

The Mid-South Tribune

Black Information Highway.com

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Memphis, Tennessee and The Mid-South

Comp.



Education+Economics+Entrepreneurship = Empowerment

Democrats vs. The People to renew segregation under D.E.I. to disguise socialism and Marxism

Editorial

By Ms. Arelya J. Mitchell, Publisher/Editor-in-Chief The Mid-South Tribune

The Black community is the only minority in America you can take back into segregation and call it DEI.

But should this happen, the Black community will be the impetus for a 21st Century Democratic Party to declare victory in transforming the United States of America into a socialist nation with Marxism as its centerpiece. The Democratic Party continues to use and abuse the Black community as a shield and as an excuse to continue its apex with the crowning of Joe Biden as president in 2020. Biden who was forced to give up the crown had the last laugh when he endorsed his VP Kamala Harris with the speed of light.

The Democratic Party's uncanny ability to continually trick Black Americans as a black collective will drag the entire United States into the throes of a Third World nation where citizens can be dummed down into this eddy called equity. Black Americans as a collective (yes, as in a mono-



Kash Patel

FBI Director Patel brings integrity back to an agency which was compromised under the Biden regime.



President Donald J. Trump

A new sheriff is in town, bringing Homeland Security, DOGE, volunteers, and deputies to MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN. See more on President Trump's Cabinet on page 8 of The Mid-South Tribune's 30th Annual Black History Month Special Edition.

lith) keep allowing this. Black individualism is still vigorously being fought against by Black Democratic Party loyalists who are outright socialists and/or Marxists and have no problem in running for office with those labels. For example, Stacey Abrams, Brandon Johnson, Raphael Warnock—most of whom

become that enigma of the multi-millionaire socialist (a universal occurrence in socialist, Marxist, and communist nations). Equity is the "E" in DEI – Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion—alluding Blacks into thinking that equity is synonymous with equality. DEI is indicative that the Democratic Party has gone

back to its pro-slavery roots. Those roots are why this nation fought the Civil War which resulted in a victory for the North, President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, and the addition of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution. However, it did not take long for the Democratic Party to



Pam Bondi

Attorney General Pam Bondi brings 'truth, justice, and the American way' back to DOJ office to make America safe!

devise another plan to reclaim their pro-slavery roots by calling it segregation and codifying segregation through what is known today as lawfare via corrupt judges and lawyers. Segregation resulted in the 'separate but equal' clause. Jim Crow ruled

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Does anyone feel public school officials feel pressure to make education better?

By Brian Phillips Communications Director Texas Policy Foundation

"We have school choice in Texas. If you don't like your public school, you can go to private school or homeschool."

That's a familiar refrain from opponents of creating school choice programs, like vouchers or education savings accounts. They are, of course, technically correct because those are legal

commentary

alternatives to sending kids to public school. But it's also disingenuous. They know those options have incredibly high barriers for most parents, especially middle- and working-class single parents.

If someone doesn't have reasonable access to something, can it really be considered a choice? I suppose I legally have the right to drive a Rolls-Royce or Ferrari, but I can assure you that neither of those cars are in any reasonable way a "choice" for me.

Further, the purpose of choice is not just to have options for the sake of having options. Increasing choices puts upward pressure on the market leader to make services better and more affordable. Does anybody honestly believe public school officials feel any upward pressure to make education better right now, even as half of Texas students can't read or do math on grade-level?

And this gets to the real point of the current debate over ESAs. The one thing both sides agree on is that if given the option – a real option – millions of parents would choose an education for their kid other than what their local public school is offering.

If the education establishment cared more about why that is and addressed the concerns of parents, we wouldn't need to change the law to give parents a real choice.

Read Texas Policy blogs at Texas Policy.com

- Pres. Trump Names Cabinet see page 8 ***
- "Documents Show Biden Tyranny to be Worse Had He Had a Second Term," by Harold Pease, Ph.D. see page 2 ***
- RNC Announces 2025 Black Republican Trailblazers Awards see page 6 ***
- Memphis Writer and Artist Wiley Henry Releases New Book "Daddy: A.C. William, Jr. and His Teen Town Singers" ... see page 5 ***
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President Trump's Executive Order: Protecting Children from Chemical & Surgical Mutilation

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. Policy and Purpose. Across the country today, medical professionals are maiming and sterilizing a growing number of impressionable children under the radical and false claim that adults can change a child's sex through a series of irreversible medical interventions. This dangerous trend will be a stain on our Nation's history, and it must end...

Read Full Executive Order on Page 2

From our Archives: The History of Black History

Editor's Note: This article was written by the late Vernon E. Ash, columnist for The Mid-South Tribune, The article was first published the 1996 Black History Month Special Edition. ***

By Vernon E. Ash The Mid-South Tribune and the Black Information Highway

"So that the contributions of African Americans would be properly represented and observed, the first observance of Negro History Week was spearheaded in 1926 by the "Father of Black History," Dr. Carter G. Woodson.

Dr. Woodson is the author of the popular book, "The Mis-Education of the Negro," published in 1933 and still viewed today as an important source and guidebook on the behavior and mental condition of African Americans. He was born in 1875 and died in 1950.

Other African Americans who supported Dr. Woodson's idea collaborated with the black history scholar to choose the second week of February as the week to observe the special Negro History Week. This month and week were selected because it is the week of the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln, both highly respected at the time.

In 1915, Dr. Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH) and began publishing The Journal of Negro History a year later. In the October 1927 edition of the Journal, Dr. Woodson wrote passionately about the significance of observing Negro History Week.

"The celebration tends not to promote propaganda, but to counteract it by popularizing the truth. It is not interested so much in Negro History as it is in history influenced by the Negro; for what the world needs is not a history of selected races or nations but the history of the world void

This month and week were selected because it is the week of the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln, both highly respected at the time.

of national bias, race hate, and religious prejudice," Dr. Woodson wrote. "There has been, therefore, no tendency to eulogize the Negro, nor to abuse his enemies. The aim has been to emphasize important facts in the belief that facts properly set forth will speak for themselves."

With the strong support of educators, ministers and community leaders around the nation, the first Negro History Week proved to be a tremendous success. Each group and institution took responsibility to initiate its own programs and forums to fit their particular needs in their local communities.

The popular use of the word "Negro" was replaced in the

1960s with "Black" and "Afro-American". This new trend also forced a change in the name of the ASNLH. During its 1972 convention, delegates changed its name to the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History (ASALH). Negro History Week was then changed to Black History Week.

During the nation's Bicentennial celebration in 1976, the ASALH joined the focus on American history and decided to expand the observance of Black History Week to include the entire month of February. This was done to afford more time for activities focusing on the broad contributions of African Americans to the rich history of America and the world.

Black History Month has survived several decades and continues to grow throughout the U.S. with a variety of activities and commemorations that place the great contributions of Africans (being the original human creation) and African Americans

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on center stage.

This month in addition to local community celebrations and activities observing Black History Month, numerous television specials, movies, books, magazine articles and other features will focus on the "stolen legacy" of Black History.



Documents show Biden tyranny to be much worse had he had a 2nd term



By Harold Pease, Ph. D.
Liberty Under Fire

All modern presidential elections have two parts the popular vote (the people) and the Electoral College vote (the states). We have documented in many previous columns the evidence that the 2020 presidential election was a two-part Coup d'état in both elections November 3, 2020 and January 6, 2021, the latter a fedsurrection which installed Joe Biden in the Oval Office without the objecting process mandated by the College vote. That the January 6th Select Committee of Trump haters functioned to thwart and destroy any possibility of the coup being revealed. That was the principle reason Committee members were all pardoned by Biden after they destroyed over 100 documents revealing their role in its coverup. LibertyUnderFire has covered all of this in dozens of past columns. But the Coup was not finished. MAGA, as a movement, had to be incarcerated and destroyed under the label of domestic terrorism.

This began immediately with the J-6 detainees but expanded gradually over the next several

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months and years to all Deep State objectors. This is why they were still arresting J-6 participants last fall, almost four years after the event. "On his first full day in office, President Biden, directed his national security team to lead a 100-day comprehensive review of U.S. Government efforts to address domestic terrorism," which Biden claimed "has evolved into the most urgent terrorism threat the United States faces today."

As a result of that 100-day review with Deep State people like **James Clapper** and **John Brennan** participating, "the Biden Administration released the first-ever "National Strategy for Countering Domestic Terrorism."(The White House, June 15, 2021). This for him, and the rest of the Deep State, were those

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President Trump's Executive Order: Protecting Children from Chemical & Surgical Mutilation

January 28, 2025

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. Policy and Purpose. Across the country today, medical professionals are maiming and sterilizing a growing number of impressionable children under the radical and false claim that adults can change a child's sex through a series of irreversible medical interventions. This dangerous trend will be a stain on our Nation's history, and it must end.

Countless children soon regret that they have been mutilated and begin to grasp the horrifying tragedy that they will never be able to conceive children of their own or nurture their children through breastfeeding. Moreover, these vulnerable youths' medical bills may rise throughout their lifetimes, as they are often trapped with lifelong medical complications, a losing war with their own bodies, and, tragically, sterilization.

Accordingly, it is the policy of the United States that it will not fund, sponsor, promote, assist, or support the so-called "transition" of a child from one sex to another, and it will rigorously enforce all laws that prohibit or limit these destructive and life-altering procedures.

Sec. 2. Definitions. For the purposes of this order:

- (a) The term "child" or "children" means an individual or individuals under 19 years of age.
- (b) The term "pediatric" means relating to the medical care of a child.
- (c) The phrase "chemical and surgical mutilation" means the use of puberty blockers, including GnRH agonists and other interventions, to delay the onset or progression of normally timed puberty in an individual who does not identify as his or her sex; the use of sex hormones, such as androgen blockers, estrogen, progesterone, or testosterone, to align an individual's physical appearance with an identity that differs from his or her sex; and surgical procedures that attempt to transform an individual's physical appearance to align with an identity that differs from his or her sex or that attempt to alter or remove an individual's sexual organs to minimize or destroy their natural biological functions. This phrase sometimes is referred to as "gender affirming care."

Sec. 3. Ending Reliance on Junk Science. (a) The blatant harm done to children by chemical and surgical mutilation cloaks itself in medical necessity, spurred by guidance from the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH), which lacks scientific integrity. In light of the scientific concerns with the WPATH guidance:

- (i) agencies shall rescind or amend all policies that rely on WPATH guidance, including WPATH's "Standards of Care Version 8"; and
- (ii) within 90 days of the date of this order, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) shall publish a review of the existing literature on best practices for promoting the health of children who assert gender dysphoria, rapid-onset gender dysphoria, or other identity-based confusion.
- (b) The Secretary of HHS, as appropriate and consistent with applicable law, shall use all available methods to increase the quality of data to guide practices for improving the health of minors with gender dysphoria, rapid-onset gender dysphoria, or other identity-based confusion, or who otherwise seek chemical or surgical mutilation.

Sec. 4. Defunding Chemical and Surgical Mutilation. The head of each executive department or agency (agency) that provides research or education grants to medical institutions, including medical schools and hospitals, shall, consistent with applicable law and in coordination with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, immediately take appropriate steps to ensure that institutions receiving Federal research or education grants end the chemical and surgical mutilation of children.

Sec. 5. Additional Directives to the Secretary of HHS. (a) The Secretary of HHS shall, consistent with applicable law, take all appropriate actions to end the chemical and surgical mutilation of children, including regulatory and sub-regulatory actions, which may involve the following laws, programs, issues, or documents:

- (i) Medicare or Medicaid conditions of participation or conditions for coverage;
- (ii) clinical-abuse or inappropriate-use assessments relevant to State Medicaid programs;
- (iii) mandatory drug use reviews;
- (iv) section 1557 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act;
- (v) quality, safety, and oversight memoranda;
- (vi) essential health benefits requirements; and
- (vii) the Eleventh Revision of the International Classification of Diseases and other federally funded manuals, including the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition.
- (b) The Secretary of HHS shall promptly withdraw HHS's March 2, 2022, guidance document titled "HHS Notice and Guidance on Gender Affirming Care, Civil Rights and Patient Privacy" and, in consultation with the Attorney General, issue new guidance protecting whistleblowers who take action related to ensuring compliance with this order.

Sec. 6. TRICARE. The Department of Defense provides health insurance, through TRICARE, to nearly 2 million individuals under the age of 18. As appropriate and consistent with applicable law, the Secretary of Defense shall commence a rulemaking or sub-regulatory action to exclude chemical and surgical mutilation of children from TRICARE coverage and amend the TRICARE provider handbook to exclude chemical and surgical mutilation of children.

Sec. 7. Requirements for Insurance Carriers. The Director of the Office of Personnel Management, as appropriate and consistent with applicable law, shall:

- (a) include provisions in the Federal Employee Health Benefits (FEHB) and Postal Service Health Benefits (PSHB) programs call letter for the 2026 Plan Year specifying that eligible carriers, including the Foreign Service Benefit Plan, will exclude coverage for pediatric transgender surgeries or hormone treatments; and
- (b) negotiate to obtain appropriate corresponding reductions in FEHB and PSHB premiums.

Sec. 8. Directives to the Department of Justice. The Attorney General shall:

- (a) review Department of Justice enforcement of section 116 of title 18, United States Code, and prioritize enforcement of protections against female genital mutilation;
- (b) convene States' Attorneys General and other law enforcement officers to coordinate the enforcement of laws against female genital mutilation across all American States and Territories;
- (c) prioritize investigations and take appropriate action to end deception of consumers, fraud, and violations of the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act by any entity that may be misleading the public about long-term side effects of chemical and surgical mutilation;
- (d) in consultation with the Congress, work to draft, propose, and promote legislation to enact a private right of action for children and the parents of children whose healthy body parts have been damaged by medical professionals practicing chemical and surgical mutilation, which should include a lengthy statute of limitations; and
- (e) prioritize investigations and take appropriate action to end child-abusive practices by so-called sanctuary States that facilitate stripping custody from parents who support the healthy development of their own children, including by considering the application of the Parental Kidnapping Prevention Act and recognized constitutional rights.

Sec. 9. Enforcing Adequate Progress. Within 60 days of the date of this order, the heads of agencies with responsibilities under this order shall submit a single, combined report to the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, detailing progress in implementing this order and a timeline for future action. The Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy shall regularly convene the heads of agencies with responsibilities under this order (or their designees) to coordinate and prepare for this submission.

Sec. 10. Severability. If any provision of this order, or the application of any provision to any person or circumstances, is held to be invalid, the remainder of this order and the application of any of its other provisions to any other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Sec. 11. General Provisions. (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

- (i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or
- (ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.
- (b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.
- (c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

THE WHITE HOUSE,
January 28, 2025.

Chair of National Coalition of Black Veteran Organizations kept up spirit in spite of being grounded by bad weather when trying to get to program to honor Brigadier General Charles Young



By Charles Blatcher III
Chairman,
National Coalition of Black Veteran Organizations

There is an old saying, "Good intentions produce good results." The saying applies to my February 17 attempt to attend the program at Camp Nelson in Nicholasville, Kentucky. Yes, I did not miss-speak when I said attempted to attend. I made it as far as Washington DC where my connecting flight was cancelled leaving me grounded at Dulles Airport. Louisville Airport was shut down because of bad weather making it impossible for me to reach the location in time for the morning program. While my prayers go up for the people affected by the weather, I am pleased to say the program went forward and was a success despite my absence. The coalition was represented by Michael Theard, our chief of staff from Washington, DC. He had managed to get an earlier flight into Louisville the nearest airport to Camp Nelson. However, he faced challenges trying to return to DC. The program went forward with members of the Kentucky House of Representatives, National Park Service Officials and members from entities representing locations on the Corridor.

As a speaker on the program, my mission was to deliver a message explaining the motivation behind the Legislation that established the Brigadier General Charles Young Memorial Historical Corridor. In addition, with recognizing the individuals instrumental in moving the legislation forward. A few days prior to the event, I recorded my comments and sent them to Superintendent Ernest Price at the Camp as a courtesy. I understand the anxiety that could exist when you invite someone to speak on a program and have no idea what they may say. This particular program was centered around the Corridor Legislation and soliciting support for the upcoming June 21st Freedom Festival. My comments were central to the flow of the overall presentation. In my absence he was able to play the recording to maintain the program's intent. I have attached the program agenda and an audio modification of my comments as a brief update on the Coalition's activities and the upcoming Festival. The presentation is short, running a duration of approximately 6 minutes. It would be appreciated if you share this email among friends and members of your organizations and associations. Thank you!

Hope to see you on June 21st, at Camp Nelson National Monument.

You may contact Charles Blatcher III at cnmmmf@aol.com

Do You Know This About Black History?

In September 2014 working with the community of Maysville, Kentucky the National Coalition of Black Veteran Organizations debuted the restored birth cabin of the Colonel. Between Maysville and Wilberforce lies the community of Ripley, Ohio where Charles Young lived his formative years.

Source: National Coalition of Black Veterans

Here is the program for this historic moment in American history and Black history.

Brigadier General Charles Young Memorial Historical Corridor

The Brigadier General Charles Young Memorial Historical Corridor highlights the rich history of Kentucky and Ohio. Stretching from Camp Nelson National Monument in Nicholasville, Kentucky, to Payne Theological Seminary in Wilberforce, Ohio, the Corridor follows the story of Charles Young's life and career within a broader context of national, military, and African-American history.

- Camp Nelson National Monument, Nicholasville, KY.
- Kentucky Gateway Museum, Maysville, KY.
- The Rosenwald Negro School, Mays Lick, KY.
- Second Baptist Church, Mays Lick, KY.
- Brigadier General Young's Birth Cabin, Mays Lick, KY.
- John P. Parker House, Ripley, OH.
- John Rankin House, Ripley, OH.
- Union Township Public Library, Ripley, OH.
- Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers National Monument, Wilberforce, OH.
- The National Afro American Museum and Culture Center, Wilberforce, OH.
- Wilberforce University, Wilberforce, OH.
- Payne Theological Seminary, Wilberforce, OH.
- Kentucky African American Heritage Center, Louisville, KY.
- Cincinnati National Underground Railroad Museum, Cincinnati, OH.

Brigadier General Charles Young Memorial Historical Corridor

Partner Meeting
February 17, 2025
11:00 am - 12:30 pm



Camp Nelson National Monument
6614 Danville Loop 2 Rd
Nicholasville, KY 40356



Schedule of Events

- Ernie Price**, Superintendent of Camp Nelson Monument: Welcome Remarks.
- Deputy Secretary Sebastian Kitchen**, Tourism, Arts, and Heritage Cabinet.
- Commissioner Whitney P. Allen, Jr.**, KY Dept. of Veteran Affairs, Representing Gov. Andy Beshear.
- Charles Blatcher, III**, Chairman/Publisher, National Coalition of Black Veteran Organizations.
- Ernie Price**: Introduction to Camp Nelson National Monument.
- Steve Phan**, Chief of Interpretation at Camp Nelson National Monument: Brief History and Significance of Camp Nelson.
- Ernie Price**: June 21 Freedom Festival.
- Senator Gerald Neal**, Kentucky Black Legislative Caucus: Presentation of Corridor Signs.
- Charles Blatcher, III**: Presentation of Corridor Signs.
- Ernie Price**: Invitation to Visit Museum and Visitor Center.
- Adjourn.**

Brigadier General Charles Young
1864-1922



"... I wish to state that I am always willing to aid in any work for the good of the country in general and of our race in particular, whether that race be found in Africa or in the United States."

Correspondence of Charles Young to Booker T. Washington, November 24, 1911. Photo Courtesy of Library of Congress.

