

Available at your local



Philadelphia

Observer

50 Cents

Speaking Truth to Justice

PhiladelphiaObserver.com

Vol. 29 • No. 29

July 22 – July 28, 2022,

HOW ROE V WADE WILL POTENTIALLY IMPACT BLACK WOMEN



THE ROE v WADE REVERSAL
ITS IMPACT ON WOMEN OF COLOR

Increased poverty 15 to 20%.....
Increased maternal mortality rate 33%
Substandard prenatal care.....,
High child poverty rates



CHEVROLET & THE NNPA ARE CHARGING FORWARD WITH YOUNG TALENT!

This HBCU Talent Is Bringing That Energy To *Discover The Unexpected 2022*



ANTONIO ANDREWS II
Tuskegee University

CHEVROLET CORPORATE FELLOW



RAZA EL
Tuskegee University

CHEVROLET CORPORATE FELLOW



JEVON JAMESWHITE
Howard University

CHEVROLET CORPORATE FELLOW



ASHLEY MCJUNKIN
Texas Southern University

CHEVROLET CORPORATE FELLOW



JVONTE 'JAY' MORRIS
Prairie View A&M University

CHEVROLET CORPORATE FELLOW



MENRA MAPFUMO
Clark Atlanta University

NNPA FELLOW



ASIA ALEXANDER
Howard University

NNPA FELLOW



FREDERICK HARRELL
Grambling State University

NNPA FELLOW



DERRELL GREEN
Morehouse College

NNPA FELLOW



LEYHA WILLIAMS
Howard University

NNPA FELLOW



LEALER SIMS
Southern University

NNPA FELLOW

FOLLOW THE DTU FELLOWSHIP STUDENTS ON THEIR JOURNEY!
chevydtuverse.com

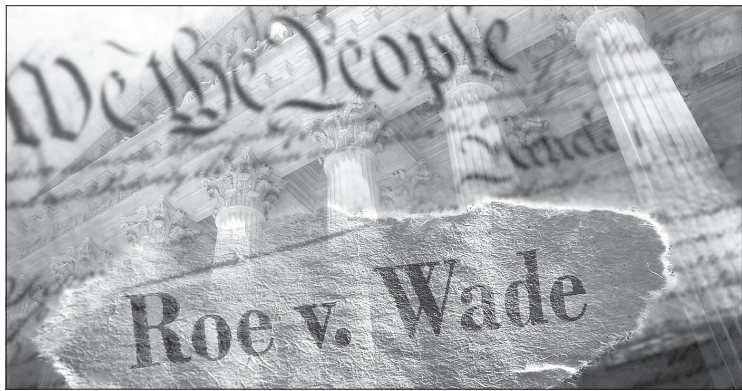
f t i d YouTube #ChevroletDTU



CHEVROLET

After the repeal of Roe v. Wade: What does it mean for Black women

NNPA NEWSWIRE — “We’re talking about another two or three hundred Black women who will die every year simply because they don’t have access to abortion care because they can’t make that choice. Most black women live in the south and this is where it is going to be more felt the deepest, I would say — but also, I’m thinking about poverty. The number one reason Black women, and all women, choose to have to get an abortion is because they can’t afford the child at the time. Most people who are choosing abortion already have children and they know they can’t afford to have another child. So, this means that for Black women and Latinas in particular, the poverty rate is likely to increase by another 15 to 20 percent,” said Linda Goler Blount, President of the Black Women’s Health Imperative (BWHI), during an interview with Black Press USA.



By Lauren Victoria Burke, NNPA Newswire Contributor

After the jolting decision by the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn Roe v. Wade on June 24, many women had to re-adjust their thinking regarding health care and personal decisions.

For Black women already dealing with historic and systemic challenges around access to health care and an increased rate of maternal death, the decision was more than personal.

“Black women tend to live in states hostile to reproductive healthcare, Roe’s overturn directly endangers Black women’s lives by exacerbating pre-existing access restrictions. Forcing Black women to carry dangerous, potentially deadly pregnancies to term will worsen the ongoing Black maternal mortality crisis that sees Black women dying from pregnancy at three times the rate of white women,” wrote Michelle Webb, Communications Director of the Black Women’s Health Imperative (BWHI).

