

Coming back into the kitchen, she said, "I guess it got away because I can't find it."

After she said that, she looked at me, looked at the box of sugar-free cookies, and then looked back at me. She wasn't smiling; she was scowling and growling. She just stood there quietly for several minutes, just staring.

I tried, but I couldn't control myself, and I started laughing.

Then she said, "What do you think is so funny?"

"Oh, nothing," I said, trying to control myself, "I was just thinking of a joke."

Still scowling, she stared at me and said, "I think I know what joke you were thinking of."

At this point, I was going to ask her to explain what she meant because I was afraid she had caught me. But the laughter was worth it. And I enjoy laughter; it seems to lift my spirit.

Reflecting on this, I was reminded of one of my favorite Bible verses.

"A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones" (Proverbs 17:22).

To me, no medicine is better than a "merry heart." Sometimes it takes effort to have a merry heart, but it's worth it in the long run. The real challenge is knowing what I believe is funny. Sometimes I laugh at the wrong thing and suffer for it.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamessnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamessnyderministries.com.

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Gospel of the Kingdom

Sister Tarpley
NDG Religion Editor

"This is how we know we are in Him: Whoever claims to live in Him must walk as Jesus did." **1 John 2:5b-6**

When Christ came to earth, He came to bring to mankind the gospel of the Kingdom. Over the centuries, the Church has tended to emphasize only a portion of the gospel.

That portion is the gospel of salvation. However, Jesus came that we might have more than just salvation. He came to give us a whole new life that was accompanied by signs, wonders, and His Spirit living in us and revealing Himself to us daily.

He came so that we might walk on this earth as He did. If our lives are not reflecting the same things as Jesus' did, we must ask why?

I have noticed three distinct types of believers walking with Christ. First, many of us come to Christ out of a need for salvation. Our hearts have been touched by His call on our lives.

We reason and analyze the claims of Christ and make a decision for Him. It is the convenient time to accept Him in our lives.

This first stage is often characterized by a "Bless me, Lord" attitude toward God. It is the first stage that primarily brings salvation into our lives. Some never really go past this first stage.

The second stage is the crisis stage. A crisis takes place in our lives, and we are motivated to seek Christ with a whole heart.

However, this motivation is not out of pure love for Christ; rather, it is motivated by the desire to get out of the pain of living.

The motivation is to solve "the what" versus "the why" in my life at the time. This stage is best characterized as "Help me, Lord."

In the third stage we begin to experience the gospel of the Kingdom. It is the place where Jesus resided in His walk with His heavenly Father. It is the place of conviction.

The numbers of people who live at this level are quite few, but these people are experiencing the reality of a walk with God that is foreign to all others.

They are seeing daily occurrences of His involvement in their lives. They are motivated by a deep love for Him. They know Him.

These people have an attitude characterized by these thoughts, "Have me, Lord; though He slay me, still will I trust Him."

Where are you today? Have you merely accepted His salvation to simply float along? Or do you seek Him with a whole heart only when a crisis occurs?

God's desire is for Christians to live a life of conviction, motivated by our love for Him and His love for us.

This is where we will experience the gospel of the Kingdom. Thank God today for standing on the solid Rock of Jesus. Thank Him that your life can be built upon a strong foundation.

Trust God to live, to take every breath based upon the foundation that you can have in Him. Ask Him to help you to weather life's storms, to help you keep looking to Him, and to be a thankful child...never a complaining Christian.

Pray that God will strengthen you and keep your feet steady on solid ground. Pray for your family members that each one will be committed to God and live a life that glorifies Him and ministers to others in the blessed name of Jesus.

(Editor's Note: This column originally ran in October 2016. Sister Tarpley passed away on May 10, 2024. We keep her words alive in our print edition every week.)

CITY OF DALLAS

NOTICE OF ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Dallas, Texas has called a bond election to be held within the City of Dallas, Texas on Tuesday, November 3, 2026.

CITY OF DALLAS PROPOSITION A

THIS IS A TAX INCREASE.

☐ For
☐ Against

The issuance of $443,000,000 general obligation bonds for public safety improvements and facilities, including fire, police and emergency services; the levying of a tax sufficient to pay principal and interest thereon; the estimated amount of repayment, including principal and interest based on current market conditions being $629,618,180.

Early Voting dates and times:

October 19 through October 23	Monday – Friday	8:00 am – 5:00 pm
October 24	Saturday	7:00 am – 7:00 pm
October 25	Sunday	12:00 pm – 6:00 pm
October 26 thru October 30	Monday – Friday	7:00 am – 7:00 pm

Dallas County Early Voting and Election Day locations:
Early Voting: https://www.dallascountyvotes.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/Early-Voting-Vote-Centers_11.03.26.pdf
Election Day: https://www.dallascounty.org/elections/VoteCenters/Election%20Day%20Vote%20Centers.pdf

Collin County Early Voting and Election Day locations and dates/times:
Early Voting:
https://www.collincountytx.gov/Elections/polling-locations?electionId=75&scheduleType=ev&electionDesc=November%203,%202026%20Uniform%20Election
Election Day:
https://www.collincountytx.gov/Elections/polling-locations?electionId=75&scheduleType=ed&electionDesc=November%203,%202026%20Uniform%20Election

Denton County Early Voting and Election Day locations and dates/times:
Early Voting: https://www.votedenton.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/1126_EV_Locations_v2.pdf
Election Day: https://www.votedenton.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/1126-Unconsolidated-ED-Locations-v1.pdf

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE:
Bilierae Johnson (214) 670-5654 or Miroslava Martinez (214) 670-3809