Congressmembers Strickland and Conaway reintroduce bill to award Congressional Gold Medal to Buffalo Soldiers

Editor's NOTE: We must point out that it has been the National Coalition of Black Veteran Organizations, founded by Charles Blatcher III, which has led the battle to get the Buffalo Soldier recognized, beginning with the campaign to get Gen. Charles Young posthumously promoted to Brig. General. That campaign was achieved.

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressmembers Marilyn Strickland (WA-10) and Herb Conaway Jr., M.D. (NJ-03) reintroduced the Buffalo Soldiers Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2025 to honor the Buffalo Soldiers and their tremendous contributions and sacrifice to our country.

"The fierceness and tenacity of the Buffalo Soldiers underscored their essential role as patriots who influenced our nation," said Congresswoman Strickland. "Approximately 40,000 Buffalo Soldiers fought to protect American freedoms and ideals, even as they faced discrimination as Black Americans who served our

"The fierceness and tenacity of the Buffalo Soldiers underscored their essential role as patriots who influenced our nation," said Congresswoman Strickland. "Approximately 40,000 Buffalo Soldiers fought to protect American freedoms and ideals, even as they faced discrimination as Black Americans who served our

nation. It is well past time to honor and thank them posthumously with a much-deserved Congressional Gold Medal."

"The Buffalo Soldiers embodied resilience, courage, and an unwavering commitment to service in the face of injustice," said Congressman Conaway. "Their sacrifices helped shape our nation's history, and I am proud to represent the 24th Infantry Regimental Combat Team. For the men and women who made up the Buffalo Soldier regiments, it is long past time that we recognize their valor with a Congressional Gold Medal. This legislation ensures that their legacy is honored and remembered for generations to

come, and I urge all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill."

BACKGROUND:

In 1866, Congress created six all-Black peacetime regiments to protect settlers, build roads and other infrastructure, and guard U.S. mail in the Western frontier. Buffalo Soldiers would go on to serve in military operations including the Spanish American War, World War I, World War II, and the Korean War. The Buffalo soldiers' impact reached across the country as the U.S. forged its national parks. They not only served in combat and as protectors around the country, but they also broke

down barriers and demanded civil rights. The all-Black regiments served during a time of segregation in the U.S. military, and faced bigotry and discrimination, often from those they were assigned to protect.

Congresswoman Marilyn Strickland (WA-10) serves on the House Armed Services Committee and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. She is Whip of the New Democrat Coalition, Secretary of the Congressional Black Caucus, the first African-American to represent Washington State and the Pacific Northwest, and one of the first Korean-American women elected to Congress.

Education+Economics+Entrepreneurship = Empowerment

Novae CEO shows how Fintech can change the future for all in a 21st Century environment

CONYERS, Ga., Feb. 13, 2025 /PRNewswire/ -- The latest book by Reco M. McCambry, founder of Inc 5000 company Novae, hits the market this weekend. In "Fintech is the Future," McCambry introduces readers to the worlds of financial technology and financial education—and how proper use of financial technology can make anyone wealthy. In "Fintech is the Future: The Perfect Business," McCambry introduces the reader to the business of financial technology, including the rationale he used when building his company to become one of America's fastest-growing businesses. He explains how the marriage of financial technology and financial education with a direct sales business model helped his family become wealthy beyond their wildest dreams, and how similar fintech products and business models can help anyone to do the same. McCambry is a realist—instead of offering "secrets" or "weird tricks" to make the reader "effortlessly wealthy," he lays down hard examples of the power of financial education, and in the vein of Robert Kiyosaki's Rich Dad, Poor Dad, McCambry explains how the knowledge gap between the children of rich families and poor families perpetuates economic inequality. McCambry then lays out some prominent examples of how advances in financial technology can close these gaps—and how entrepreneurs can become wealthy by selling these products. The book's subtitle, "The Perfect Business to Build Wealth and Bless People at the Same Time," refers to McCambry's overall goal in building Novae. Research McCambry conducted during his MBA program, combined with his lived experience in the direct sales industry, convinced him

In "Fintech is the Future: The Perfect Business," McCambry introduces the reader to the business of financial technology, including the rationale he used when building his company to become one of America's fastest-growing businesses. He explains how the marriage of financial technology and financial education with a direct sales business model helped his family become wealthy beyond their wildest dreams, and how similar fintech products and business models can help anyone to do the same.

that the widespread dissemination of financial education and technological assistance could overcome many historical barriers to economic inequality. "Whether you're underserved because you live in a rural area, because you lack a college degree, or because you grew up in a poor neighborhood like me, fintech can help you become wealthy," McCambry told me in an interview. "It takes time, and it takes work—anyone who tells you, you can build wealth without those things is misleading you. But it can be done. And this book can help you begin to build a plan to do it." Prior to this book, McCambry was known for his books *The Fatherless Father* and *The Plan After Police Reform That Will Guarantee Social Justice and Progress for the Black Community*. These tell you a lot about McCambry's mission in life: after growing up in a single-parent

household, sometimes living in public housing projects, McCambry wants to help others like himself to erase the marks of generational trauma and build a better life. And he has always recognized that this doesn't just mean the Black community. Over the years, Novae has become distinguished by its willingness and ability to provide financial services anywhere that traditional banks have not adequately served. McCambry has hired corporate staff from various immigrant communities and covered the Biden-era expansion of Small Business Administration loans to underserved rural areas in his work as a Forbes Business Council member. McCambry's dedication to fighting economic inequality in all its forms has shown in Novae's business development. Its new grant search engine has compiled a list of hundreds of federal, state, city, and private grants, allowing business owners and entrepreneurs to search for grants they may be eligible for free of charge. Novae's new debt relief program not only offers to negotiate with creditors on behalf of consumers, but now offers a free referral program where satisfied customers can earn money by referring friends and family. "Fintech is the Future" touches on all these points, sharing a taste of the power of financial education and the key points behind why the development of financial technology is so important to the way money moves. The book, which is written both for entrepreneurs looking to break into the fintech space and for consumers who may be struggling with debt or credit scores, becomes available through Amazon and other retailers on February 15th.

First Lady Melania Trump announces re-opening of the White House for public tours

WASHINGTON, D.C. - First Lady Melania Trump announced that the White House will officially open for public tours on Tuesday, February 25. "The President and I are excited to reopen the White House to those interested in the extraordinary story of this iconic and beautiful landmark. There is much to learn about the American Presidency, the First Families who have lived here, and our Nation's rich history from a first-hand experience at the White House. This opportunity is unique among nations around the globe—a tradition we are honored to continue for the hundreds of thousands of visitors who come each year," said First Lady Melania Trump. Public tours must be requested through Members of Congress, and requests may be submitted up to three months in advance. Tours are scheduled on a first-come-first-served basis. Tours are self-guided, typically last 45 minutes, and will generally be available from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday through Thursday as well as 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday through Saturday (excluding Federal holidays or unless otherwise



First Lady Melania Trump

noted). When possible, public tour hours will be extended based on the official White House schedule. For more information, including what visitors will need to access the White House campus, please visit www.WhiteHouse.gov/Visit.

Book Recommendations: "The Adversity of Diversity" by Dr. Carol M. Swain and "Melania" by Melania Trump
 Available online and wherever books are sold!

FedEx St. Jude Championship launches Community Fund to empower local nonprofits

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – Memphis' hometown PGA TOUR event, the FedEx St. Jude Championship, is proud to announce the launch of the Positively Memphis Community Fund, a new initiative designed to provide support to nonprofit organizations that are making a meaningful impact in the Mid-South. The fund will operate on quarterly grant cycles, with each cycle focusing on a specific area of need. Grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$25,000 will be awarded to local organizations that align with the fund's mission to foster growth and create positive change. This quarter's focus is Health, Wellness, and Sport, prioritizing programs that promote physical health, mental well-being, and fitness through sports and active living. Applications for this cycle will close on March 30, 2025. "Our dedication to Memphis goes far beyond the tournament itself," said Joe Tomek, Executive Director of the FedEx St. Jude Championship. "We are so grateful to this community for the incredible support that has put us in a position to lend this kind of meaningful assistance to local organizations. We're truly excited to see the impact these grants will have on the people and programs that make Memphis such a special place."



- Serve the Mid-South region.
 - Be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, government entity (e.g., law enforcement or fire departments), or educational institution (K-12 schools, colleges, or universities).
 - Provide services in a non-discriminatory manner, as required by law.
- While a wide range of initiatives will be considered, the fund does not cover administrative or operating costs, political organizations, fundraising activities, individual or endowment funding, or sponsorships.
- How to Apply**
 Nonprofits can submit applications online through the tournament's website at: <https://fedexchampionship.com/memphis-community-fund>. To learn more about the FedEx St. Jude Championship's other community outreach programs and grants, please visit: <https://fedexchampionship.com/community>
- About the FedEx St. Jude Championship**
 The FedEx St. Jude Championship is the first of three events in the FedExCup Playoffs, the cul-

"Our dedication to Memphis goes far beyond the tournament itself," said Joe Tomek, Executive Director of the FedEx St. Jude Championship. "We are so grateful to this community for the incredible support that has put us in a position to lend this kind of meaningful assistance to local organizations. We're truly excited to see the impact these grants will have on the people and programs that make Memphis such a special place."

mination of the season-long competition that is the centerpiece of the PGA TOUR Season. Played August 14-18 at TPC Southwind, the FedEx St. Jude Championship features the top 70 players in the FedExCup Playoffs and Eligibility Points List at the conclusion of the regular season. The City of Memphis has held a PGA TOUR event every year since 1958, and 2024 will mark Memphis' third year hosting a Playoffs event. Since 1970, Memphis' PGA TOUR stop has raised more than \$72 million for the tournament's primary charitable beneficiary, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, helping to ensure patients' families never receive a bill and can focus solely on helping their child.

THE ADVERSITY OF DIVERSITY

How the Supreme Court's Decision to Remove Race from College Admissions Criteria Will Doom Diversity Programs
 CAROL M. SWAIN, PhD and MIKE TOWLE
 Foreword by ALAN M. DERSHOWITZ

A Common Sensical Quote from Carol M. Swain, Ph.D.
 - From "X" (formerly Twitter) February 4, 2025 -

"This poor, misguided, member of Congress [Jasmine Crockett] needs a history lesson. Racism and separatism exist because power hungry leaders work across racial lines to maintain a system that serves their interests. We will have true equality in America when we strip black leaders of their free pass to engage in unfettered racism. #JasmineCrockett

Eligibility
 To qualify for funding, organizations must:

Education+Economics+Entrepreneurship = Empowerment

Bestselling author and Pastor of Union Church Stephen Chandler releases new book ‘Relationship Road Map’

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21, 2025 /PRNewswire/ -- Marriage rates are at historic lows, and modern dating is dominated by ghosting and swipe-right culture. A recent Bumble survey revealed that 72% of singles want long-term relationships in 2025, yet many feel unequipped to navigate today's dating environment.

In “**Relationship Road Map: Step-by-Step Directions to Finding Your Spouse**” (WaterBrook), national bestselling author, pastor, and trusted voice to nearly one million followers, Stephen Chandler, provides practical, counter-cultural strategies to help singles move from single to spouse.

As the senior pastor to one of America's fastest-growing churches, Chandler has helped thousands of singles cut through the noise and find their partner. His latest book offers a biblically grounded, step-by-step guide to dating intentionally.

“Many singles today feel stuck, discouraged or completely lost in their relationship journey,” Chandler says. “This book is designed to help them unpack their past, invite God into the process, and date with clarity, character and confidence.”

With a mix of storytelling, humor, and biblical wisdom, Chandler shares practical advice for:

- Healing from past wounds to build healthy relationships.
- Seeking accountability from

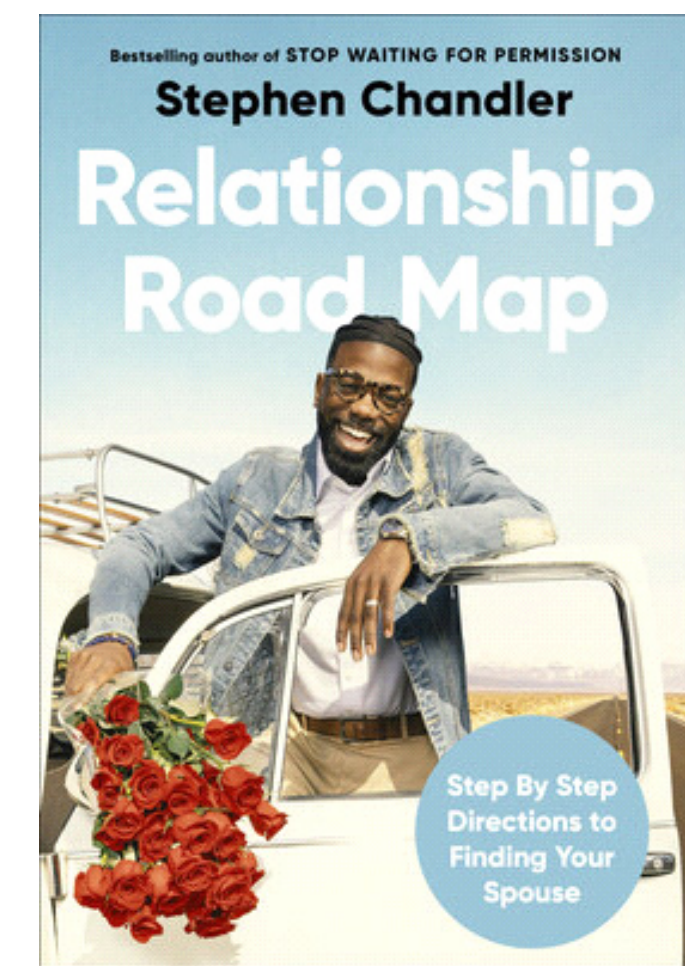


Stephen Chandler is Senior Pastor of one of America’s fastest growing churches. In “**Relationship Map: Step-by-Step Directions to Finding Your Spouse**,” he provides practical guidance. (Photos/Courtesy: WaterBrook)

trusted mentors and counselors. •Dating with integrity and avoiding common pitfalls.

Chandler challenges readers to reject the culture's shallow approach to romance and instead find their identity in Christ. Relationship Road Map equips readers to navigate modern dating with purpose and find the

partner they'll spend their life with. About Stephen Chandler: Stephen Chandler is the national bestselling author of Stop Waiting for Permission and senior pastor of Union Church in Maryland, one of the fastest-growing churches in America. Under his leadership, Union Church has



grown from 50 people to tens of thousands attending in person and online weekly.

A sought-after international speaker, Stephen equips singles to navigate dating and build God-honoring marriages. With nearly one million followers, his teachings have garnered national attention, including appearances

on Good Morning America and top-charting podcasts.

Stephen's latest book, *Relationship Road Map: Step-by-Step Directions to Finding Your Spouse* (January 21, 2025), provides practical, biblical advice for modern dating. Connect with him on social media or at www.stephenchandler.com.

Popular Memphis artist and author Wiley Henry releases book: ‘Daddy: A.C. Williams, Jr. and His Teen Town Singers’

Now available on Amazon

“By now, some of you know that I have published a book about the life and legacy of one of Memphis's most celebrated radio personalities from the early days at WDIA 1070, A.C. “Mohah” Williams Jr. In fact the book is entitled “Daddy: A.C. Williams Jr. and His Teen Town Singers.” I'd love for you to purchase a copy on Amazon,” Wiley Henry requested to his many fans.

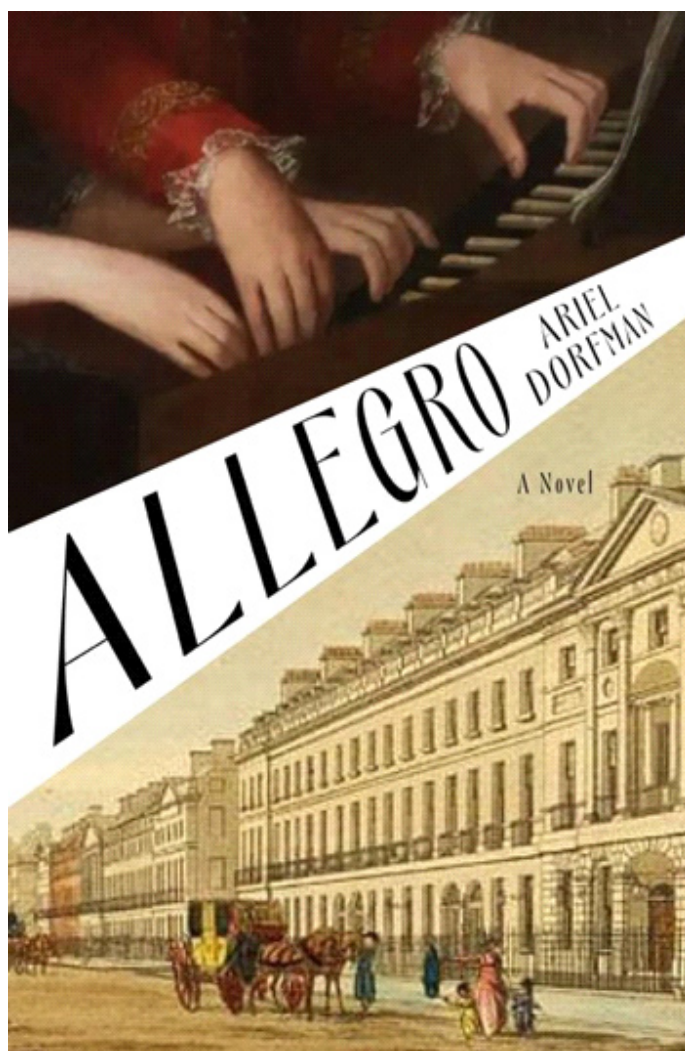
Had it not been for Andrew Charles (A.C.) Williams Jr. — affectionately called “Daddy” by members of a teenage choral group that he founded in 1949 called The Teen Town Singers — would there be a **Carla Thomas**, Memphis's Queen of Soul; **Isaac Hayes**, the balladeer of soul, the “Soul Man,” and “Black Moses”; **Markhum “Mark” L. Stansbury Sr.**, a university administrator who hosts a gospel program on WDIA Radio Station; **Percy Wiggins**, an American soul and gospel singer; **Frances Burnett Kelley**, a soprano who signed with Decca Records, guest-starred with Duke Ellington's band, and now an evangelist in the Church of God in Christ; and more.

“Daddy: A.C. Williams Jr. and his Teen Town Singers” is a fascinating story of Williams's foray into radio in 1949, the year he joined the staff at WDIA and started the choral group. After receiving the green light from **John R. Pepper** and **Bert Ferguson**, owners of the once fledgling radio station, which opened in 1947, Williams launched The Teen Town Singers. Now in their late 70s, 80s and 90s, The Teen Town Singers continue to sing the praises of their mentor, teacher, director, surrogate, disciplinarian, and progenitor, whom they still call “Daddy.”

The 262-page book is biographical and filled with historical facts and personal stories about A.C. Williams Jr. by 19 surviving Teen Town Singers. There is also a pictorial spread inside and a roster of Teen Town Singers who conquered the world as singers, songwriters, entertainers, entrepreneurs, educators, administrators, athletes, and more.