Additionally, many states have poor social services such as sub-standard prenatal care and high

child poverty rates. The economic factors will become an issue immediately in states that have laws that are put into place as a result of the Supreme Court’s overturning of Roe. The reversal was a stunning change of almost half a century of landmark law on women’s reproductive rights.

In an interview with Black Press USA the day after the decision, Linda Goler Blount, President of the Black Women’s Health Imperative (BWHI), spoke on how the decision by the court will impact Black women specifically.

“I am worried about the sort of the internalization of that messaging and the trauma that will cause in this next generation — but more to the point right now. What we will see over the next few years is an increase in the maternal mortality rates for particularly for Black and brown women, but for all women, maternal mortality is projected to increase by 20 to 21 percent. For black woman it’s 33 percent,” Blount said.

“We’re talking about another two or 300 Black women who will die every year simply because they don’t have access to abortion care because they can’t make that choice. Most black women live in the south and this is where it is going to be more felt — the deepest I would say, but also, I’m thinking about poverty. The number one reason Black women, and all women, choose to have to get an abortion is because they can’t afford the child at the time. Most people who are choosing abortion already have children and they

know they can’t afford to have another child. So, this means that for Black women and Latinas in particular, the poverty rate is likely to increase by another 15 to 20 percent,” Blount told Black Press USA.

The 6-3 ruling by the court ended the constitutional right to an abortion and there is now no federally guaranteed right to an abortion in U.S. States.

“The fall of Roe will also condemn Black women who seek abortions due to financial hardship to an inescapable cycle of impoverishment along with the poor health outcomes that accompany it. Roe was a significant step toward a more equitable society in which Black women had access to the autonomy and agency they have traditionally been denied,” Michelle Webb added.

“By overruling nearly fifty years of legal precedent, the Court has turned the clock back on decades of progress made by Black women in America — and fanned the flames of a deadly public health crisis in the process,” added Webb hours after the decision came down.

All three of the Associate Justices appointed by former President Donald Trump, Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh and Amy Coney Barrett, voted to overturn Roe.

Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent investigative journalist and the host of the podcast BURKEFILE. She is a political analyst who appears regularly on #RolandMartinUnfiltered. She may be contacted at LVBurke007@gmail.com and on twitter at @LVBurke

As Trump court flexes power, Clarence Thomas emerges as spokesperson

By Lauren Victoria Burke, NNPA Newswire Contributor

From striking down Roe v. Wade and weakening environmental protections and threatening to strike Times v. Sullivan, Supreme Court Associate Justice Clarence Thomas has a lot to say lately.

In the week after the Supreme Court took away a constitutional right for the first time in history, Thomas, 74, is emerging as a central character for the conservative members of the Supreme Court. After President Donald Trump appointed three conservative judges to fill the vacancies that Democrats were unable to convert on, Thomas now has plenty of conservative company.

After three decades on the Supreme Court and often being in the minority when opinions were released, suddenly Thomas’ influence is large.

The 6-3 court represents the first time in decades that conservatives have control of the court which now has no moderate members to tip the scale one way or the other on close votes. As the decisions of the year are released, an expansion of gun rights in New York was part of the key decisions.

On June 30, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson joined the court after a noon swearing-in ceremony.

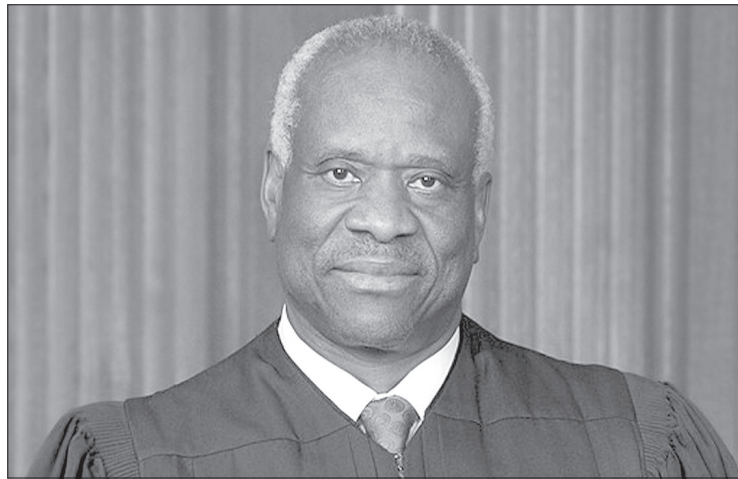
ny. She takes the place of Associate Justice Stephen Breyer.

“They object on religious grounds to all available COVID-19 vaccines because they were developed using cell lines derived from aborted children,” Thomas wrote in an opinion on June 30. The notion that COVID-19 vaccines are somehow linked to fetuses is deliberate disinformation spread primarily by QAnon online. No COVID-19 vaccine in the United States contains the cells of fetuses.

“Justice Clarence Thomas confirmed many of our deepest fears about where this decision may lead: Taking aim at additional long-standing precedent and cherished privacy rights, from access to contraception and in-vitro fertilization to marriage equality,” House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said of Thomas last week.

Many progressives have been targeting Thomas for criticism all week after the fall of Roe v. Wade after 49 years. Thomas is indicating more conservative moves by the current court are likely.

Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent investigative journalist and the host of the podcast BURKEFILE. She is a political analyst who appears regularly on #RolandMartinUnfiltered. She may be contacted at LVBurke007@gmail.com and on twitter at @LVBurke



Roe decision could spur massive voter turnout during midterms

“Overturning the historic Roe decision after 50 years of legal precedent impacts women’s and birthing people human and civil rights,” said Marcela Howell, president, and CEO of In Our Own Voice: National Black Women’s Health Imperative.

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent @ StacyBrownMedia

The failure of Congress to pass legislation like the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and the George Floyd Justice in Police Act have already frustrated African Americans and further dampened hope for a sizeable Black voter turnout during the 2022 midterm elections.

But, with the U.S. Supreme Court overturning the landmark Roe v. Wade statute and effectively taking away reproductive rights, some believe voters are now galvanized and poised for a massive

showing in November.

“The Supreme Court’s decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization says abortion is not deeply rooted in our nation’s history. In holding that, the decision calls into question other rights that we thought were settled, including the right to use birth control, the right to same-sex marriage, and more,” Vice President Kamala Harris said.

“The great aspiration of our nation has been to expand freedom. But the expansion of freedom is not inevitable. It is not something that just happens unless we defend our most fundamental principles. And not unless we elect leaders who stand up for those principles,” Harris continued.

“The strength of our nation has always been that we move forward. We must now come together to show what kind of country we want to live in and reject the notion that our rights are up for debate.”



Russ Feingold, the president of the progressive legal organization, American Constitution Society, said the decision marks the “first time that our highest court has taken away a constitutional right.”

“But make no mistake, our courts will play a crucial role in the fight to restore federal abortion

rights and protect state abortion rights,” Feingold said in an email.

“If we’re ever going to restore the constitutional right to abortion on the federal level, we must ensure that we have judges on every level of the bench that will protect constitutional rights,” he stated.

Congressional Black Caucus Chairwoman Joyce Beatty (D-Oh.)

said the hands of time have again been turned back.

“The extreme right-wing Supreme Court majority’s decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, the law of the land for 49 years that gave a woman the right to choose, will have far-reaching and painful consequences,” Beatty stated.

“Moreover, in the midst of a Black maternal mortality crisis, restricting access to abortion care will disproportionately endanger the lives of Black Americans,” Beatty asserted.

She continued:

“Let me be very clear: government-mandated pregnancy is not pro-life. It is pro-policing of women’s bodies. In response to this unacceptable decision, I, along with members of the Congressional Black Caucus, are co-leading a letter to President Biden urging him to swiftly declare this unprecedented attack on abor-

Continued on page 4

Derek Chauvin sentenced to more than 20 years for violating George Floyd's civil rights

Philadelphiaobserver.com

A judge sentenced former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin to more than 20 years in federal prison for violating George Floyd's civil rights. Chauvin pleaded guilty to the charges in December and was ordered to pay restitution, according to CBS News.



third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter, after pressing his knee into Floyd's neck for more than nine minutes.

Chauvin agreed to a plea agreement that required him to serve a 20- to 25-year sentence that would be completed concurrently with his state conviction, ABC News reports.

During the sentencing, U.S. District Judge Paul Magnuson demanded accountability from Chauvin, saying he "must be held responsible" for his behavior and for ruining the lives of the three other convicted officers.