Chilean-American author Ariel Dorfman’s latest novel set for March follows historical mystery with Mozart as protagonist

This coming March of 2025, readers will be treated to the latest novel from Chilean-American author Ariel Dorfman. Dorfman's books, spanning many genres, have been published in more than fifty languages and his plays, performed in more than one hundred countries. A regular contributor to the New York Times, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, New York Review of Books, The Nation, The Guardian, and El País, with stories having appeared in The New Yorker, The Atlantic, Harper's, and Index on Censorship, among others, Dorfman is a prominent human rights activist, who takes an exciting dive into the world of classical music in his latest, **ALLEGRO: A Novel** (Other Press Trade Paperback Original; On Sale 3/4/25). A clever historical mystery starring Mozart, Dorfman spins a tale of friendship, betrayal, and ruminates on music allows us to defy death. **ALLEGRO** imbues life into the compositions and characters that classical music lovers worship. This energetic story narrated by Mozart as he investigates the deaths of Bach and Handel is sure to entertain.



since childhood: Was Bach murdered by a famous oculist? And years later, was Handel a victim of the same doctor?

ALLEGRO follows his investi-

gation, from the salons of London to the streets of Paris, recreating an enthralling and turbulent time, full of rogues and brilliant composers, charlatans and presumptuous nobles. Run-

In 1789 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart visits the grave of Johann Sebastian Bach in Leipzig, looking for a sign, a signal, an answer to an enigma that has haunted him since childhood: Was Bach murdered by a famous oculist? And years later, was Handel a victim of the same doctor?

“Gripping and expansive...Unlike most thrillers, this cerebral tale also serves as a history lesson and a philosophical contemplation on humanity's shared fate, making it a thought-provoking high point in Dorfman's prolific literary career.”

—SHELF AWARENESS (starred review)

“Throughout Dorfman's (Darwin's Ghosts) long and distinguished literary career, themes of social protest, political oppression and injustice, and exile have been at the forefront of the Chilean American writer's work; this novel is no exception, but with an ecological twist... Dorfman's novel is a fitting tribute to the 50th anniversary of the coup that toppled socialist Allende's legitimate presidency. It will keep readers engaged as they follow his quest...”

—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY (starred review)

“Throughout Dorfman's (Darwin's Ghosts) long and distinguished literary career, themes of social protest, political oppression and injustice, and exile have been at the forefront of the Chilean American writer's work; this novel is no exception, but with an ecological twist... Dorfman's novel is a fitting tribute to the 50th anniversary of the coup that toppled socialist Allende's legitimate presidency. It will keep readers engaged as they follow his quest...”

—LIBRARY JOURNAL (starred review)

Winning Writers announces winners of 10th Annual North Street Book Prize

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Feb. 17, 2025 /PRNewswire/ -- Winning Writers is pleased to announce the results from its tenth annual North Street Book Prize. This contest recognizes the best books being self-published or hybrid-published today. 1,930 books were received from around the world.

Dr. Linda I. Meyers of New York, New York won this year's Grand Prize across all genres for *The Tell*, a literary memoir-in-essays that is both a New York Jewish family saga and the story of a feminist awakening. Cata-

lyzed by her mother's suicide, the author left a stifling marriage, began college, shepherded her three young sons through a show business career that included co-starring with Woody Allen in *Annie Hall*, and became a psychologist and psychoanalyst. Dr. Meyers received \$10,000, a marketing analysis and one-hour phone consultation with Carolyn Howard-Johnson, a \$500 credit at BookBaby, three months of Plus service (a \$207 value) and a \$250 account credit from Book Award Pro, a book cover consultation from Laura Duffy Design

(a \$1,100 value), and 3 free ads in the Winning Writers newsletter (a \$525 value).

•Jeff Shelton of Santa Barbara, California won First Prize in the Art Book category for *The Fig District: Some Buildings in Downtown Santa Barbara*, a compendium of colorful patterns, photographs, and blueprints from eight whimsical multi-use buildings that his architecture firm designed in a historic California neighborhood.

•Trevor Ostfeld of Tenafly, New Jersey won the Grand Prize for *The Tell*. Please see page 15

BLACK MINDS MATTER

SAVE THE DATE

BLACK MINDS MATTER SUMMIT

Empowering Voices. Building Futures.

OCTOBER 1-2, 2025

Philadelphia, PA | The Notary Hotel

Education+Economics+Entrepreneurship = Empowerment

RNC announces 2025 Black Republican Trailblazer Award recipients who ‘Make America Great Again’

WASHINGTON — On Friday, February 21, the Republican National Committee (RNC) announced the 2025 recipients of its Black Republican Trailblazer Awards.

The Trailblazer Awards are presented to distinguished Americans who display extraordinary leadership and dedication to both the Black and Republican communities. This year’s recipients are notable Black Republicans who are helping President Donald J. Trump and Republicans in their mission to Make America Great Again, committing their time and effort to growing the Republican Party, and helping advance conservative values and legislation. The Trailblazer Award is a special tribute to members of the Black Republican Community for their sacrifices and hard work.

In 2025, the RNC is thrilled to present three awards: The Trailblazer, Emerging Leader, and Legacy Awards.

•The RNC Trailblazer Award is presented to someone who displays an exceptional leadership background in the Republican Party. Whether it be working to

The Trailblazer Awards are presented to distinguished Americans who display extraordinary leadership and dedication to both the Black and Republican communities. This year’s recipients are notable Black Republicans who are helping President Donald J. Trump and Republicans in their mission to Make America Great Again, committing their time and effort to growing the Republican Party, and helping advance conservative values and legislation. The Trailblazer Award is a special tribute to members of the Black Republican Community for their sacrifices and hard work.

advance conservative legislation, helping to get Republicans elected, or committing themselves to growing the Republican

Party, Trailblazers have a track record of getting things done.

•The RNC Emerging Leader Award is presented to individuals who have successfully promoted Republican Party principles as a leader in their organization, community, or state. This includes running for office, running Republican campaigns or organizations, or fighting to advance conservative values.

•The RNC Legacy Award is presented to individuals who demonstrate a significant and long-term impact on Republican Party principles locally, statewide, or nationally. They demonstrate a long-term commitment to the Republican Party and have a positive impact on their community, state, or the nation.

The 2025 recipients of the Trailblazer Awards are:

•**Trailblazer: The Honorable Byron Donalds**, U.S. Congressman - Congressman Donalds has been a rising leader among Republicans in Congress. Donalds has been an advocate for America First policies and a champion for Black Americans. Donalds chaired the Insurance and Banking Subcommittee in

addition to his focus on elder affairs, criminal justice reform, and education. Donalds has a distinguished record in Congress and continues to be a strong fighter for the truth, combating the far-left’s attempts to divide America.

•**Emerging Leader: Diante Johnson**, President of the Black Conservative Federation - Johnson is the Founder and president of the Black Conservative Federation. Under Johnson’s leadership, BCF has evolved from a networking group for Black Republicans to championing values of Black Americans through political advocacy, outreach, and community engagement. In addition to his leadership at BCF, Johnson has worked to elect Republicans at the local, regional, and national level for President Trump.

•**Legacy: Clarence Henderson**, civil rights hero and community activist - Henderson has been a community activist fighting for freedom and equality for decades, with deep roots in the civil rights movement. In 1960, Henderson participated in the Woolworth Lunch Counter Sit-In at North Carolina A&T State Uni-

Legacy: Clarence Henderson, civil rights hero and community activist - Henderson has been a community activist fighting for freedom and equality for decades, with deep roots in the civil rights movement. In 1960, Henderson participated in the Woolworth Lunch Counter Sit-In at North Carolina A&T State University, and has been fighting for freedom, faith, and conservative values ever since.

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"In November, voters across America delivered a resounding message, sending President Donald J. Trump to the White House, with unprecedented support from Black Americans. The RNC Trailblazer Award is one way we recognize the contributions and impact of leaders who have helped Republicans make historic inroads in the Black community and are helping the Trump Administration Make America Great Again," said

Chairman Michael Whatley. "I know that with the help of leaders like Byron Donalds, Diante Johnson, and Clarence Henderson, our successful efforts to share Republican values and expand our big tent Party will only continue. The RNC looks forward to continuing the momentum built in 2024 and ensuring Americans in minority communities see what it looks like to elect a Party that will work for all Americans."

Prior recipients of the Trailblazer Award include former HUD Secretary Dr. Ben Carson, South Carolina Senator Tim Scott, former Secretary of the Commonwealth of Virginia Kay Coles James, and current Texas State Representative Katrina Pierson.

Award winners attended the Black Conservative Federation’s annual BCF Honors Luncheon as the RNC’s guests on February 21. The celebration is in addition to the recipients taking part in the White House’s National Black History Month Reception on Thursday, February 20.

We salute Newsmax this Black History Month and every month as a ‘David’ media which fought Goliath (legacy media) and won!

CPAC Poll shows Newsmax most trusted cable news outlet; Newsmax has become rising giant

By Newsmax Staff

FEBRUARY 22, 2025- or the second year in a row, Newsmax was voted the "most trusted" cable news outlet in the nation by attendees at this year’s Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC).

The poll found that 41% of the more than 1,000 conservative leaders at CPAC picked Newsmax as their top cable news outlet, beating Fox News by a wide margin with just 26%.

The poll at this year’s Washington, D.C., annual CPAC conference was conducted by McLaughlin & Associates.

Fox News actually came in third place, with the choice "none/other" drawing 27% — a point higher than Fox News.

Liberal cable competitors MSNBC and NewsNation drew zero percent, with CNN eking out 1%.

Newsmax has become a rising giant among cable channels and

is now ranked No. 4 in cable news and No. 7 among all cable channels with over 30 million Americans watching.

Last year, a global survey by Reuters Institute found that Newsmax was among the top 12 news brands in the U.S.

Another study by Pew Research found that Newsmax was one of the top sources for election news for Americans, with the network ranking with NBC News, CBS News, AP, X, and local TV news. In the past Fox News dominated among conservatives, but after opposing Donald Trump in the 2016, 2020, and 2024 elections as well as firing Tucker Carlson, the network has seen its star fall. Trump has harshly criticized Fox and blamed his defeat in 2020 on the network’s poor coverage. He has urged his supporters to watch "terrific" Newsmax, among other media outlets.

The CPAC poll, conducted from Feb. 19 to Feb. 22, surveyed



David Harris, Jr., one of Newsmax’s newest additions, hosts “David Harris, Jr: The Pulse Weekly.” He is shown here with President Donald J. Trump. Harris was also a guest at Pres. Trump’s 2025 Black History Month celebration at the White House. Thumbs up for him and Newsmax!

Newsmax has become a rising giant among cable channels and is now ranked No. 4 in cable news and No. 7 among all cable channels with over 30 million Americans watching.

1,022 attendees through an official online platform and mobile app. The poll did not specify a margin of error but respondents were verified.

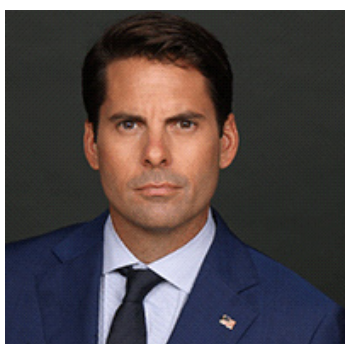
For more on Newsmax and Newsmax Plus, visit [Newsmax.com](https://www.newsmax.com)

Also, Newsmax can be found on YouTube Live, Roku, DirecTV, Vidgo, Xfinity, Mediacom, Fubo TV, Suddenlink, Dish, and more!

Some Newsmax Shows



“The Record with Greta Van Susteren”



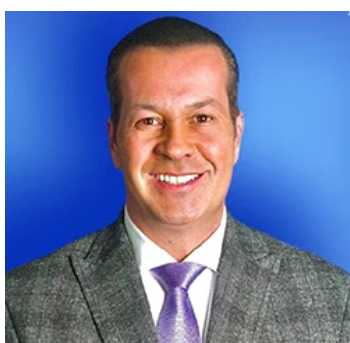
“Finnerty” with host Rob Finnerty



“Rob Schmitt Tonight”



“Carl Higlie This Week”



“Wise Guys” with John Tabacco

Newsmax’s documentary ‘Clarence Thomas: In His Own Words’ prompts The Mid-South Tribune’s Publisher/Editor-in-Chief to recall her one-on-one interview with Justice Thomas, a White House call, and other past events



Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas

By Ms. Arelya J. Mitchell, Publisher/Editor-in-Chief The Mid-South Tribune

I was editor-in-chief of another newspaper when Clarence Thomas was going through his “High Tech Lynching” congressional hearings. Like most of America, we were watching the hearings but in the press room. At the time I received a call from what would now be called a legacy newspaper. The reporter asked me what I thought about Clarence Thomas. I said something like, “Let’s give him a chance. Let’s see what he has to say.” Little did I realize that I would receive a call about a day or two later from the White House in which the person began, “The President read what you said...Would it be okay, if

we sent you some files and background material on Clarence Thomas?”

“I don’t mind,” I said. Of course, in these pre-email days, the package was FedExed. In this thick package, I read thoroughly speeches by Clarence Thomas and other background material. This just reinforced where I was leaning long before that package came, originating from that White House call. What Thomas was going through was brutal and it angered me that the so-called Black establishmentarians were taking him through this because he was a Black who dared to be Republican! How ironic and how sad, I remember discussing with one of our senior political columnists who happened to have been a Black man who served in World War II and a

staunch Democrat who found himself backing Thomas, too. Another political columnist who was White and Harvard-educated was against Thomas. These two men were my father’s age, so I had respect for them both. Sadly, both are now deceased.

Of course, in the history of my career, I have and had interviewed such Civil Rights leaders as Jesse Jackson, Louis Farrakhan, T.O. Jones (who led the Sanitation Strike which brought Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to Memphis) as he practically lay on his death bed, and other known and unknown Civil Rights leaders and activists. Yes, as editor I went against those in the NAACP and others who

Please see page 12

Education+Economics+Entrepreneurship = Empowerment

A Commentary from The Mid-South Tribune...

Congratulations to Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) of Itta Bena for not being bullied and sticking to their commitment to perform in Pres. Donald J. Trump's inauguration parade on January 20, 2025! Even bad weather did not the Mean Green Marching Machine which performed in an inside arena! To those who thought the HBCU band should not play for the Republican President in his historic win, we say "tough!"



Members of the historic "Mean Green Marching Machine" proudly show off their talent and why the band is among the best of marching bands. (Photo/Courtesy: MVSU)

Itta Bena, MS—December 26-2024— The celebrated "Mean Green Marching Machine" marching band from Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) has received an invitation to participate in the 60th Presidential Inauguration Parade in Washington, D.C., on January 20, 2025. This historic invitation highlights the band's legacy of excellence and cultural significance, showcasing the university and Mississippi's rich heritage globally.

This invitation continues MVSU's tradition of groundbreaking national performances. In 1965, the band became the first Historically Black College or University (HBCU) ensemble to march in the Tournament of Roses Parade. They returned to Pasadena in 1968 and performed in President Richard Nixon's inaugural parade on Jan. 20, 1969. These milestones reflect the band's enduring legacy as cultural ambassadors for Mississippi and the HBCU community. The total cost of this historic trip, including travel, accommoda-

"This is not just a moment of pride for our university but for the entire state of Mississippi," said Dr. Jerryl Briggs, MVSU President. "It is an opportunity to showcase our legacy, celebrate our culture, and invest in the future leaders of our community." This participation allows students to engage in the peaceful transition of power and gain global exposure while celebrating the university's 75th anniversary," Briggs added.

"This is not just a moment of pride for our university but for the entire state of Mississippi," said Dr. Jerryl Briggs, MVSU President. "It is an opportunity to showcase our legacy, celebrate our culture, and invest in the future leaders of our community." This participation allows students to engage in the peaceful transition of power and gain global exposure while celebrating the university's 75th anniversary," Briggs added.

About Mississippi Valley State University

Founded in 1950, MVSU is a Historically Black University committed to academic excellence, cultural enrichment, and preparing students for leadership and service in a global society. Mississippi Valley State University continues to be a beacon of higher education, vibrant spirit, and artistic distinction. MVSU invites you to the family. www.mvsu.edu

tions, meals, and equipment, is approximately \$350,000. MVSU is committed to ensuring that every student can participate regardless of financial circumstances. (Editor's Note: The goal of raising funds was met by overwhelming supporters across the nation).

Nielsen report says digital content drives Black audiences from reach to conversion as a growing brand



NEW YORK, Jan. 29, 2025 /PRNewswire/ -- Black audiences spend 32 hours on apps and websites on their smartphones and tablets—two hours more than the total U.S. population, according to the latest exclusive Nielsen's Diverse Intelligence Series report *Connecting with Black America: How brands impact, grow and win with inclusion*. As Black consumers continue to be digital trendsetters, brands' must finetune their approach to engaging with this audience in order to drive long-term connections.

Brands' must finetune their approach to engaging with Black audiences in order to drive long-term connections.

"Reaching Black consumers may not be a challenge—but connecting with us can be. Black consumers are leaning into platforms that emphasize conversation and create a sense of connection," says Charlene Polite Corley, Vice President of Diverse Insights & Partnerships. "To win with this community who wields \$2 trillion in buying power, brands must prioritize engagement strategies that center diverse Black experiences and cultural nuances." With the growing diversity of audiences and media platforms, Nielsen's approach—big data verified and enhanced by robust panels—helps marketers understand what and where diverse audiences are consuming content.

Social media apps have become a haven for Black consumers – Black adults overall spend more time scrolling than their peers. Black millennials (between 18 and 34-years-old) spend the most time on social media among all adults by almost an hour per week. Black adults also have high engagement with radio and podcasts. Radio averages the same as TV in weekly reach with Black adults – each medium

"Reaching Black consumers may not be a challenge—but connecting with us can be. Black consumers are leaning into platforms that emphasize conversation and create a sense of connection," says Charlene Polite Corley, Vice President of Diverse Insights & Partnerships. "To win with this community who wields \$2 trillion in buying power, brands must prioritize engagement strategies that center diverse Black experiences and cultural nuances."

name after ad exposure compared to 70% overall.

Black sports fans offer brands a new opportunity to turn fan loyalty into brand loyalty. For women's basketball, with Black talent like Angel Reese and A'ja Wilson attracting interest, viewership hit record highs. Between 2023 and 2024, Black viewership increased 161% for the WNBA All-Star Game, 227% for the WNBA Draft and 51% for the NCAA Women's Basketball Championship. This engagement is likely to drive sales: Black fans are 7% more likely than all sports fans to buy a brand after seeing its sponsorship activations.

ABOUT NIELSEN'S DIVERSE INTELLIGENCE SERIES

In 2011, Nielsen launched the Diverse Intelligence Series, a robust portfolio of comprehensive reports that focus on diverse audiences and their media preferences, media trends and representation. The series has become an industry resource to help brands better understand and reach diverse customers. To learn more about Nielsen's Diverse Intelligence research series, visit www.nielsen.com.

ABOUT NIELSEN

Nielsen shapes the world's media and content as a global leader in audience measurement, data and analytics. Through our understanding of people and their behaviors across all channels and platforms, we empower our clients with independent and actionable intelligence so they can connect and engage with their audiences—now and into the future. Nielsen operates around the world in more than 55 countries. Learn more at www.nielsen.com and connect with us on social media (X, LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram).

Entrepreneurship is Alive!

Legendary Pam Grier launches her Soul Flix series on Free TV Networks and FAST Channel



Pam Grier shows off logo for her "Soul Flix" series. (Photo/Courtesy: Soul Flix)

Pam Grier's Soul Flix Increases Free TV Networks' Portfolio to Four Digital Broadcast Networks and Three FAST Channels Pam Grier's Soul Flix Artwork: <https://freetvnetworks.com/soul-flixpr>

ATLANTA, Feb. 18, 2025 /PRNewswire/ -- Legendary actress and activist Pam Grier has partnered with Free TV Networks to cultivate and curate her own FAST Channel, Pam Grier's Soul Flix, in which Grier celebrates the powerful heroes of Black cinema. Pam Grier's Soul Flix is airing now across platforms including The Roku Channel and Plex.tv.