In April 2021, a jury found Chauvin guilty on three counts of Floyd's death, including second-degree unintentional murder,

President of Black Wall Street Chamber of Commerce, husband dead

Philadelphiaobserver.com

Sherry Yvonne Smith, the president and CEO of the Black Wall Street Chamber of Commerce, died at her Bixby, Oklahoma, home, police confirmed, according to KTUL.



Police said the incident seems to be "domestic in nature," but they have not publicly released any further information due to an ongoing investigation.

Greenwood Chamber of Commerce President Freeman Culver confirmed her death, KJRH reports.

Her husband, Martin Everett Smith, who was in critical condition, later died at the hospital.

the incident.

Sherry has served as president and CEO of the Black Wall Street Chamber since its inception in 2018, KJRH reports.

The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation is aiding the Bixby Police Department in investigating

After the repeal of Roe v. Wade: What does it mean for Black women

From page 3

tion rights and access as the public health and national emergency that it is. We have seen what life was like pre-Roe v. Wade, and America cannot afford to go back."

There's a reason why the majority of Black adults believe that the Supreme Court has mostly taken rights away from them over the past 15 years, offered Alicia Garza, principal at Black to the Future Action Fund, a national organization dedicated to making Black communities powerful in politics.

"We have seen this body gut the 1965 Voting Rights Act in Shelby County v. Holder, and now they are doing it to our healthcare," Garza remarked.

"Abortion bans aren't just about power – they are about power. They are about who has power, who doesn't, and who wants to keep others from gaining it," Garza demanded.

"The Republican Party claims to be about less government and more freedom, but that is a blatant lie. In this decision, the Supreme Court bowed to the real agenda of the Republican Party, which is to subvert the will of the many to serve the needs of a few."

Garza added that abortion is a racial justice issue, and the decision will disproportionately impact Black families and devastate our economic futures.

Continued on page 5

Timothy Loehmann, ex-cop who killed Tamir Rice, hired by rural PA police department

Philadelphiaobserver.com

Tioga Borough, Pennsylvania recently hired the officer who killed Tamir Rice, signaling they don't give a damn about Black life, or any life for that matter. A Facebook post from Tioga Borough Council President Steve Hazlett showed Timothy Loehmann being sworn in as the small rural community's newest police officer.

Comments on the post varied, but the outrage and frustration were evident. One commenter called the hire disgusting, and others called for the borough to take accountability. Another commenter responded, "maybe if he kills a white kid, he won't be allowed to be a cop anymore...or will they just send him to another state again?"

A borough situated in the northern portion of Tioga County, Mayor David Wilcox said he was not involved in the hiring process claiming the council interviewed and hired Loehmann. The Sun-Gazette reported that the



Tioga Borough mayor alleged he had no clue who he was swearing in Tuesday evening. A protest was scheduled for Wednesday evening.

The borough's website says the mayor is responsible for overseeing police department administration while the council handles day-to-day matters. It has less than 1,000 residents and is approximately 95 percent white.

Subodh Chandra, one of the attorneys who represented Tamir's estate and family, released a statement in response to Loehmann's

new job.

"Tioga officials apparently don't care whether a police officer was considered mentally unfit for one department, lied on his application to another, rushed upon and slew a child, and then lied about calling out warnings to Tamir—when his window was rolled up on a winter's day," Chandra said. "Let's hope Tioga residents have the good sense to question the poor judgment of their misguided and indifferent officials."

Tioga borough president resigns after PA attorney general says hiring Tamir Rice's killer violated law

Philadelphiaobserver.com

The Tioga Borough official instrumental in hiring the ex-Cleveland police officer who killed Tamir Rice in 2014 resigned. As reported by the Williamsport Sun-Gazette, Tioga Borough Council President Steve Hazlett resigned Friday after the backlash to the hiring of Timothy Loehmann.

According to the state's attorney general, former Tioga Borough Council President Steve Hazlett disregarded state law in hiring Timothy Loehmann, the ex-Cleveland police officer who killed Tamir Rice in 2014. Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro sent Hazlett a letter outlining his violation of state law in

Loehmann's hiring process.

In the letter provided to NewsOne, Shapiro directly challenged Hazlett's failure to follow existing law in hiring Loehmann.

"MPOETC records show that this check was not performed when Tioga Borough hired Loehmann," wrote Shapiro. "To be clear, failure to thoroughly check a potential hire's background, including searching the database for any past disciplinary activities, is a violation of state law."

Further, Shapiro outlined the legal requirements that departments must undergo when hiring police officers. He also drew Hazlett's attention to Act 57, which requires departments responsible for hiring police officers to be "fully

aware of a candidate's past history of misconduct and any resulting discipline."

Passed in 2020, Shapiro says the law was meant to prevent the exact incident with Tioga Borough hiring Loehmann. The Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission website has various briefings and information about how to follow the guidelines outlined in Act 57. The act also applies to school districts that hire school resource and police officers.

Hazlett told the Sun-Gazette that he and others, including Tioga Borough Mayor David Wilcox, were aware of Loehmann's background. Wilcox previously told local news the information blindsided him.



New York Daily News Archive / Getty

NY mom attacks cop with crutch, spits at police after son is pulled over

Philadelphiaobserver.com

A 47-year-old Long Island woman has been arrested for allegedly hitting one police officer with a crutch she was using and spitting at others after they pulled her son over for driving with a suspended license, authorities said Tuesday.

Melinda Medina was arrested a day earlier, in Levittown, around 2 p.m.

According to detectives, officers stopped Medina's 20-year-old son on Hempstead Turnpike because he was driving a vehicle with an expired New York State inspection sticker and a suspended license. As they investigated, Nassau County cops say Medina showed up at the scene and start-

ed behaving aggressively toward police.

She was taken into custody after the attack and brought to a hospital for evaluation. While in police custody at the hospital, cops say Medina punched an officer in the face and damaged his body camera. Other officers suffered various injuries during the course of her arrest because she allegedly was so combative, police said.

Medina's son was issued some traffic tickets and released from the scene where he was pulled over, officials said. She is charged with assault, criminal possession of a weapon, criminal mischief, harassment and obstructing governmental administration.



Family's 4-yr-old drowns during swimming lesson – parents seeking answers

Philadelphiaobserver.com

*A Hephzibah, Georgia family is pleading for answers after the sudden death of a 4-year-old who died in June during a swimming lesson.

According to his parents, Dori and Walt Scott the young boy (Israel 'Izzy' Scott) was an amazing kid who was a huge fan of the Black Panther superhero and loved to play with his siblings, ages 11, 3, and 16. His mother Dori said they decided to take their son to the instructor, Lexie TenHuisen who is the owner of "Swim With Lexie" because the boy's older sister took lessons from her two years ago.

Dori explained that she was told she couldn't stay and watch the lesson because she might "distract the children." She said she understood because she's a hairstylist and knows that children can



act differently when their parents are around.

The first lesson went smoothly but during the second lesson on June 14, Dori Scott sat in her car waiting for the lesson to be over. Then she said a parent knocked frantically on her window. "She said, 'Come check on your baby,'" she told TODAY Parents. "I immediately lost it because I saw it in her eyes."

Angry customer shoots 2 Subway workers killing 1 over 'too much mayo' on sandwich

Philadelphiaobserver.com

A man is in police custody after shooting two Subway employees, killing one over a sandwich he felt

had "too much mayo." The 36-year-old man has been arrested but not identified after shooting two women workers at a Subway restaurant in downtown Atlanta, WSB-TV reports. A 26-year-old woman was killed while a 24-year-old woman is recovering from her injuries.

The five-year-old child of the 24-year-old woman was also inside the restaurant at the time of the shooting. Police responded to the shooting at a Subway attached to the Circle K gas station in downtown Atlanta just after 6:30 p.m. Sunday. Authorities say the shooter was upset about the sandwich he received from the restaurant. "There was something wrong with the sandwich that made him so upset that he decided to take his anger out on the two employees here," police said. "What you're seeing behind



me is the result of a tragedy, a senseless tragedy that we've seen numerous times throughout the year where an argument leads to gunfire, and now we have someone dead," Interim Police Chief Darin Schierbaum said. Willie Glenn, the co-owner of the Subway location, is heartbroken by the shooting and loss of one of his employees. "It just breaks my heart, to know that someone has the audacity to point a weapon

and shoot someone for as little as too much mayonnaise on a sandwich," said Glenn. Glenn said the manager on duty returned fire at the suspect but was unable to hit him, Fox 5 Atlanta reports. "I don't know what the world is coming to, especially with our youth," Glenn said. "They seem to be so hot-headed. Everybody wants to carry a gun. Everybody wants to scare somebody with a gun. It's scary out here."