"I could not be more pleased with my Free TV Networks partnership. It builds upon my life's work to support all independent women and fans of Black cinema. These films don't just entertain – they inspire, empower, and tell stories that need to be heard," notes Pam Grier. "As someone who's lived through this journey and fought to bring strong characters to life, I'm thrilled to shine the spotlight on the brilliance and resilience of our community. Pam Grier's Soul Flix is a celebration of our legacy."

"We are beyond thrilled to announce our collaboration with Pam Grier, a true icon. Her

groundbreaking contributions to film and television have left an indelible mark on the industry; and her talent, charisma, and authenticity continue to inspire generations. Partnering with Pam on this exciting new venture is truly an honor as she showcases the cultural pillars of Black filmmaking," says Jonathan Katz, President and CEO of Free TV Networks.

Lauded by Quentin Tarantino as "cinema's first female action star," world-renown actress Pam Grier has been a force in the entertainment business for more than 50 years. Best known as

Black History is about 'Equality,' not 'Equity.'
Learn the difference.
Equity is a Marxist term. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) is a return to segregation. Don't be fooled!
Ignorance is not always bliss!
Watch for The Mid-South Tribune's Fourth of July/Juneteenth 2025 Special Edition explaining socialism and Marxism.
- An Editorial from The Mid-South Tribune-

Education+Economics+Entrepreneurship = Empowerment

Meet the Trump cabinet members who are willing and ready to “Fight, Fight, Fight!” for Americans



Kash Patel

Established in Article II, Section 2 of the Constitution, the Cabinet’s role is to advise the President on any subject he may require relating to the duties of each member’s respective office./ per February 20, 2025 Meet President Trump’s Cabinet Nominees

Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Lee Zeldin

Lee Zeldin is a former United States Congressman who represented New York’s First Congressional District from 2015 to 2023. In 2022, Zeldin made national headlines by nearly winning New York’s gubernatorial race, garnering the most votes for a Republican candidate statewide since Nelson Rockefeller over 50 years earlier. His strong performance at the top of the ticket helped Republicans flip multiple suburban House districts in New York, resulting in the Republican Party’s majority in the House of Representatives. Born and raised in Suffolk County, New York, at just 23, Lee Zeldin became the youngest



Pam Bondi

attorney in New York at the time. Zeldin served four years on active duty in the U.S. Army, where he held roles as a Military Intelligence Officer, Prosecutor, and Military Magistrate. In the summer of 2006, Lee Zeldin deployed to Iraq with an infantry battalion of fellow paratroopers from the Army’s elite 82nd Airborne Division in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Today, he continues his service as a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve, marking over two decades in the military. In 2010, Zeldin was elected to the New York State Senate, where he served until 2014, when he won a seat in Congress. During his eight years in Congress, Zeldin served on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and House Financial Services Committee. As one of two Jewish Republicans in Congress, he co-chaired the House Republican Israel Caucus, which had over 100 members. He was a vocal advocate on foreign policy, border security, military affairs, combating antisemitism, environmental issues, energy policy, and much more.



Pete Hegseth

Administrator of the Small Business Administration, Kelly Loeffler
 Kelly Loeffler is an entrepreneur, philanthropist, and former U.S. Senator from Georgia who dedicates her life to growing businesses and advancing economic opportunity for all. A self-made businesswoman, Kelly rose from modest beginnings, working on her family’s farm and small trucking business, to build a three-decade career in financial services and technology. As a member of the executive leadership team at Intercontinental Exchange (NYSE:ICE), she helped build ICE from a small startup to a Fortune 500 company. In 2018, she launched Bakkt (NYSE:BKKT), a fintech startup in digital assets, as its founding CEO. Kelly served in the U.S. Senate in 2020, where she brought her private-sector experience to Washington. She served on key committees including Agriculture, Joint Economic, HELP, and Veterans Affairs – championing conservative values, pro-growth policies, advocating for small



Kelly Loeffler

businesses, and passing legislation to strengthen economic resilience. As co-owner of the WNBA’s Atlanta Dream for a decade, Senator Loeffler helped position the franchise as a platform to empower women through sports, demonstrating her commitment to community impact. She earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Illinois, an MBA from DePaul University, and is the only CFA® charterholder to ever serve in Congress. A devout Catholic, she is a staunch advocate for free enterprise and opportunity for all Americans through the America First agenda. **Attorney General Pam Bondi**
 Pam Bondi is a fourth-generation Floridian from Tampa, Florida who spent more than 18 years as a prosecutor, trying cases ranging from domestic violence to capital murder. In 2010, she ran for Florida Attorney General, becoming the 37th and first female Attorney General in Florida’s history, serving for two consecutive terms from 2011-2019. As Florida’s Attorney General, Pam Bondi remained unwavering in her commitment to make Florida the safest state to live, work, and raise a family. When Attorney General Bondi took office, Florida was referred to as the pill mill capital of the United States. Of the top 100 oxycodone dispensers in the country, 98 of them were in Florida. In her first legislative session, Attorney General Bondi successfully fought for tough legislation to shut down all 98 of these unscrupulous doctors and clinics. She was then appointed Co-chair of the Substance Abuse Committee for the National Association of Attorneys General and to President Trump’s Opioid and Drug Abuse Commission where she worked alongside other national leaders in areas of prevention, interdiction, and treatment. In her commitment to combating human trafficking, Attorney General Bondi spearheaded efforts to strengthen Florida’s state laws, raise public awareness, and provide enhanced resources for victims. Under her leadership, the Florida Legislature created the Florida Statewide Human Trafficking Council. Attorney General Bondi served as Chair of the Council until the conclusion of her tenure as Florida Attorney General. In 2019, Attorney General Bondi joined the White House as Special Advisor to President Trump in the Office of White House Counsel, working on the defense legal team throughout the unprecedented Impeachment Proceedings.



Robert Kennedy, Jr.

and provided oversight of numerous operations to remove designated terrorist leaders from the battlefield. Director Ratcliffe also made the historic decision to elevate space to a priority intelligence domain by adding U.S. Space Force as the 18th member of the U.S. Intelligence Community and received the National Security Medal, the nation’s highest honor for distinguished achievement in the field of intelligence and national security. Prior to serving as DNI, Ratcliffe served for over five years as the U.S. Representative for the 4th Congressional District of Texas. **Director of National Intelligence, Tulsi Gabbard**
 Lieutenant Colonel Tulsi Gabbard’s life is defined by her unwavering commitment to service and her love of country. From her earliest days in public office to her extensive military career, she has dedicated her life in service to protect the safety, security and freedom of the American people and our nation. The people of Hawaii elected LTC Tulsi Gabbard to the State Legislature when she was 21 years old, to the Honolulu City Council eight years later, and at age 31, to the United States Congress where she served for four terms. Having experienced firsthand the true cost of war, LTC Gabbard vowed to honor the lives and sacrifice of her brothers and sisters in uniform, serving on the Armed Services, Homeland Security, and Foreign Affairs Committees in Congress. A combat veteran with three deployments to the Middle East and Africa as part of a special operations mission to counter terrorism, LTC Gabbard has served in uniform since 2003. She served in a medical unit during her 2005 deployment to Iraq and later led a Military Police platoon in Kuwait, where she was the first woman to receive an award of appreciation from the Kuwaiti military, earning their hard-won respect. She currently serves in the U.S. Army Reserve as Battalion Commander of the 1-354 Regiment in Tulsa, Oklahoma, leading soldiers in Oklahoma, Missouri and Arkansas.



Tulsi Gabbard

worked on Capitol Hill, serving as the Policy Director for the House Republican Conference, as the Executive Director of the Republican Study Committee, and as a legislative assistant for U.S. Senator Phil Gramm. **Secretary of Agriculture, Brooke Rollins**
 Brooke Leslie Rollins is from Glen Rose, Texas, a small agricultural community in the American heartland. She grew up working summers on her family’s farm in Minnesota, barrel racing, and raising livestock for 4-H and Future Farmers of America. She proudly served as a Texas State FFA Officer and worked for the National FFA Organization. Rollins most recently served as the Founder, President and CEO of the America First Policy Institute. Prior to that, she was Director of the Domestic Policy Council and Assistant to the President for Strategic Initiatives in the last White House under President Donald Trump. In these roles, she helped lead the transformational domestic policy agenda of the Trump Administration, enacting the President’s vision and leading to historic achievements for the American people. Rollins graduated with honors from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science in agricultural development and was the first woman in university history to be elected student-body president. **Secretary of Commerce, Howard Lutnick**
 Howard W. Lutnick has been nominated to serve as the 41st United States Secretary of Commerce. During President Trump’s 2024 election campaign, he was the Co-Chair of the Trump-Vance Transition Team. Before entering public service, Mr. Lutnick was a prominent figure on Wall Street for over three decades, simultaneously serving as Chairman and CEO of Cantor Fitzgerald, L.P. and BGC Group, as well as Executive Chairman of Newmark. He joined Cantor Fitzgerald in 1983 and quickly rose through the ranks, becoming President and CEO at just 29 years old. Tragedy struck on September 11, 2001, when terrorists attacked the World Trade Center and Cantor Fitzgerald lost 658 of its 960 New York-based employees, including Mr. Lutnick’s brother and his best friend. He emerged from these events with an indomitable sense of purpose to rebuild the firm to honor those lost, support their families, and become a beacon of hope for those who remained. In the days after the attacks, Mr. Lutnick launched the Cantor Fitzgerald Relief Fund, which donated \$180 million to families of his coworkers who died on 9/11. He has donated more than

Citizens Trust Bank announces Sherry L. Martin as Senior SBA Georgia and Tennessee Team Leader to help lending programs

ATLANTA, Jan. 31, 2025 /PRNewswire/ -- Citizens Trust Bank proudly introduces Sherry L. Martin, as a First Vice President, and the newest addition to the Commercial Banking leadership team. With an ongoing commitment to supporting local businesses and communities, Sherry will serve as the Senior Small Business Administration (SBA) and Commercial Banking Team Leader. In her new role she establishes and conducts the bank’s SBA lending strategies while managing the commercial banking focus within the Georgia and Tennessee markets. Sherry brings a wealth of experience to Citizens Trust Bank, specializing in aligning financial and lending functions with community and business empowerment missions. With over 20 years of experience, Sherry has supported numerous businesses, leading to the creation of scores of jobs and contributing to the growth of local and national economies. In her previous roles, Sherry offered support to community banks, credit unions, and Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) in the creation, execution, and enhancement of their SBA lending programs. During the height of the 2020 CoVID-19 pandemic, she was instrumental in adapting lending practices to align with the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). "What really attracted me to Citizens Trust Bank is the bank’s long-standing commitment to helping businesses and communities thrive through much

needed access to capital. I’m excited about the opportunity to create even greater market penetration by implementing a more robust SBA program," shares Sherry Martin. The Citizens Trust Bank lending teams continue to provide expert advice, flexible loan options, and innovative solutions designed to help businesses succeed. Martin holds a B.A. in History from Clark Atlanta University. She is actively engaged in her community and industry through multiple roles, including serving as the Chair of the Invest Atlanta credit committee, Committee Chair and active member of the National Association of Government Guaranteed Lenders (NAGGL), and current Chair for the Georgia Lenders Quality Circle (GLQC). Additionally, she lends her skills and commitment to various community and service organizations as an active member of the Clark Atlanta University Alumni Association, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (Life member), Salem Bible Church and previously a Page for the U.S. House of Representatives. "Sherry offers extensive knowledge in SBA lending and a wealth of experience in commercial banking. We are excited to have her join the CTB team," states Cynthia N. Day, President and CEO of Citizens Trust Bank. "For us, serving the interest of our communities has always been a primary focus and SBA lending will help deepen our impact. Sherry will not only help advance our SBA efforts, but her

overall experience and community focus over the years will contribute to our long-standing mission of increasing homeownership, entrepreneurship and wealth-building participation among all our customers and prospects. This marks a significant achievement for all involved." **About Citizens Trust Bank**
 Ranked 28th by S&P Global among the top 100 best-performing US Community Banks under \$3B*. Citizens Trust Bank celebrates over a century in the community. Headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, Citizens Trust Bank continues to prioritize offering customized services and financial solutions to address the community’s evolving needs, going beyond traditional banking with a legacy built on economic equality and well-being. Today, Citizens Trust Bank continues to be led by its founding mission to empower customers and future generations for financial success and takes pride in offering financial solutions across the country. Through its parent company, Citizens Bancshares Corporation, the Bank offers its common stock over the counter to the public under the trading symbol CZBS and can be found at www.ctbconnect.com, and in the social media communities of Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, X, and Citizens Trust Bank Learning Channel on YouTube.
 *Based on financials for the year ending December 2023.

Director of National Intelligence, Tulsi Gabbard

Black History is about 'Equality,' not 'Equity.'
 Learn the difference.
 Equity is a Marxist term. Don't be fooled!
 Ignorance is not always bliss!

Please see page 13

Education+Economics+Entrepreneurship = Empowerment

UFL coverage across ESPN platform will feature UFL voices from first season to get fans ready for spring

UFL coverage across ESPN platforms for the 2025 season will be led by three teams featuring a lineup of returning voices from the UFL's inaugural season, alongside signature college football personalities making their spring football debuts.

Audio, Action & Access

In addition to a play-by-play commentator and analyst in the booth, each team will feature a pair of sideline analysts, providing key insights from the unique vantage point and in-the-moment interviews with players and coaches immediately after key plays, bringing fans even closer to the action. The sideline teams offer high-level playing and coaching experience at both the college and professional levels. Teams will cover ESPN's full 22-game slate across ABC, ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPN Deportes. These games will also be available on ESPN+.

Select games in Spanish will air across ESPN Deportes and ESPN+ with schedule and commentator team details, featuring rotating two-person teams, to be announced soon.

Bryan Jaroch, ESPN Vice President, Sports Production

"The UFL on ESPN takes fans inside the game in innovative and engaging ways, led by unprecedented sideline communication with players and coaches, half-time access, going inside play calls and the review process in real time, ESPN BET integration and so much more. Working closely with the league, we look forward to another season of showcasing the high level of play, while redefining what's possible in live sports production across our platforms."

2025 UFL on ESPN Commentator Teams

*Returning voices from ESPN's 2024 UFL coverage



Team 1: Joe Tessitore | Jordan Rodgers | Tom Luginbill* | Sam Acho*

Premier ESPN and ABC college football play-by-play voice Joe Tessitore will be joined by former Vanderbilt QB and SEC Network analyst Jordan Rodgers in the booth, both making their UFL debut. College football insider and 2001 XFL Championship-winning QB coach Tom Luginbill, and NFL veteran and college football analyst Sam Acho will return as sideline analysts. Both are spring football experts who contributed to ESPN's 2024 UFL and 2023 XFL coverage.

Team 2: Mark Jones | Roy Philpott* | Roddy Jones | Cole Cubelic* | Harry Douglas*

Veteran ESPN college football and NBA voice Mark Jones will split play-by-play duties in his debut UFL season with returning commentator Roy Philpott. They will be joined by former Georgia Tech standout and ESPN college football analyst Roddy Jones in the booth. From the field, former Auburn offensive lineman/captain and SEC Network analyst Cole Cubelic and 10-year NFL veteran Harry Douglas bring a deep level of collegiate and NFL expertise as they return to their UFL analyst roles for the 2025 season.

Team 3: Lowell Galindo* | Kirk Morrison* | Eric Mac Lain* | Aaron Murray
Spring football experts lead the call from the booth with play-by-play voice **Lowell Galindo** alongside analyst and NFL veteran Kirk Morrison, returning for their third and second seasons of spring football coverage on ESPN, respectively. The duo will be joined on the field by former college football standouts at

Clemson and Georgia, respectively, with returning UFL analyst, ACC Network's Eric Mac Lain, and SEC Network's Aaron Murray, making his spring football debut.

UFL Kickoff on ESPN Platforms ESPN's schedule gets underway during UFL's 2025 opening weekend on Sunday, March 30, with a doubleheader featuring the **Michigan Panthers** at the **Memphis Showboats** (12 p.m. ET), followed by the defending UFL Champion Birmingham Stallions traveling to take on the D.C. Defenders (3 p.m.). ABC's 12-game slate begins Week 2 on Saturday, April 5, when the Defenders host the Showboats under the lights in primetime at 8 p.m. It all culminates with ABC and ESPN+'s inaugural presentation of the UFL Championship in primetime (June 14 | 8 p.m.).

About the United Football League

The United Football League (UFL) is the professional spring football league, born from the groundbreaking 2024 merger of the XFL and USFL. With the visionary backing of RedBird Capital Partners, FOX, Dany Garcia and Dwayne Johnson, the UFL is redefining the football landscape.

Built on tradition and positioned to innovate and expand fan engagement and player opportunities, the league is poised for growth with its eight teams in key markets: Arlington (TX), Birmingham (AL), Detroit (MI), Houston (TX), San Antonio (TX), Memphis (TN), St. Louis (MO), and Washington D.C. The UFL is committed to pushing the boundaries of the game and delivering an elevated experience for players, fans, and partners alike.

UofM quarterback Seth Henigan and wide receiver Roc Taylor invited to the 2025 NFL Scouting-Combine



Seth Henigan



Roc Taylor

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – University of Memphis quarterback Seth Henigan and wide receiver Roc Taylor have been invited to the 2025 NFL Scouting Combine in Indianapolis, Indiana. The event will take place in Lucas Oil Stadium from February 27 through March 2, with quarterback and receiver drills set for March 1.

Henigan, a three-time All-American Athletic Conference honoree, will enter the combine after a record-setting four years as a Tiger. Henigan became just the 15th quarterback in NCAA history to surpass 14,000 passing yards and 100 passing touchdowns, finishing his collegiate career with 14,266 passing yards and 104 touchdowns through the air.

The Denton, Texas native ended his career in Memphis on a four-game winning streak, culminating in a 42-37 victory over West Virginia in the Scooter's Coffee Frisco Bowl. It marked the 34th-career win for the all-time winningest quarterback in program history.

After earning an invitation to the Reese's Senior Bowl, Henigan entered the game during the fourth quarter and led the Amer-

ican Team to a come-from-behind win that was capped off with a 12 play, 85-yard drive for a touchdown as time expired. Henigan ended the game 12-of-14 for 132 yards and a touchdown to be named MVP of the American Team.

With Henigan in control of the offense, Memphis had the highest points-per-game average (35.7) in the AAC in 2024. He finished second in the conference in passing yards (3,502) and touchdowns (25).

Henigan also finds himself in the Memphis record books with all four of his collegiate seasons falling in the top 10 best single season passing yard totals, ranking third (3,883 in 2023), sixth (3,571 in 2022), seventh (3,502 in 2024) and ninth (3,322 in 2021). He leaves Memphis as the program's all-time leader in passing yards, passing touchdowns and completion percentage.

Taylor most recently earned a First Team All-AAC nod after recording 66 catches for 950 yards during the 2024 season. Taylor registered 10 performances with at least four catches and five games with at least 90

receiving yards, highlighted by an eight catch, 111-yard performance at UTSA. His 66 catches were tied for the third highest in the AAC during 2024, and his 950 receiving yards were good for second in the conference.

In 2023, Taylor broke the 1,000-yard threshold, becoming just the fifth wide receiver in program history to surpass that milestone. He is one of just five wide receivers in FBS with 65-plus receptions and 900-plus yards each of the last two seasons.

His 163 career receptions and 2,375 receiving yards both rank fifth all-time in program history. He also finishes his Memphis career with nine games with at least 100 receiving yards, which ranks fifth in that category.

The most recent Tigers to appear in the combine were Calvin Austin III and Donald Parham in 2022. The full list of 2025 invitees can be found here.

For complete information on Memphis Tigers Football, visit www.GoTigersGo.com and follow the team's social media channels on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

A Black History Month Quote from U.S. Marsha Blackburn, Tennessee's First Female U.S. Senator

"As so many across our state commemorate Black History Month, it is important to remember the trailblazing Tennesseans who fought to make our country a more perfect union. Among them is Nashville's Juno Frankie Pierce, a black educator and suffragist who championed women's right to vote at the inaugural convention of the Tennessee League of Women Voters. In many ways, her words helped pave the way for voter equality: Just three months later, Tennessee became the 36th and final state to ratify the 19th Amendment. Her life—much like Black History Month itself—is a powerful reminder of what can be accomplished when Americans fight for their right to freedom and equality under the law."

Do You Know This About Black History?

Rust College in Holly Springs, Mississippi and **Morgan State College** in Baltimore, Maryland were founded by the Methodist Episcopal Church; and **Fisk University** in Nashville, Tennessee was founded by the American Missionary Association. All three were founded in 1866, making them among the oldest Historical Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).



DeepThink: Editorials and Opinions

Democrats vs. The People to renew segregation under D.E.I. to disguise socialism and Marxism from front page

until the 1960s when the Civil Rights Movement emerged with a mainly Black male leadership such as found in Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Medgar Evers, T.O. Jones and those sanitation workers who marched defiantly with those "I Am A Man" placards around their necks. Yes, you had Rosa Parks, Fannie Lou Hamer, and other Black women who fought in the Civil Rights struggle. But just as was done during slavery and in any warfare to control a group, the Democratic Party knew it must preempt the Black male after the 1964 Civil Rights Bill was signed into law. During slavery, it had successfully preempted the Black male. Preempting the male by any means from killing them, beating them, depriving them, castrating them, and ultimately feminizing them is the first rule of warfare regardless of race, color, or creed. No amount of technological sophistication will or can change this law of nature in warfare to dominate an enemy and to ultimately control him — not 'her or she'—but 'him or he'. (This is why today the Democratic Party has sought to wipe out pronouns via codification of the law to destroy masculinity and manhood to put in place its socialist-Marxist agenda).

President Lyndon B. Johnson's Great Society and War on Poverty systematically removed the Black male from households obliterating the family unit. The same was done during slavery to control the Black male. Today, self-avowed Marxist organizations such as Black Lives Matter (BLM) advocate that the family unit is a form of white supremacy. Once again, the Democratic Party used and utilized the Black female to advance its cause to regain its pro-slavery roots. As before, the Republican Party wilted because it did not continue the progress Lincoln had made. It had the Black Vote and Black support after Lincoln but failed to capitalize on this; thus, lost the Black Vote in bulk. The Republican Party's failure was that it allowed a 'social' agenda to replace an 'economic' agenda in what was once America's largest minority. The Black community's failure (the collective) is that it allowed a 'social' agenda to replace an 'economic' agenda. The Black entrepreneur is practically non-existent in the Black community. Instead of becoming part of America's eco-

nomie fabric of capitalism and a culture of what it used to hold dear which was achievement, it has developed a culture of dependency and rage, embracing a culture influenced by the Black female Democratic Party leadership. If one were to look at the Black Democratic Party women in leadership roles inside the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) for example, you will not find one of these women who spoke out against CRT or DEI policies using the Black student to justify the dummied down of that Black student. The CRT pedagogy's credo is that the Black child will always be oppressed by the White child and the White child will always oppress the Black child. This is a doctrine of hatred and subjugation—a standard page of operation in the Democratic Party's playbook of Jim Crow 101. It is deeply shameful that a Black woman heads America's largest teachers' union, the National Education Association (NEA), which advocates CRT and DEI and behaves as a quasi-arm of the Democratic Party and its socialist anti-male agenda. 'She' is a Black elite female in the Democratic Party.

The Black community as a collective will suffer the sin of not holding itself accountable post the codification of the 1964 Civil Rights Bill. Just as was done after the Proclamation Emancipation, the southern Democratic Party preempted Black 'male' congressmen who won legislative offices via voter suppression and sometimes via downright violence through its KKK arm.

Fast forwarding, the Democratic Party again preempted the Black male with the Black female, but this time it was bolder and ran helter-skelter by putting in place the Black female elite and built a Black sorority 'sista' network which not only preempted the Black male but the everyday Black female. It is the Black elite Democratic Party female which controls Black politics and what is euphemistically called Black 'culture'. 'She' is aided and abetted by the White Democrat liberal. 'She' controls with her 'mouth' and little else in the Democratic Party. 'She' has descended from being the Angry Black Woman (known as ABWs) to the Hateful Black Woman (HBW) who is anti-male as ex-

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The Mid-South Tribune and the Black Information Highway Credo

By Mr. Frederick Douglass, Editor of the

North Star, an African American Newspaper (1845)

"If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom, and yet depreciate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground. They want the ocean without the awful thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. This struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, or it may be both moral and physical; but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without demand."

Alan Heinrich says Congress must stand up for inventors against deep pocket patent infringers

By Alan Heinrich

As a new Congress takes the reins, lawmakers are racing to tackle the mountain of legislation that awaits their attention. Not every bill deserves to reach the president's desk. The innocuously named Litigation Transparency Act would make it harder for inventors to defend their patents in court. Since patents are the cornerstone of the high-tech economy, the bill would undermine our collective prosperity. Deep-pocketed corporations increasingly help themselves to the inventions of America's innovative small businesses. If small firms fight back, big corporations often engage in a drawn-out legal battle, using their vast resources to wear down the little guy.

Sadly, this strategy of "efficient infringement" often works. Filing and litigating a patent infringement lawsuit can cost millions. For a small startup without big financial reserves, this creates an almost insurmountable barrier to enforcing intellectual property rights. Recently, some innovators have turned to financial firms for help funding infringement suits. This financial backing enables start-

"Courts are fully capable of balancing the need for transparency with the protection of privileged information and legitimate business interests..."

ups to press a lawsuit through to its conclusion -- and makes potential infringers think twice before trying to steamroll over others' intellectual property rights.

The Litigation Transparency Act wouldn't ban these funding arrangements outright. But, make no mistake, that will be the result. The Litigation Transparency Act would force small businesses to disclose financing agreements, potentially exposing a plaintiff's legal strategy. It would leave funders and their investors vulnerable to harassment campaigns and intimidation tactics. And it would lengthen legal proceedings with meaningless compliance arguments.

The source of funding for a lawsuit is ultimately irrelevant to the merits of the case itself. Regardless of who is financing it, the core issue remains whether patent infringement has occurred. In effect, the law would benefit

bad actors and disadvantage already vulnerable inventors, enabling big corporations and nefarious foreign actors to walk all over American small businesses.

Legislation that hamstring entrepreneurs from protecting their rights would deal a major blow to innovation. That's because smaller firms with under 10 employees receive nearly 60% more patents, per capita, than large corporations with 25,000+ employees.

The bill's proponents say disclosure is necessary to expose unethical or illegal funding arrangements. But existing court procedures and ethics rules already address such concerns.

In Taction Tech., Inc. v. Apple Inc., a California court showed existing rules can balance transparency and privacy. The judge limited what litigation funding information had to be shared. While some details could be disclosed, the court protected sensitive information, especially documents subject to confidentiality agreements. These were considered "protected work product" -- essentially, private legal strategy that doesn't have to be revealed to the opposing side.

Similarly, in Trustees of Purdue Univ. v. STMicroelectronics N.V., a Texas court reviewed funding-related documents privately and decided they didn't need to be shared. The judge found these documents both irrelevant to the case and protected by legal privacy rules. Notably, the judge even described the litigation funder as more than just a money source, but as an entity providing important legal services.

Courts are fully capable of balancing the need for transparency with the protection of privileged information and legitimate business interests. A one-size-fits-all approach to disclosure, as proposed in the bill, is not only unnecessary but assuredly lethal to the rights of small businesses, and potentially harmful to the judicial process.

If we value innovation and justice, we should strengthen the ability of small inventors to enforce their rights, not hand more advantages to infringers.

Alan Heinrich is Board Chair of the Inventors Defense Alliance, and a patent litigator based in Los Angeles. This piece first ran in The Detroit News.

U.S. Sen. Blackburn offers way Congress can stop the tragedy of human trafficking which soared to record heights under Joe Biden



By U.S. Sen. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN)

Although shocking, this fact reflects a troubling reality: Human trafficking is one of the fastest growing criminal industries in the world—generating \$150 billion in profits—and afflicts every community in our country, including in Tennessee.

Through November of last year, there were 1,170 reports of human trafficking in our state, according to the latest Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) data. This number marks a significant drop from 1,432 reports in 2023, thanks in large part to the committed efforts of Governor Lee, the Tennessee General Assembly, and TBI to end this modern-day slavery. But unfortunately, it is still 62 percent higher than the number of reports recorded as recently as 2019.

While human trafficking has long been a problem in our country, this heinous crime became even more pervasive under the Biden administration, which for

"Across our country, a child is sold for sex every two minutes."

four years surrendered our southern border to cartels, criminals, and traffickers. As a result, every state became a border state—and suffered the tragic consequences.

Just this month, authorities charged eight Venezuelan illegal aliens in Middle Tennessee for trafficking women across our border to be sexually exploited. The illegals, who conducted their criminal operation out of Nashville motels between 2022 and 2024, are tied to the violent gang Tren de Aragua, which has plagued cities across the country with rampant crime.

Tragically, all too often the victims of these traffickers are defenseless children. According to TBI data, there were 514 reports of minor sex trafficking in Tennessee in 2024, more than twice the number of reports of adult sex trafficking. The report also notes that there has been an increase in the number of unaccompanied minors who are trafficked into our country and exploited.

This should come as no surprise: Under Biden, hundreds of thousands of unaccompanied children reached our southern border, while many more arrived with adults who falsely claimed to be their relatives. Although the then-President had a responsibility to place these children with vetted sponsors, his administration lost

track of more than 320,000 migrant children who face the threat of abuse, trafficking, and sexual exploitation.

Thankfully, after four years of failure under the last administration, President Trump is working to secure our border, protect our communities, and bring human trafficking to an end—and there is so much Congress can do to support this effort.

Just last week [week of February 17], I introduced the bipartisan GRACIE Act, which would require the recording of all Child Protective Services interviews with children and adults. Although 60 percent of child sex trafficking victims in our country have engaged with the foster care system, too often CPS staffers miss signs of abuse. By recording interviews, we can increase the likelihood that child trafficking victims will be identified and removed from dangerous situations.

Last month, I also reintroduced a package of bills that will do so much to combat human trafficking. My SAVE Girls Act, for example, would provide states, local governments, and nonprofits with the resources they need to end the trafficking of young women and girls. My National Human Trafficking Database Act, meanwhile, would establish a national human trafficking database at the Department of Justice and incentivize state law enforcement agencies to report data.

ment of Justice and incentivize state law enforcement agencies to report data.

To help bring an end to trafficking at the border, I also introduced the End Child Trafficking Now Act, which would require a DNA test to determine the relationship between illegal aliens attempting to enter our country and

"My SAVE Girls Act, for example, would provide states, local governments, and nonprofits with the resources they need to end the trafficking of young women and girls. My National Human Trafficking Database Act, meanwhile, would establish a national human trafficking database at the Department of Justice and incentivize state law enforcement agencies to report data."

any accompanying children. And my PRINTS Act would give Customs and Border Protection the authority to fingerprint non-citizens under the age of 14 to combat human trafficking and child recycling.

It is far past time that we brought the horrific practice of human trafficking to an end. With these bills, Congress can provide President Trump the tools he needs to make it happen.

The Mid-South Tribune

Ms. Arelya J. Mitchell

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The Mid-South GOSPEL Tribune

DeepThink: Editorials and Opinions

Documents Show Biden Tyranny to be Much Worse Had He Had a 2nd Term... from page 2

who might oppose, reveal, or undo their Coup d'état. Biden's directive had four major pillars. The first, the DOJ and FBI's "robust system to methodically track domestic terrorism cases nationwide." The second, "For the first time, the Depart-

So who are these dangerous domestic terrorists the Biden administration was spending at least \$170 million dollars to punish and purge from our society? Was it those holding the 350,000 plus children who disappeared during the Biden Administration likely to pedophiles in the United States? How about those on Epstein's client list, or Sean 'Diddy' Combs? Or those most responsible for the 2020-21 election Coup d'état? Or the murderers he pardoned?

ment of Homeland Security (DHS) has designated 'Domestic Violent Extremism' as a National Priority Area within the Department's Homeland Security Grant Program, which means that over

\$77 million will be allocated to state, local [governments] to prevent, protect against, and respond to domestic violence." Third, another \$100 million is allocated to the DOJ, FBI, and DHS "to target the threat" and to "ensure that the Federal Government has the analysts, investigators, prosecutors," to "thwart domestic terrorism." Finally four, "The U.S. Government will also work to find ways to counter the polarization often fueled by disinformation, misinformation, and dangerous conspiracy theories online" (Ibid.). Of course, this means major government censorship. That is what this document shows.

So who are these dangerous domestic terrorists the Biden administration was spending at least \$170 million dollars to punish and purge from our society? Was it those holding the 350,000 plus children who disappeared during the Biden Administration likely to pedophiles in the United States? How about those on Epstein's client list, or Sean 'Diddy' Combs? Or those most responsible for the 2020-21 election Coup d'état? Or the murderers he pardoned? NO, NONE OF THESE!! They were identified

in yet another DHS Biden Administration Memo on Terrorists. This memo identifies extremists as those "with one or more of the following criteria - among many others - each of which is described as 'violent.'" It defined "the following as terrorists: military veterans, anti-war individuals/groups, tax resistance movement groups, militia, alternative media, opponents of open border policies, single issue groups or individuals, patriot movements (Christian patriots, patriot groups, and constitutionalists)." (X22 Reports, Ep. 3554b, Jan. 23, 2025, 23:15). These were essentially MAGA people.

The memo continues, "The DHS has establish[ed] dozens of 'Fusion Centers' in cities and states across the country to monitor domestic activity. Local, state, and federal agents from DHS, CIA, and DOJ share information concerning the activities of citizens. Activities monitored by Fusion Centers overlap with those stated in the DHS Report/Lexicon (above) and further includes the following (which tend to vary state-to-state): frequent references to the constitution. support of third party candidates, support

for an audit of the Federal Reserve, opposition to a carbon tax to be paid to a world bank, opposition to US submission to the United Nations and/or the World Health Organization.

The FBI's InfraGard program. In addition to collecting data internally, FBI agents work within the private sector with businesses

The Biden Administration was a tyrannical government. Fortunately for the rest of us, only January 6ers, and pro-lifers (imprisoned under 'The FACE ACT') experienced this side of the Biden agenda but it was showing up in school board meetings as well as in their hostility toward Catholics (X22 Report, Ep. 3554b, Jan. 23, 2025, 23:15 and 36:57). Trump pardoned both groups.

which report on citizens 'suspicious activities'" (purposely emboldened for emphasis) (Ibid.). These are who Biden's

DHS labeled as domestic terrorists—MOST AMERICANS.

How would they hunt out these extreme domestic terrorists? Mostly by speech, in full violation of Amendment 1 of the Constitution. The Intercept reported that the Department of Homeland Security, "is quietly broadening its efforts to curb speech it considers dangerous and found "years of internal DHS, memos, emails, and documents - obtained via leaks and an ongoing lawsuit, as well as public documents— illustrates an expert explosion effort by the agency to influence tech platforms. In 2022 they announced a new 'Disinformation Governance Board' a panel designated to police misinformation, disinformation, and malinformation." It was too much for the public and shutdown the same year but it would have been revised as soon as they had more control ("The Intercept Truth Cops: Leaked Documents Outline DHS's Plans to Police Disinformation," By Ken Klippenstein, Lee Fang, Oct. 31, 2022).

The Biden Administration was a tyrannical government. Fortunately for the rest of us, only

January 6ers, and pro-lifers (imprisoned under 'The FACE ACT') experienced this side of the Biden agenda but it was showing up in school board meetings as well as in their hostility toward Catholics (X22 Report, Ep. 3554b, Jan. 23, 2025, 23:15 and 36:57). Trump pardoned both groups.

These documents show they intended its acceleration. Had Trump not won and removed Biden/Harris's illegitimate Deep State government those domestic terrorists groups or individuals listed above—which included most of America—would be feeling the full tyrannical wrath of the government now and for at least the next four years. You and I were the terrorists.

Dr. Harold Pease is an expert on the United States Constitution and a syndicated columnist. He has dedicated his career to studying the writings of the Founding Fathers and applying that knowledge to current events. He taught history and political science from this perspective for over 30 years. Read his weekly columns at www.LibertyUnderFire.org.

Democrats vs. The People to renew segregation under D.E.I. to disguise socialism and Marxism ... from page 10

emplified by the two Black female founders of Black Lives Matter (BLM) who were avowed Marxists and who became multimillionaires while on the road of revolution. This is not a righteous anger that moves a person to improve himself or herself or their community. It is not a Rosa Parks or Fannie Lou Hamer or Sojourner Truth or a Harriet Tubman anger. It is detrimental and non-productive.

Practically in every DEI and CRT protest the Democratic Party has advocated, it is this Black Democrat Party female elite who is out front screaming and calling for violence or 'She' is spending left and right on herself and her cronies. 'She' is so elite now that 'she' cannot even see herself as 'female' (as was pronounced by America's first Black female Supreme Court Justice during her congressional hearings). Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Jackson was praised for saying that she did not know what a woman was when asked by U.S. Sen. Marsha Blackburn; yet, America's second Black male Supreme Court Justice, Clarence Thomas, was denounced by a Democratic Party because he was a Black male Republican and fought back as a real Black man would with his "High Tech Lynching" remark, invoking that if you are a Black male—a Black Man—you are disposable. You could be lynched at will via what the Democratic Party had codified post the 13th, 14, and 15th Amendments. Thomas was a Black man who was educated in common sense and hard knocks with an Ivy League degree as the cherry on top. Attacks on Supreme Court Justice Thomas continue to this day—into the 25th year of the 21st Century. If Thomas had been a Black thug and shot up a Black neighborhood with a few Black baby bodies along the way and got arrested or gunned down while he was on his rampage, the Democratic Party with its band of elite Black female officeholders would come to his rescue. Each day, it is becoming more evident that the Democratic Party does not like or does not want to tolerate strong Black males - Men. It uses Black babies to fertilize the CRT and DEI movements to accelerate the Party's path to socialism. It uses

The RNC must challenge outright members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) with strong Black Republican candidates who will challenge CBC members with debates and a full-scale campaign with a "What have you done for me lately?" platform.

the word "Black" to make White CEOs 'Step-And-Fetch It'; thus, cancelling out the Black male entrepreneur or any Black person who is economic-oriented and educated for positions in Corporate America other than Diversity Czar or some other trendy politically correct title with the only qualification mainly being that you are a Black female. Black sororities are part of the Divine Nine pact comprised of Black sororities and Black fraternities, founded at Black colleges and universities (known today as Historical Black Colleges and Universities --- HBCUs). With this move to put the Black sorority above the Black fraternity, the Democratic Party further preempted the Black male—those with degrees and highly educated and with entrepreneurial skills. The Democratic Party boldly caters to and uses the elitism of the Black sorority 'sistas' no matter how ill-equipped, ill-prepared, ill-suited these 'sistas' are (case in point, Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis). Most of whom are just plain lazy and arrogant as epitomized by its first 'woman of color' presidential candidate Kamala Harris whose only qualification was that she was a 'woman of color' who made herself more delectable to the Democratic Party socialist elites by claiming to be a 'Black' woman (or what is now called a Black foundational woman). It was no surprise when Harris in her capacity of Vice President chose to go to her sorority event over her duty to meet with America's ally, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The Black sorority 'sistas' would go out of their way to protect the sisterhood as long as it is exclusively Democratic Party affiliated, as one 'sista' learned when she openly declared her support for Pres. Trump, and then had Black

sororities declare war on her with the animosity of KKK females, which shocked her senseless. Mind you, these are not the Black sororities or fraternities from days of yore when the Divine Nine was very much an integral function of the Black community. In many instances Black sororities and fraternities were there helping and serving the Black community, filling in to help those who fell through the cracks long before there was a welfare system to do it. It was a time when the educated and the uneducated Black lived in the same neighborhoods and worked toward the same goals and value system. Education and/or the 'value' of education is what produced the black middle class. It produced the Black Wall Street, the Harlem Renaissance, Black Hollywood, Black farmers who owned their own farms, Black businesses, Black Boy Scouts, Black Girl Scouts, Black 4-H Clubs. It was a time when oratorical contests and debate clubs abounded, when whole communities turned out for graduations and lauded praise on young graduates who would make a difference. In spite of segregation, it produced capitalism. Instead of that blueprint of values, resolves, and education being moved to the next economic level with a 1964 Civil Rights Bill, it moved into the politically correct slavery of Ebonics, DEI, and CRT pushed mainly by Black female elites inside the Democratic Party. Such dinosaurs as Cong. Maxine Waters, the scowling Cong. Jasmine Crockett of Texas, the incompetent stoic Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass—the list could go on-- were elevated to Divine Rule epitomizing the Divine 9 sans the Black male. This is not about 'color' as it is about a level of black pedigree laziness accepted as normal by those White Democratic liberals who need black victimhood to compensate for their own lack of competency and inferiority complex. These are the Black female elite 'sistas' who would kill to protect the rights of the extreme trans community (a minority even in that community!) and any other group other than Blacks and especially Black children who are not their own.

Over the years, there are two groups that are becoming hated in the Black community, even if it is not talked about or fully known outside of the Black community: the Black sorority and the White liberal Democrat. This nation is at a crossroads; so is the Black foundational community (those Blacks descendants from slaves in America). Not only must the Republican Party get back to its freedom roots, but must again pick up Lincoln's "mandate" of making Black Americans part of America's culture of freedom and entrepreneurship by going into the 21st Century with President Donald Trump's economic agenda where entrepreneurship, enterprise, and agriculture are priorities.

1. The RNC must challenge outright members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) with strong Black Republican candidates who will challenge CBC members with debates and a full-scale campaign with a "What have you done for me lately?" platform. The RNC already has in place strong Black Republican candidates, especially Black men who can and must take on the challenge of replacing CBC members. In the 1970s, the CBC was founded as an organization that welcomed Black congressmen regardless of party affiliation, and swore to look out for the socio-economic interests of its mostly Black constituents. That promise has been broken, and the CBC is no longer relevant in the Black community albeit its members are continually voted back in office, but that so-called guaranteed vote is deteriorating as the Democrat Party itself is deteriorating in the Black community as witnessed in the 2024 election. DOGE must also investigate how CBC members are benefiting directly or indirectly from USAID funds and their connection with African socialist-Marxist dictators. Also, DOGE must investigate how its members are directly or indirectly profiting from grants and/or other funds in EPA, Education, and Agriculture departments. (Strong White or any other color Republican candidates must not be counted out as being viable candidates in predominantly Black counties). Over the decades the Congress-

sional Black Caucus has descended into an exclusive club of Black elites (as well as the NAACP, but that is another story at another time). Not one member has spoken out effectively or at all on Black-on-Black crime, the deterioration of Black reading skills (a continuation of the Democratic Party's Black codes in Jim Crow 101), illegal immigration, or other topics which go against the Democratic Party's status quo socialist agenda. How odd that many of these CBC members have become millionaires or multi-millionaires in short time spans on congressional salaries.

2. The Republican Party must focus on the Black entrepreneurship under Trump's SBA and Platinum Plan, U.S. Sen. Tim Scott's Opportunity Zones, and Trump's continuation of supporting HBCUs and the protection of women's sports (or there would not be another Wilma Rudolph or Flo Jo or any female athlete!). The ideals and ideas of such organizations as Project 21 can also be beneficial.
3. Black farm activist and founder of the National Black Farmers Association John Boyd, Jr. should sit down and talk to Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins and President Trump about the funds Black farmers were promised as a settlement in the lawsuits regarding Black farmland. Black farmers and White farmers should find a way to work together as *American* farmers. This newspaper has been covering Boyd's Black Farmers' fight since around the early 2000's. DOGE should investigate what happened to those billions the Black farmers were promised but never got. America must take care of its farmers regardless of race, color, or creed.
5. Cong. Bennie Thompson must be questioned on his role in January 6. We know that Joe Biden pre-pardoned him, but still he along with others should be questioned for the record on their January 6 involvement, an operation which has all the earmarks of those Civil Rights days when the FBI was a part of infiltrating Civil Rights marches and setting up campaigns to smear Dr. King and other Civil Rights leaders and participants. January 6's kangaroo televised congressional hearings must be investigated

along with rogue FBI agents.

6. Freedom of School Choice must take a priority in the Black community and all communities. CBC and other Black organizations that have turned 'socialist' and pro-George Soros have put the Democratic Party above students who need to learn how to read, write, and develop STEM skills. Anti-CRT, anti-DEI, and anti-Ebonics must prevail.
7. Al Sharpton is not a spokesman for the African American community. He is defunct, done with, over. MSNBC has allegedly accommodated him long enough for his role in discrimination lawsuit(s) and the alleged reason why he received a television show. Those CEOs who want to check with Sharpton first, by all means do so. Leave the rest of hard-working Black Americans out of it. The RNC must point out that Sharpton and the Democratic Party did not come to small business and Black-owned businesses' defense when the MLB pulled the All-Star game out of Atlanta, Georgia, crippling and/or putting those businesses 'out of business'. Again, the Democratic Party's Black elites sacrificed these small and Black-owned businesses accelerating the Black community into poverty and dependency.
8. The RNC must launch a full-scale campaign(s) to tell Black folks exactly what "Equity" is inside of DEI. It is designed to re-segregate the Black community and dummy down the Black child, and put a fear in those Whites who are afraid of the word 'racist' or 'white supremacist'. Those Whites should learn something from Black rappers who have no fear of being called the N-word while laughing all the way to the bank.
9. As related earlier, the color barrier is mostly broken. Segregation is no longer legal. Stop acting as if it is.
10. RNC Black Republican Clubs should meet, plan strategies, and implement those strategies in the Black community to cancel out Black Democratic Party socialist candidates. Black citizens should be canvassed on what issues they want to see solved. This would be an initial data bank from which to set education and economic policies.

DeepThink: Editorials and Opinions

Education+Economics+Entrepreneurship = Empowerment

Public Safety Institute (PSI) evaluates Memphis Police Department Gun Crimes Unit and examines gun violence



By Jaline King
Public Safety Institute

Gun violence places a substantial burden on families, communities, and government systems, including health and social services. National data reveal ongoing challenges in addressing gun-related crimes, with clearance rates for these offenses declining over recent decades. According to FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) data, in 2019, U.S. law enforcement agencies cleared 31% of aggravated assaults with firearms compared to 61% of homicides and non-negligent manslaughters. Some agencies clear as few as 10-20% of non-fatal shootings, despite nonfatal shootings being three to four times more common than fatal shootings. This distinction is critical, as victims and offenders in nonfatal shootings are at heightened risk for future lethal violence.

In June 2022, the Memphis Police Department (MPD) launched the Gun Crimes Unit (GCU) to

investigate nonfatal shootings and aggravated assaults involving firearms, excluding domestic violence cases.

Creation of a special unit to investigate gun-related aggravated assaults is part of the local Safe Community Action Plan. As part of its commitment to evaluate parts of the plan as they are implemented, the Public Safety Institute conducted an evaluation of the GCU, with Dr. James McCutcheon taking the lead.

The GCU's scope included incidents where victims were shot or shot at, often resulting in severe injuries. By June 2023, the GCU was absorbed into the Violent Crimes Unit (VCU). The evaluation's analysis of GCU's caseload from June 2022 to June 2023 showed significant fluctuations, with case volume peaking in May 2023 at 273 cases before dropping sharply to 135 cases in June 2023. While staffing levels remained relatively stable, arrest rates did not consistently correspond with case volume. Many cases remain unresolved due to resource limitations and challenges such as outstanding warrants and victim noncooperation.

The evaluation concluded that improving clearance rates for nonfatal shootings requires sustained and strategic investigative efforts. Establishing specialized units like the GCU is a promising approach. Such units must be adequately staffed and resourced to address their higher caseloads. Research shows that nonfatal shooting units often manage workloads four times greater than homicide units. Enhancing collaboration among the GCU/VCU, MPD's Homicide

Phase two of the crime lab feasibility study will shift its focus to the county level by conducting interviews with suburban police departments and the Shelby County Sheriff's Office to better understand their forensic needs and challenges. This phase is essential to building a comprehensive picture of regional forensic capabilities and ensuring any proposed solutions meet the needs of all stakeholders.

Unit, and the Multi-Agency Gang Unit could mitigate structural and logistical barriers. Gaps in communication and resource shortages can hinder efficiency.

The evaluation concluded that addressing these challenges through improved inter-unit coordination and strategic planning offers a pathway to strengthen the investigative process, reduce gun violence, and prevent future homicides.

To review the evaluation, go to <https://www.memphis.edu/psi/research/pdfs/gun-crimes-eval-1-25.pdf>.

PSI Studying Local Forensic Needs

In 2024, a University of Mem-

phis team led by Dr. James McCutcheon, associate professor in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, conducted a feasibility study for the city of Memphis on the possibility of a local forensics laboratory with the primary focus on the needs at the Memphis Police Department. The study assessed the current forensic infrastructure, operational processes, accreditation requirements, and potential costs on establishing a local lab. The study also examined potential actions that could be taken fairly quickly to improve current forensic processes and facilities, including investing in certain types of forensic testing such as rapid DNA testing, increasing the ability to properly transport evidence to the TBI lab in Jackson, and a potential agreement with the TBI to allocate resources and personnel dedicated to testing Memphis/Shelby County evidence.

Now, the Public Safety Institute (PSI) is undertaking a second phase of the local study, with Dr. McCutcheon as senior research developer for the PSI taking the lead. The second phase is being funded by Shelby County.

Phase two of the crime lab feasibility study will shift its focus to the county level by conducting interviews with suburban police departments and the Shelby County Sheriff's Office to better understand their forensic needs and challenges. This phase is essential to building a comprehensive picture of regional forensic capabilities and ensuring any proposed solutions meet the needs of all stakeholders.

A rather significant focus of this phase will be on digital forensics. Given the growing importance of digital evidence in modern investigations, the PSI will explore current practices, limitations, and opportunities for improvement. Key areas of emphasis include:

1. Data Management and Storage: The study will assess how agencies are handling the storage and security of digital evidence, particularly sensitive material like child exploitation evidence. Best practices for maintaining data integrity and preventing breaches will also be identified.

2. Inter-Agency Collaboration: The PSI will explore opportunities for local law enforcement agencies to share resources or establish centralized digital forensic capabilities to reduce duplication and improve overall efficiency.

3. Training and Staffing: This phase will evaluate the level of training and expertise among personnel working with digital evidence. It will identify gaps and make recommendations for certifications or specialized roles to meet increasing demands.

4. Technological Infrastructure: The PSI will assess the technological tools and infrastructure currently available to suburban departments and the Sheriff's Office, including software, hardware, and network security, to determine what upgrades or investments may be needed.

By incorporating input from these other local law enforcement agencies as well as the Memphis Police Department, and focusing on digital forensics, this phase aims to create action-

able recommendations that address both traditional and digital forensic needs. These findings will help guide the development of a sustainable and efficient county-level forensics system.

Other areas of focus in Phase two will include assessing the need to expand the use of rapid DNA testing and the resources necessary in order to achieve that.

About Jaline King

Jaline King, Research Assistant, has joined the Public Safety Institute as a research assistant. Jaline attended Byhalia High School and Blue Mountain Christian University, where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree. She then pursued a master's degree in criminology at the University of Memphis, where she was inducted into the Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society and the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

Jaline gives credit to her parents for playing a significant role in her life by encouraging her to continue her education while also teaching her morals and values. Above all, they inspired her to believe in herself, always strive to do her best, and never give up when faced with challenges.

Jaline looks forward to the challenges ahead and is committed to working hard to succeed in her new role.

Newsmax's documentary 'Clarence Thomas: In His Own Words' prompts The Mid-South Tribune's Publisher/Editor-in-Chief to recall her one-on-one interview with Justice Thomas, a White House call, and other past events ... from page 6

were anti-Clarence Thomas and who labeled him Uncle Tom, etc. Little did I realize that I became the only Black editor to endorse Thomas for the Supreme Court. [As a side note, I was the only Black editor to have endorsed Donald Trump for President in the 2016 election. And yes, I had interviewed Hillary Clinton one-on-one just as I had Bill Clinton early on in his presidential bid. To reiterate, whenever I asked some of these civil rights leaders why they seemingly hated Thomas, their main response was that Clarence Thomas was a Republican. I later wrote that they hated Thomas because he was not part of the "Good Ole-Black Boy and Black Girl Network." Long story short, as editor I made the decision we would back Judge Clarence Thomas one-hundred per cent. As a newspaper editor, I believe once you take an editorial stand you go in all the way, especially when it is a decision of this historic magnitude. If I ended up on the wrong side of

"I also felt Judge Thomas was not a man to back down, so I was not surprised when he fought back with the 'High Tech Lynching' weaponry."

history, then so be it.

I also felt Judge Thomas was not a man to back down, so I was not surprised when he fought back with the "High Tech Lynching" weaponry.

In the press room, we were especially listening to and watching Joe Biden. I thought Biden was a backstabber. Some years later, when I read Clarence Thomas's autobiography, "My Grandfather's Son," I saw that my initial instincts about Biden were confirmed.

How thrilled we were when Judge Clarence Thomas became Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, becoming the second Black Supreme Court Justice. Later I received that one-on-one interview with Justice Thomas

when he came to Memphis for an event. U.S. Marshals escorted me to the back of the stage (This event took place at the historic Peabody Hotel). Justice Thomas was told that Newsweek and CNN wanted to interview him, and he politely said to the messenger: "No, Ms. Mitchell is the only one who will be interviewing me." He turned to me as I sat and said, "Ms. Mitchell, I know you don't always agree with me on everything, but you have been the only journalist who has ever been fair to me." This is what you want to hear as a journalist. Yes, I know I had the reputation of being called Miss Poison Pen along with a few other choice words in my career—but moving on. I later met Justice Thomas again. This time at the Supreme Court when I was in Washington, D.C. to accept an award from the National Foundation for Women Legislators, Inc. at the National Press Club. (When I look back, I note how small the world really is. Greta Van Susteren also re-

ceived an award, but I don't believe she made it. I didn't see her on the dais where we recipients sat. Ms. Van Susteren was with CNN at the time and now she has her own show on Newsmax. It is among the best and few in old school journalism.)

I had a very pleasant time chatting with Justice Thomas and his wonderful secretary, Dorothy (and I apologize for not remembering her last name). A few years after the hearing, I had been invited to the White House to have luncheon with President George H.W. Bush in the Roosevelt Room, along with 12 other colleagues from around the country. I was seated directly across the table from Pres. Bush and sat next to then CIA Director Robert Gates. (A photo in Jet Magazine ran thereafter). All this is to bring us back to why we are saluting Newsmax this Black History Month. Some years back, we saluted the late Danny Thomas who founded St. Jude Research Children's Hospital. In our Black

History Month specials, we look at brain cells and not skin cells. We try to look at those who go against the grain. I watched as a 'Goliath' mainstream press tried to completely kill off this very independent and independent-thinking news cable outlet. Albeit, I am not surprised that the attacks were made to wipe Newsmax off Planet Journalism. Newsmax was a threat, so instead of competing with it, they took the coward's way out and tried every dirty, lowdown tactic they could to destroy it.

But let me get back on track: Of all the years to my knowledge that when it comes to media, the only media which has done an extensive documentary on Justice Thomas has been Newsmax when it aired "Clarence Thomas: In His Own Words." Newsmax has Newsmax Plus, its streaming network, so watch for this program to repeat or get it on demand. I watched it twice, and just smiled thinking that when a fight is worth it, you make difference,

as Clarence Thomas did back on that day of a "High Tech Lynching."

Justice Thomas' confirmation was in the last century. Yet there is still this constant campaign to destroy him and his legacy. He has yet to be honored in the National Museum of African American History & Culture in Washington D.C. Before the Museum opened, I was sent a proof of "Dream A World Anew: The African American Experience and the Shaping of America," a companion book for the Museum. I was asked to review it. Alas, no Justice Thomas. This should change. The Museum is part of the Smithsonian Institute and should know better. But the true companion book to Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas is his autobiography, "My Grandfather's Son." You should read it, because it is American History, and shows him to a man who is well worth his seat on the Supreme Court and place in history.

By Alexander Hamilton
The Federalist Papers
September 17, 1787

"This picture is not too highly wrought; though, I confess, it would not long remain a just one. Safety from external danger is the most powerful director of national conduct. Even the ardent love of liberty will, after a time, give way to its dictates. The violent destruction of life and property incident to war, the continual effort and alarm attendant on a state of continual danger, will compel nations the most attached to liberty to resort for repose and security to institutions which have a tendency to destroy their civil and political rights. To be more safe, they at length become willing to run the risk of being less free."

Good Warriors who have no fear: Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Scott Turner (see profile in Pres. Trump's Cabinet members on this page) and....



Rev. Scott Turner

Turner served as Founder and CEO of the Community Engagement & Opportunity Council (CEOC), dedicated to revitalizing communities through mentorship, sports, and economic opportunity.

Turner served as a Texas State Representative for the 33rd District (2013–2017) and played nine seasons in the NFL. He also served as an Associate Pastor at Prestonwood Baptist Church.

Pastor Corey B. Brooks known as 'The Rooftop Pastor'

Pastor Corey B. Brooks, a visionary leader committed to eradicating violence and transforming lives in Chicago's South Side, is the founder and Senior Pastor of New Beginnings Church of Chicago and the CEO of Project H.O.O.D. Communities Development Corporation. His academic journey took him through Ball State University, University of Florida, Dallas Theological Seminary, and Grace Theological Seminary¹.

In a daring act of advocacy, Pastor Brooks spent 343 nights on the rooftop of a dilapidated motel across from his church, drawing national attention to the rampant drugs, prostitution, and violence plaguing the area. This bold step was a sequel to his previous 94-day rooftop vigil, the funds from which led to the demolition of the crime-infested motel. The most recent rooftop stay ended with Pastor Brooks breaking ground on a state-of-the-art community center in Woodlawn, marking a significant milestone towards realizing his dream of a violence-free neighborhood and improved life quality².

The community center project received a substantial boost with an



Pastor Corey Brooks is shown here on the rooftop to call attention to plight of those less fortunate. He is now known as the Rooftop Pastor. He continues his work in Chicago.

\$8 million donation from the McCormick Foundation, bringing the total funds raised to \$28.5 million. This financial milestone edges Pastor Brooks closer to the center's completion, which aims to be a nurturing hub for children and a citadel of support for the community, thus, driving down violence and fostering a safer environment³.

Pastor Brooks, along with his

wife Delilah, is at the vanguard of Project H.O.O.D., a community initiative striving to revitalize Woodlawn. Through this initiative, they are nurturing a new cadre of peacemakers, problem solvers, and entrepreneurs. They continue to offer programs like Core and Carpentry Level I course, entrepreneurship courses, business workshops, and community-wide events, significantly impacting the neighborhood's socio-economic landscape.

On November 20, 2021, Pastor Brooks rekindled his rooftop advocacy, this time atop a replica of the future Leadership and Economic Opportunity Center, to kickstart Project H.O.O.D.'s capital campaign. The campaign has since amassed over \$28.5 million and garnered more than 20,000 new donors nationwide.

In 2019, he was appointed Illinois Director for St. Francis Community Services, Inc., extending his humanitarian reach to cater to the needs of children and youth.

Source: <https://www.projecthood.org>

Education Workforce Chair Walberg seeks DOJ assistance to recover bailout pension payments from dead people

WASHINGTON – Education and Workforce Committee Chairman Tim Walberg (R-MI) and Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions Subcommittee Chairman Rick Allen (R-GA) sent a letter to the newly confirmed Attorney General Pamela Bondi seeking an update from

the Department of Justice (DOJ) about its recovery of taxpayer dollars from a Biden-Harris led bailout that improperly paid union pension plans for thousands of dead plan participants.

The Committee's oversight work highlighted gross mismanage-

ment of the Special Financial Assistance (SFA) program that was included in the American Rescue Plan Act. Taxpayers funded pensions for dead people to the tune of more than \$164 million for 33 plans that have paid the money back. However, more than 30 Please see page 14

Legendary Pam Grier launches her Soul Flix series ... from page 7

"the meanest chick in town" in *Foxy Brown* (1974), Grier's additional feature film work includes *The Big Doll House* (1971), *Women in Cages* (1971), *The Big Bird Cage* (1972), *Coffy* (1973), *Black Mama White Mama* (1973), *Scream Blacula Scream* (1973), *The Arena* (1974), *Sheba, Baby* (1975), *Bucktown* (1975), *Friday Foster* (1975), and *Tarantino's Jackie Brown* (1997), a film adaptation of Elmore Leonard's novel "Rum Punch," titled in Grier's honor and the Blaxploitation movies of the 1970s.

Grier also appeared in *Something Wicked This Way Comes* (1983), *Above the Law* (1988), *Escape from LA* (1996), *Mars Attacks!* (1996), *Jawbreaker* (1999), *In Too Deep* (1999), *Holy Smoke!* (1999), *Bones* (2001), *Ghost of Mars* (2001), *Just Wright* (2010), *Larry Crowne* (2011), and *Poms* (2019).

Her television credits include *Miami Vice* (1985-1989), *Night Court* (1986), *Crime Story*

(1986-1988), *The Cosby Show* (1987), *The Fresh Prince of Bel Air* (1994), *Sinbad* (1994), *Martin* (1995), *The Wayans Brothers Show* (1998), *MadTV* (1998), *Line's* (1998-2000), *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit* (2002-2003), *The L Word* (2004-2009), *Bless This Mess* (2019-2020), and *Snoop Dogg's* video for "Doggy Dogg World" (1994). Grier made her theater debut in *Sam Shepard's Fool for Love* (1985) at the Los Angeles Theatre Center, a performance that earned her the NAACP Image Award for Best Actress in a Play. She also starred in the Terrance McNalley play *Frankie and Johnny at the Clair de Lune* (1990) at the Hahn Cosmopolitan Theatre in San Diego.

Earning Emmy, Golden Globe, Screen Actors Guild, and NAACP Image Award nominations throughout her career, Grier received the 2003 Special Achievement in Film Trumpet Award and the 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award at the Toronto Black Film Festival. In

2010, Grier released her memoir, *Foxy: My Life in Three Acts*, with Andrea Cagan.

Free TV Networks (FTN) serves consumers as the leading independent owner of national premium free over-the-air digital broadcast networks ("diginets") and free ad-supported streaming TV (FAST) platforms.

In partnership with global content leaders Warner Bros. Discovery and Lionsgate, and broadcast powerhouse Gray Media, FTN launched its first two Broadcast Networks on January 1, 2024, with 365BLK, serving African American viewers with blockbuster movies and hit series; and OUTLAW, showcasing iconic and legendary tales of the Old West. Both Broadcast Networks have corresponding FTN FAST Channels under the same branding. Partnering with A+E Networks, on July 1, 2024, FTN launched its third Broadcast Network, DEFY, featuring popular unscripted TV series. These three diginets are on air in 90% of the U.S.

Pres. Trump's Cabinet members who put America First ... from page 8

\$100 million to victims of terrorism, natural disasters, and other emergencies around the world. Mr. Lutnick served on the Board of Directors of the National September 11 Memorial & Museum and Weill Cornell Medicine. He was named the Financial Times Person of the Year in 2001 and Ernst & Young's United States Entrepreneur of the Year in 2010. Howard also received the Department of the Navy's Distinguished Public Service Award, the highest honor granted to non-military personnel by the Navy.

Secretary of Defense, Pete Hegseth

An Army combat veteran and advocate for America's veterans, Hegseth was most recently a co-host of FOX & Friends Weekend on the FOX News Channel. Hegseth was commissioned an infantry officer into the U.S. Army National Guard upon graduation from the ROTC program at Princeton University in 2003. His deployments include Guantanamo Bay, where he served as an infantry platoon leader; Iraq, where he served as an infantry platoon leader in Baghdad and Samarra with the 3rd Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division; and Afghanistan with the Minnesota Army National Guard as part of a NATO Training Mission. Hegseth also served in multiple staff positions in state National Guard units.

Hegseth's military honors include the Army Commendation Medal and Expert Infantryman's Badge (EIB) for his time in Cuba; the Bronze Star Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge (CIB), and a second Army Commendation Medal for his time in Iraq; and a second Bronze Star Medal and a Joint Commendation Medal for his time in Afghanistan.

Hegseth has authored five books, including "The War on Warriors" (June 2024), which spent over 10 weeks on the New York Times best-sellers list.

Secretary of Education, Linda McMahon

Linda McMahon is originally from New Bern, North Carolina, and most recently served as Chair of the Board and Chair of the Center for the American Worker at the America First Policy Institute. McMahon served in President Donald Trump's Cabinet as Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

At SBA, McMahon re-imagined the organization, focusing on rural development and championing women entrepreneurs and military veterans. She oversaw natural disaster recovery efforts and helped improve the way the SBA connected small businesses to capital, counseling, and government contracts.

After her service in the Trump Administration, she served as Chair of the America First Action SuperPAC, and America First Policy, LLC. Prior to her career in public service, McMahon was the President and later CEO of World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc. (NYSE: WWE).

Secretary of Energy, Chris Wright

Self-described tech nerd turned entrepreneur, Chris Wright is the founder, Chief Executive Officer, and Chairman of the Board of Liberty Energy (NYSE: LBRT). Chris is a dedicated humanitarian with a passion for bringing the benefits of energy to every community in the world. This passion has inspired a career in energy, working not only in oil and gas but nuclear, solar and geothermal. Chris embraces all energy sources if they are abundant, affordable, and reliable.

He has spoken on energy and the merits of the Shale Revolution to the UK House of Lords and US state and federal lawmakers. Chris has had multiple appearances on network TV, documentaries, and podcasts. Chris' #ThankYouNorthFace campaign went viral with over 5 million views, sparking a sober discussion on the multiple efficient uses of oil and gas in everyday pro-

ducts. Chris completed an undergraduate degree in Mechanical Engineering at MIT and did graduate work in Electrical Engineering at UC Berkeley and MIT. He founded Pinnacle Technologies and served as CEO from 1992 to 2006. Pinnacle created the hydraulic fracture mapping industry and its innovations helped launch commercial shale gas production in the late 1990s.

Secretary of Health and Human Services, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s career of public service began in 1985 as an attorney for the environmental nonprofit RiverKeeper. He eventually became one of the most influential environmentalists in the United States, receiving TIME Magazine's "Hero of the Planet" and the Sartisky Peace Award. Bobby Kennedy Jr. comes from an illustrious political family. The son of Senator Robert F. Kennedy and the nephew of President John F. Kennedy, Bobby Jr. was a lifelong Democrat but became increasingly estranged from the party in the 2010s as it drifted away from its traditional values. He made his final break on October 9, 2023, when he announced his candidacy as an independent for President of the United States.

Bobby has spent nearly 40 years fighting corrupt corporations and government agencies. During his tenure at RiverKeeper, he successfully sued dozens of municipalities to force compliance with the Clean Water Act. He won cases against corporate giants too, including a suit against General Electric for toxic runoff from its corporate jet hangar and a court order against ExxonMobil mandating they clean up tens of millions of gallons of spilled oil in Brooklyn, NY.

Building on the success of the local Riverkeeper model, Bobby co-founded the WaterKeeper Alliance and served as its President for 21 years. Under his direction, it became the world's largest nonprofit devoted to clean water and now protects 2.7 million miles of waterways with over a million volunteers in the United States and 46 other countries.

Secretary of Homeland Security, Kristi Noem

Governor Kristi Noem is a rancher, farmer, small business owner, and New York Times bestselling author of both *No Going Back* and *Not My First Rodeo*.

In 2010, after serving in the South Dakota legislature for several years, Noem was elected to serve as South Dakota's lone member of the U.S. House of Representatives. During her time in Congress, in addition to many other successes, Governor Noem helped pass the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which put \$2,400 back in the pockets of the average South Dakota family.

In 2018, with the platform of protecting South Dakotans against tax increases, government growth, federal intrusion, and government secrecy, she was elected as South Dakota's first-ever female Governor.

In 2022, Governor Noem was re-elected with the largest vote total in the history of South Dakota. As Governor, Noem has respected the rights of her people by trusting them to exercise their personal responsibility to make the best decisions for themselves, their loved-ones, and – in turn – their communities. She has focused on building stronger families and keeping South Dakota "Open for Business."

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Scott Turner (See photo on page 13)

Scott Turner, from Richardson, Texas, is a visionary leader with a distinguished career in public service, business, and professional sports. As Executive Director of the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council, he led more than 200 policy actions to revitalize eco-

nomic distressed communities. Turner served as Founder and CEO of the Community Engagement & Opportunity Council (CEOC), dedicated to revitalizing communities through mentorship, sports, and economic opportunity.

Turner served as a Texas State Representative for the 33rd District (2013–2017) and played nine seasons in the NFL. He also served as an Associate Pastor at Prestonwood Baptist Church. He holds a degree in Speech Communications from the University of Illinois and an honorary doctorate from Dallas Baptist University. Scott and his wife, Robin, are active in their church and community and are proud parents of Solomon, a recent University of Illinois graduate.

Secretary of the Interior, Doug Burgum

Doug Burgum was raised in Arthur, North Dakota. Burgum worked as a chimney sweep to help pay his way through North Dakota State University before earning an MBA from Stanford University. In 1983, Doug literally "bet the farm" to provide seed capital for a software startup called Great Plains.

Doug led Great Plains through a successful IPO and grew the company to over 2,000 employees before its acquisition by Microsoft. Burgum remained with Microsoft for six years as the Senior Vice President of Business Solutions.

Doug later co-founded Arthur Ventures and served as chairman for international software companies including Atlassian, SuccessFactors, and as a board member for Avalara.

In 2016, Burgum was elected to serve as North Dakota's 33rd Governor. In 2020, he was re-elected in a landslide. Under his leadership, North Dakota passed the largest tax cut in state history and dramatically reduced red tape.

As a testament to Burgum's leadership, Forbes named him "America's Best Entrepreneurial Governor." During his tenure, North Dakota experienced the highest growth in real GDP and had the lowest unemployment rate in the country.

Secretary of Labor, Lori Chavez-DeRemer

Lori Chavez-DeRemer has dedicated over two decades of her life to public service, beginning in 2002 on the Happy Valley Parks Committee in Oregon. She later served on the Happy Valley City Council, becoming council president, and was elected as the city's first Latina mayor in 2010, serving two successful terms. Under her leadership, Happy Valley became Oregon's fastest-growing community, with initiatives that strengthened working families and small businesses.

In 2022, Lori was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives for Oregon's 5th Congressional District, making history as the first Republican woman and one of the first Latinas elected to Congress from Oregon. She served on the Agriculture, Education and Workforce, and Transportation and Infrastructure Committees, championing practical solutions and securing critical investments for her constituents.

Lori is also a successful small businesswoman and the first in her family to graduate from college, earning a business administration degree. She and her husband, Dr. Shawn DeRemer, her high school sweetheart, founded an anesthesia management company and several medical clinics across the Pacific Northwest. A proud wife and mother, Lori is passionate about advocating for businesses, workers, and families across the country.

Secretary of State, Marco Rubio

Marco Rubio is the son of two

Please see page 14

Education+Economics+Entrepreneurship = Empowerment

Pres. Trump's Cabinet members who put America First ... from page 13

hardworking immigrants from Cuba. His father worked as a banquet bartender, and his mother balanced caring for the family at home while working in a factory, as a cashier, and as hotel maid. Rubio saw firsthand how hard work, faith, and community helped his parents achieve the American Dream. Born in Miami, Rubio was drawn to public service in large part because of his grandfather, who saw his homeland destroyed by communism. During his 14 years in the U.S. Senate, Rubio fought to protect the freedoms and opportunities that made America the greatest country in the history of the world. Rubio also traveled to dozens of countries, met with countless foreign leaders, and saw firsthand how America's enemies are weakening our nation. As America's 72nd U.S. Secretary of State, Rubio will ensure U.S. foreign policy makes America stronger, safer, and more prosperous.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Doug Collins

An Air Force Reserve colonel, chaplain and Iraq War veteran with more than 20 years of military experience, Doug Collins knows the complex issues facing veterans across the country. As a longtime congressman and attorney, Collins has a deep understanding of the federal government and the policy expertise to solve complex problems, cut through red tape and get things done for those who have worn the uniform. Over eight years in Congress, Collins helped scores of veterans solve their Department of Veterans Affairs problems, and he will put that expertise to work making VA more user-friendly, so veterans won't need outside help to navigate the department's bureaucracy.

As a congressman, Collins championed bipartisan legislation like the First Step Act, the Music Modernization Act and the Defend Trade Secrets Act. Collins' efforts in support of the First Step Act earned him the 2019 Allegheny College Prize for Civility in Public Life.

Secretary of Transportation, Sean Duffy

Sean Duffy served as Congressman from Wisconsin's 7th District in the US Congress for ten years, serving on the House Financial Services Committee and actively leading on local transportation issues via his co-chair-

manship of the Great Lakes Task Force.

Prior to serving in Congress, Duffy was the District Attorney of Ashland County, Wisconsin, for ten years. There he brought over a hundred cases to trial with an over 90% trial success rate. After leaving Congress, Duffy hosted the Fox Business show, "The Bottom Line with Dagen and Duffy."

Sean was born and raised in Hayward, Wisconsin. As the tenth of eleven siblings in a large Irish Catholic family, Sean learned the enduring value of cooperation and compromise. Duffy also comes from a long line of lumberjacks, who helped build his beloved state of Wisconsin, and was a world-champion lumberjack athlete. He holds a marketing degree from St. Mary's University, and a J.D. degree from William Mitchell College of Law.

When Sean was in his twenties, he got his start in television on the MTV reality TV show, "The Real World". He also starred on "Road Rules All Stars," where he met his wife, Rachel Campos-Duffy.

Rachel and Sean are America's first and longest-married reality TV couple. They have been married for 25 years and have nine children together.

Secretary of the Treasury, Scott Bessent

Scott Bessent served as Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer of Key Square Capital Management, a global macro hedge fund focused on macro investing that he founded in 2015. His career has taken him to more than 60 countries with ongoing interactions with international leaders and central bankers.

Bessent was formerly the Chief Investment Officer for Soros Fund Management from 2011 to 2015. From 2006 to 2010, Bessent was an adjunct professor at Yale University, where he taught economic history. He previously founded and served as Chief Investment Officer of his own hedge fund, Bessent Capital, from 2000 to 2005.

From 1991 to 2000, he was managing partner of Soros Fund Management's London office. Bessent received a B.A. from Yale University. He was a Rockefeller University Trustee, Member of the Executive Comm and Chair of the Investment Commit-

United States Ambassador to the United Nations, Elise Stefanik

Ambassador-Designate Elise Stefanik was proudly nominated by President Trump to serve in his Cabinet as the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. Elise Stefanik previously served in top elected House leadership as the highest ranking woman in Congress as House Republican Conference Chair.

She represented New York's 21st Congressional District for over a decade in the House of Representatives where she served as a senior Member of the House Armed Services Committee and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. Ms. Stefanik also served on the Committee on Education and the Workforce where she set off a global reckoning in her leadership to combat antisemitism in higher education.

Elise was the first Member of Congress to endorse President Trump for his 2024 campaign and served on his Impeachment Defense Team. When she was first elected in 2014, Elise was the youngest woman ever elected to Congress in history. In 2017, Ms. Stefanik was awarded the Distinguished Civilian Service Award by the United States Army. Prior to serving in Congress, she worked at her family's small business. As the first member of her immediate family to have the opportunity to earn a college degree, Ms. Stefanik graduated with Honors from Harvard.

United States Trade Representative, Jamieson Greer

Known as a leading trade expert, Jamieson served in the Trump administration as Chief of Staff to the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), Ambassador Robert Lighthizer. During his time, he worked very closely with Ambassador Lighthizer and senior White House officials in executing historic trade agreements — such as the Phase One trade deal with China and the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement. Jamieson participated in every major Administration trade action initiated during his time at USTR. These actions played a significant role in reshoring American businesses and leveling the playing field for American workers, farmers, manufacturers, and consumers. Jamieson also served in the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps, with a deployment to Iraq.

Black Box Franchising and Stormi Banks launch Franchisor Grant in initiative to help small businesses

NEW YORK, NY -- With over 33 million small businesses in the U.S. but fewer than 4,000 franchise brands, Black Box Franchising, the nation's premier franchise development firm is on a mission to close the gap by making franchise ownership more accessible, and as such, has partnered with renowned entrepreneur and business strategist Stormi Banks to launch the nation's first-ever Franchisor Grant, an unprecedented initiative designed to help small business owners scale their brands into national franchises. The \$5,000 grant is available to small business owners within the United States interested in franchising their businesses and who submit their applications by Friday, February 28, 2025. Interested applicants can apply on the Black Box Franchising website.

The Franchisor Grant is a groundbreaking opportunity for small business owners to receive \$5,000 in franchise development services, including financial modeling, strategic business planning, and operational guidance — the essential first steps in transforming a business into a scalable franchise.

Historically, franchise development has been a costly and complex process, often limiting expansion opportunities for small businesses. The Franchisor Grant aims to break those barriers by providing funding toward franchise development, mentorship,

Historically, franchise development has been a costly and complex process, often limiting expansion opportunities for small businesses. The Franchisor Grant aims to break those barriers by providing funding toward franchise development, mentorship, and expert guidance from the industry's top franchise consultants.

and expert guidance from the industry's top franchise consultants.

"This is about more than just scaling businesses—it's about building generational wealth and creating long-term opportunities for small business owners," said Kika Wise, Founder & CEO of Black Box Franchising. "With this grant, we're giving entrepreneurs the tools they need to structure their business for nationwide success."

The Franchisor Grant is open to small business owners who are ready to take the next step in expansion but need financial and structural support to do so. Selected recipients will receive:

- \$5,000 in franchise development services to apply toward their brand's transformation.
- Financial modeling to analyze

revenue potential and franchise scalability.

- Strategic planning and operations guidance to build a replicable business model.
- Mentorship from industry experts to navigate the franchising process successfully.

Finalists will be selected based on their business potential, industry impact, and readiness for franchising on and recipient will be announced in late March 2025.

ABOUT BLACK BOX FRANCHISING

Black Box Franchising is the leading franchise development firm dedicated to empowering small business owners by turning their businesses into scalable, profitable franchises. With a focus on education, accessibility, and generational wealth, Black Box Franchising provides end-to-end franchise development services, ensuring entrepreneurs have the tools, strategy, and legal framework needed to succeed.

ABOUT STORMI BANKS

A dynamic business coach, debt strategist, and financial advocate, Stormi Banks is committed to helping entrepreneurs break free from the burden of debt and achieve financial independence. With a results-driven approach, she's on a mission to uplift small business owners nationwide by offering targeted debt relief strategies that pave the way for generational wealth.

Sens. Hagerty and Blunt Rochester introduce bipartisan legislation to modernize credit union boards

WASHINGTON—United States Senators Bill Hagerty (R-TN), a member of the Senate Banking Committee, and Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE) have reintroduced the Credit Union Board Modernization Act.

The bipartisan legislation revises an antiquated federal law that requires credit union boards to meet every month. By reducing superfluous board meetings, the bill relaxes regulatory burdens and allows credit unions to focus on their core mission of providing financial services to their members.

"Credit unions should be allowed to spend less time in unnecessary board meetings and more time serving their members," said Senator Hagerty. "My legislation will revise outdated federal regulations by setting aside regulatory micromanagement and allowing credit unions the flexibility to focus on providing quality financial services to rural communities and members across the country."

"It is far past time that the arcane requirements for credit unions are removed," said Senator Blunt Rochester. "This bill is an essential step toward improving the functionality of credit unions up and down my home state of Delaware, especially those small and rural. I look forward to continuing this bipartisan effort alongside Senator Hagerty and our



U.S. Sen. Bill Hagerty

"Credit unions should be allowed to spend less time in unnecessary board meetings and more time serving their members," said Senator Hagerty. "My legislation will revise outdated federal regulations by setting aside regulatory micromanagement and allowing credit unions the flexibility to focus on providing quality financial services to rural communities and members across the country."

colleagues to ensure credit unions spend less time maneuvering through red tape and more time serving their communities and promoting financial well-being."

"We greatly appreciate Sens. Bill Hagerty and Lisa Blunt Rochester for their introduction of the Credit Union Board Modernization Act," said Carrie Hunt, America's Credit Unions Chief Advocacy Officer. "Credit unions face several regulatory burdens, and this bill would provide flexibility so that credit unions can commit more resources and time to what matters most: serving their members and communities. This legislation has already passed the House, and we urge the Senate to swiftly take up the measure. We will continue to work with lawmakers on other

reforms to ensure credit unions can thrive."

"The Tennessee League is grateful to Senator Hagerty for his leadership in introducing the Credit Union Board Modernization Act," said Sarah Waters, Chief Advocacy Officer of the Tennessee Credit Union League. "As not-for-profit financial cooperatives, credit unions are governed by volunteer boards of directors. These dedicated community leaders work and serve alongside credit union members to ensure the financial well-being of all. By modernizing outdated board meeting requirements, this legislation will allow these volunteers and their credit unions to dedicate more time and resources to serving their communities."

Education Workforce Chair Walberg seeks DOJ assistance to recover bailout pension payments from dead people from page 13

other union plans have yet to pay back any of the overpayments.

In the letter, the chairmen write: "As part of this investigation, the Committee is seeking information about the steps DOJ is taking to ensure that taxpayer money is recovered after the Biden-Harris administration made improper payments to multiemployer pension plans."

The letter continues: "In November 2023, the Committee became aware that the Pension Benefits Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) approved more than \$127 million in SFA program overpayments for at least 3,479 deceased participants for one plan alone: the Central States, Southeast, and Southwest Pension Fund (Central States). However, DOJ has not reported any enforcement activity in connection with more than 60 other plans that received similar im-

The letter continues: "In November 2023, the Committee became aware that the Pension Benefits Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) approved more than \$127 million in SFA program overpayments for at least 3,479 deceased participants for one plan alone: the Central States, Southeast, and Southwest Pension Fund (Central States). However, DOJ has not reported any enforcement activity in connection with more than 60 other plans that received similar improper payments."

proper payments. PBGC reports that, as of February 7, 2025, about 30 of these 60 plans have voluntarily repaid nearly \$30 million. Therefore, no repayments have been made from the other 30 plans. We are concerned that these other plans have not restored the improper payments."

The letter concludes: "With the inauguration of President Donald J. Trump and your confirmation as Attorney General, we have an opportunity to address these improper payments and to secure repayments for taxpayers. We request that you ensure DOJ is taking timely and meaningful action to recover improper payments. Attached for your reference are the Committee's letters to the Biden-Harris DOJ on this matter."

An Editorial Commentary from The Mid-South Tribune

Equity" is not Equality. Learn the difference.

"Equity" in 'Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion' (DEI) is a Marxist term.

Read and Research.

Education+Economics+Entrepreneurship = Empowerment

No DEI. No CRT.

Education+Economics+Entrepreneurship = Empowerment

The U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Tourism and Division of Festivals announce dates for St. Thomas Carnival set for April 27 to May 3

ST. THOMAS, U.S. Virgin Islands, Jan. 31, 2025 /PRNews-wire/ -- In collaboration with the Division of Festivals, the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) Department of Tourism announces the official dates for the 2025 St. Thomas Carnival. Scheduled to be held from April 27 to May 3, 2025, this year's annual celebration will continue to showcase the best of culture through food, music, and vibes!

The 73rd annual Carnival celebration will feature traditional events, including the Queen and Princess Pageants, Calypso Monarch, Pan-O-Rama, and one of the region's best J'ouvert experiences. The weeklong festival culminates with a highly anticipated parade through Charlotte Amalie featuring thousands of masqueraders, adorned in colorful outfits and dazzling costumes, dancing to infectious soca and traditional Virgin Islands band rhythm down the 2-mile route.

"I am excited to invite everyone, from neighboring islands, mainland US, diaspora across the world and lovers of sun, sea and culture to join us for the 2025 St. Thomas Carnival," said Joseph Boschulte, U.S. Virgin Islands Commissioner of Tourism. "As St. Thomas Carnival continues to grow in size and notoriety, this year, we are preparing to host an invigorating week-long celebration, highlighting our rich culture, picturesque island, and beautiful people."

Revelers can experience the U.S. Virgin Island's signature free nightly musical performances at the Carnival Village featuring



73RD St. Thomas CARNIVAL 2025

SCHEDULE

- APRIL 12th PRINCESS SHOW 4:00pm
- APRIL 19th QUEEN SHOW 7:00pm
- APRIL 20th TODDLER'S DERBY, BEST DRESSED DOLL, & EASTER SUNDAY FUNDAY 12 noon - 3:00pm
- APRIL 21st HOSPITAL SHOW 6:00pm
- APRIL 26th CALYPSO MONARCH 8:00pm
- APRIL 27th BOAT RACE 10:00am PANORAMA 6:00pm
- APRIL 28th - MAY 3rd VILLAGE NIGHTS 7:00pm - 1:00am
- APRIL 30th FOOD FAIR 11:00am
- MAY 1st JOUVERT SUNRISE
- MAY 2nd CHILDREN'S PARADE 11:00am
- MAY 3rd ADULT'S PARADE 10:00am FIREWORKS 9:00pm

EXPOSING OUR CULTURE THROUGH FOOD, MUSIC, AND *calypso* FOR CARNIVAL 2025!

www.visitusvi.com www.usvifestivals.vi

some of the industry's top local, regional and international acts. The best of St. Thomas will be on display, including the St Thomas Carnival Boat Races and delicious cuisines as well as arts and crafts from local vendors at the Food Fair.

For up-to-date information on the St. Thomas Carnival, please visit <https://www.visitusvi.com/experiences/carnivals-festivals>.

For more information about the U.S. Virgin Islands and its offerings, please visit <https://www.visitusvi.com/>.

About the U.S. Virgin Islands

About 40 miles east of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands comprise a United States territory located in the northeastern Caribbean Sea. The three islands are St. Croix, St. John, and St. Thomas, where the capital of Charlotte Amalie is located. Perfect for leisure or business travel, the U.S. Virgin Islands features breathtaking, world-renowned beaches, an international marine industry, European architecture, and a burgeoning restaurant industry.

No passports are required from

U.S. citizens traveling from the U.S. mainland or Puerto Rico. Entry requirements for non-U.S. citizens are equivalent to entering the United States from any international country. Upon departure, a passport is required for non-U.S. citizens. For more information about the United States Virgin Islands, go to www.VisitUSVI.com, follow us on Instagram (@visitusvi) and Twitter (@usvitourism), and become a fan on Facebook (www.facebook.com/VisitUSVI).

Winning Writers announces winners of 10th Annual North Street Book Prize from page 5

Jersey and Iryna Chernyak of Warsaw, Poland won First Prize in Children's Picture Book for their co-authored story Finding Messi: The Miracle Cat from Kyiv, which re-creates the true story of Iryna's reunion with her cat after her family fled from Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

ative Nonfiction & Memoir for Circle of Sawdust: A Circus Memoir of Mud, Myth, Mirth, Mayhem, and Magic, a rollicking six-decade journey from his early life as a European circus clown through his founding of Circus Smirkus, a youth circus based in Vermont.

•**Bryan Wiggins** of Cape Elizabeth, Maine won First Prize in Genre Fiction for his medical thriller *The Corpse Bloom*. Written with expert consultation from neurosurgeon Dr. Lee Thibodeau, this novel plunges a Boston transplant surgeon into high-stakes ethical dilemmas involving colonialism, unequal access to healthcare, and murder in rural Mexico.

•**Angelino Donnachaidh** of Osaka, Japan won First Prize in Middle Grade for *Tamiu: A Cat's Tale*, a wise and winsome fable about a young wildcat at the dawn of human civilization who visits different animal societies to see how they balance freedom with security.

•**Sven Siekmann** of Sonoma, California won First Prize in Graphic Novel & Memoir for *Time Zones*, which dramatizes his family's attempted escape from East Germany in 1978, his parents' capture and imprisonment, and their reunion several years later in West Germany.

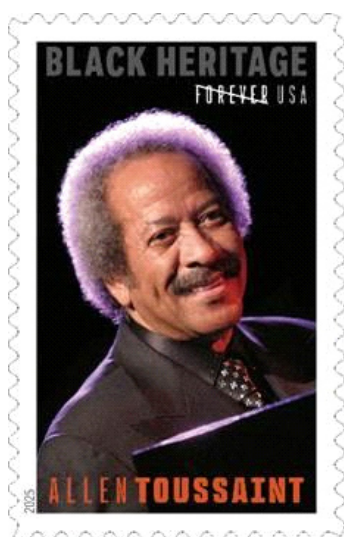
•**Stephen C. Pollock** of Mebane, North Carolina won First Prize in Poetry for *Exits*, an elegant poetry collection about mortality, with a supple formal inventiveness and wordplay.

The category winners each received \$1,000, a marketing analysis and one-hour phone consultation with Carolyn Howard-Johnson, a \$500 credit at BookBaby, three months of Plus service from Book Award Pro (a \$207 value), design for a custom merchandise item based on the winner's book cover from Laura Duffy Design, and one free ad in the *Winning Writers* newsletter (a \$175 value); the winning children's picture book author also received a phone consultation from April Cox at Self-Publishing Made Simple (a \$289 value) and access to Authorpreneur Summit sessions (an \$89 value).

•**Michael Demaray** of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania won First Prize in Mainstream/Literary Fiction for *The Faller*, a stark but redemptive coming-of-age novella about an orphaned 12-year-old boy in a rural logging community in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

•**Rob Mermin** of Montpelier, Vermont won First Prize in Cre-

USPS honors songwriter and musician Allen Toussaint with its 48th Black History Stamp



His legendary career spanned decades, producing countless hits and collaborations with a wide array of artists. From classic songs such as "Fortune Teller" and "Southern Nights" to his behind-the-scenes work, Toussaint's influence continues to resonate globally.

President Barack Obama recognized Toussaint with the National Medal of Arts in 2013. His previous honors include induction into the Blues Hall of Fame in 2012, the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2011, the Louisiana Music Hall of Fame in 2009, and the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 1998. In 2022, the New Orleans City Council renamed Robert E. Lee Boulevard for Toussaint, who lived on the four-mile-long thoroughfare during the last years of his life.

Ethel Kessler, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp using a photograph by Bill Thompkins.

The Allen Toussaint stamp will be issued in panes of 20. Forever stamps will always be equal in value to the current First-Class Mail 1-ounce price.

Postal Products

Customers may purchase stamps and other philatelic products through the Postal Store at usps.com/shopstamps, by calling 844-737-7826, by mail through USA Philatelic or at Post Office locations nationwide. For officially licensed stamp products, shop the USPS Officially Licensed Collection on Amazon. Additional information on stamps, First Day of Issue Ceremonies and stamp inspired products can be found at StampsForever.com.

The 48th stamp in the Black Heritage series honors the legendary musician and songwriter Allen Toussaint (1938-2015). An icon of New Orleans music, Toussaint's contributions to rhythm and blues (R&B), jazz, and rock 'n' roll have left an enduring mark on American music. The first-day-of-issue event for the Allen Toussaint Black Heritage stamp was free and open to the public. It was held the George and Joyce Wein Jazz Heritage Center in New Orleans, Louisiana on January 30, 2025. News of the stamp was hared with the hashtags #AllenToussaintStamp and #BlackHeritageStamp.

On hand for the event were: Gary Barksdale, chief postal inspector, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, and Quint Davis, chief executive officer, Festival Productions Inc.

Background:

Music icon Allen Toussaint's legacy continues to inspire. A prolific pianist, singer, songwriter, composer, arranger and producer, Toussaint left an indelible mark on New Orleans music and beyond.



Education+Economics+Entrepreneurship = Empowerment

Trump's New Deal for Black America With A Plan for Urban Renewal (as originally proposed in 2016)

A NOTE FROM

Ms. Arelya J. Mitchell, Publisher/Editor-in-Chief of The Mid-South Tribune

In 2016, we endorsed Donald J. Trump in his bid to become the president of the United States of America. From the day of its inception, The Mid-South Tribune's platform has been based on economic freedom in the African American populace. We have editorialized for nearly 30 years that the Black community must refocus on its traditional values of education, economics, and entrepreneurship. In fact, our motto "Where there is no vision, the people will perish" is both biblical and secular in principle. As editor of another newspaper, Memphis broke the 'color' barrier by electing its first Black mayor in the person of Dr. W.W. Herenton. I am proud to have been a part of eliminating that barrier in my capacity of editor of another newspaper when I wrote a piece which became quite controversial entitled "Here Am I O'Hackett, Send Me." I knew then as I know now that Blacks must get beyond 'color' to ensure economic freedom. The African American community must get beyond its stalemate of only voting 'color' and 'Democratic Party' both of which have become a safety net NOT to move forward into the 21st Century. The Democratic Party now has a mandate for re-enslavement. This mandate is called D.E.I. (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) which wears the same white sheet as the KKK to hide its real agenda of using the black community to return to segregation under the guise of socialism which by default produces two distinct classes of the Haves and Have Nots.

Below, you will see President Trump's initial economic plan for the Black community which will strengthen both that community and America. More than ever, America's melting pot must come together to save our nation and the children of our nation.

Again, we endorse President Trump as we did in 2016 and 2020 as the leader to move America into a safe and prosperous future.

By President Donald J. Trump (2016)

Nobody needs to tell African-Americans in this country that the old new deal from the Democratic Party isn't working for them. In election after election, Democratic party leaders take African-American voters for granted and year after year the condition of Black America gets worse. The conditions in our inner cities today are unacceptable. Too many African-Americans have been left behind. African-Americans need a new deal from their next president. Donald Trump is proposing just that. The following are ten promises announced by Donald Trump on October 26, 2016 in Charlotte, NC that will define a new deal for Black America:

1. **Great Education Through School Choice.** We will allow every disadvantaged child in America to attend the public, private, charter, magnet, religious or home school of their choice. School choice is the great civil rights issue of our time, and Donald Trump will be the nation's biggest cheerleader for school choice in all 50 states. We will also ensure funding for Historic Black Colleges and Universities, more affordable 2 and 4-year college, and support for trade and vocational education.
2. **Safe Communities.** We will make our communities safe again. Every poor African-American child must be able to walk down the street in peace. Safety is a civil right. We will invest in training and funding both local and federal law enforcement operations to remove the gang members, drug dealers, and criminal cartels from our neighborhoods. The reduction of crime is not merely a goal – but a necessity.
3. **Equal Justice Under the Law.** We will apply the law fairly, equally and without prejudice. There will be only one set of rules – not a two-tiered system of justice. Equal justice also means the same rules for Wall Street.
4. **Tax Reforms to Create Jobs and Lift up People and Communities.** We will lower the business tax from 35 percent to 15 percent and bring thousands of new companies to our shores. We will also have a massive middle class tax cut, tax-free childcare savings accounts, and childcare tax deductions and credits. We will also have tax holidays for inner-city investment, and new tax incentives to get foreign companies to relocate in blighted American neighborhoods. We will empower cities and states to seek a federal disaster designation for blighted communities in order to initiate the rebuilding of vital infrastructure, the demolition of abandoned properties, and the increased presence of law enforcement.
5. **Financial Reforms to Expand Credit to Support New Job Creation.** We will have financial reforms to make it easier for young African-Americans to get credit to pursue their dreams in business and create jobs in their communities. Dodd-Frank has been a disaster, making it harder for small businesses to get the credit they need. The policies of the Clintons brought us the financial recession – through lifting Glass-Steagall, pushing sub-prime lending, and blocking reforms to Fannie and Freddie. It's time for a 21st century Glass Steagall and, as part of that, a priority on helping African-American businesses get the credit they need. We will also encourage small-business creation by allowing social welfare workers to convert poverty assistance into repayable but forgive-able micro-loans.
6. **Trade That Works for American Workers.** We will stop the massive, chronic trade deficits that have emptied out our jobs. We won't let our jobs be stolen from us anymore. We will stop the offshoring of companies to low-wage countries and raise wages at home – meaning rent and bills become instantly more affordable. We will tell executives that if they move their factories to Mexico or other countries, we will put a 35% tax on their product before they ship it back into the United States.
7. **Protection from Illegal Immigration.** We will restore the civil rights of African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, and all Americans, by ending illegal immigration. No group has been more economically-harmed by decades of illegal immigration than low-income African-American workers. Hillary's pledge to enact "open borders," – made in secret to a foreign bank – would destroy the African-American middle class. We will reform visa rules to give American workers preference for jobs, and we will suspend reckless refugee admissions from terror-prone regions that cost taxpayers hundreds of billions of dollars. We will use a portion of the money saved by enforcing our laws, and suspending refugees, to re-invested in our inner cities.
8. **New Infrastructure Investment.** We will leverage public-private partnerships, and private investments through tax incentives, to spur \$1 trillion in infrastructure investment over 10 years, of which the inner cities will be a major beneficiary. We will cancel all wasteful climate change spending from Obama-Clinton, including all global warming payments to the United Nations. This will save \$100 billion over 8 years. We will use these to help rebuild the vital infrastructure, including water systems, in America's inner cities.
9. **Protect the African-American Church.** We will protect religious liberty, promote strong families, and support the African-American church.
10. **America First Foreign Policy.** We will stop trying to build Democracies overseas, wasting trillions, but focus on defeating terrorists and putting America First.

Hit link to The Mid-South Tribune's Editorial Video: "The Black Vote"