Teenagers fatally beat 73-year-old man with traffic cone in Philadelphia

Philadelphiaobserver.com

The Philadelphia police are requesting the community's help in locating a group of teenagers who beat a 73-year-old man with a traffic cone on June 24, according to CBS3.

James Lambert was on his way home when he was surrounded by seven teenagers unprovoked and beaten with a traffic cone on the 2100 block of Cecil B. Moore Avenue around 2:45 a.m. The teenagers were caught on surveillance video in the neighborhood hitting Lambert with the cone and other objects and knocking him to the ground. Lambert tried to get away but was hit again. He later died at the Temple University Hospital.

The police are searching for four boys and three girls roughly between the ages of 13 and 17. One of the boys has a patch of blonde hair on his head of otherwise dark hair. Philadelphia Police Capt. Jason Smith called the beating "horrible" and "horrific."

"It's horrible, it's a horrific occurrence," Smith said. "Mr. Lambert proceeds to get up and he's

attempting to walk away from the group again, and at that time, you can see a female strike Mr. Lambert in the back with a construction cone."

Tania Stephens is Lambert's niece and she wants justice for her uncle, who she said was like a father to her growing up. She also questioned why the teens were out so late committing crimes.

"I just don't understand what's going on in our city," said Stephens. "Where were the parents? I just don't understand how children that age, whatever, they look like they couldn't have been any older than 14. How are you out at 2 o'clock in the morning committing crime? I'm a senior and I'm not out at that hour. The parents, they need to turn their kids in. The kids need help. They need help."

According to CBS3 reporter Matt Petrillo, the city of Philadelphia is offering a \$20,000 reward for any information leading to an arrest and conviction of those involved. The police believe the teens could be involved in other crimes in the area but would not elaborate further.

After the repeal of Roe v. Wade: What does it mean for Black women

From page 4

"Black women are the primary breadwinners of our households, holding our families together with less and less. Therefore, our economic well-being, including whether we can get an education, work, and earn money to support ourselves and our families, is directly tied to our ability to make decisions about our bodies," Garza asserted.

With protests at the Supreme Court and nationwide, the call for a massive voter turnout during the 2022 midterm elections has grown louder.

During the National Newspaper Publishers Association's (NNPA) national convention marking the 195th-anniversary celebration of the Black Press of America in New Orleans, lead-

ers announced a get-out-to-vote campaign aimed at registering and mobilizing GOTV for 10 million more African Americans to vote in time for the 2022 midterms.

"Let us take the lead and not be on the tail-end so we can show the present-day power of the Black Press," said NNPA Chair Karen Carter Richards, who publishes the Houston Forward Times.

"With Roe overturned, the stakes of this election have never been higher – Black voters will stand with Senate Democrats against Sen. Mitch McConnell and Republicans' agenda that would make abortion illegal and impose new, cruel, and punishing restrictions on women of color and their families," said Jessica Knight Henry, Deputy, and Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer for

the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee.

Florida Democratic Rep. Val Demings said she's furious and disappointed.

"I am ready to fight," Demings declared in a statement.

"We won't go back. We must work relentlessly to preserve our right to choose and our right to privacy. We must protect Roe v. Wade in federal law."

The court's decision ends core protection for women to make their own health care decisions, Georgia Democratic Sen. Raphael Warnock stated.

"It is a departure from our American ideals to recognize and protect basic rights," Warnock stated.

"This misguided decision is



Continued on page 6

Editorial - Opinion

Jan. 6 Committee and Trump's 'Big Lie'



By Jesse Jackson

- Will voters reward those who spread the lie or hold their representatives accountable? We need a new surge from idealists and reformers to overcome the cynics that put democracy at risk.

The House Select Committee on Jan. 6 has detailed what at some level we already knew. Trump lost the election. He knew it. His advisers knew it. His Justice Department knew it. The courts confirmed it. There was no evidence of voter

fraud. Trump lied — and continues lying to this day.

No one likes a sore loser, but Trump would not accept that he lost. He railed about fraud so often that he convinced his followers that the election must have been stolen. He used the false claims to raise a stunning amount of money — \$250 million — for an election defense fund that was a fiction. He used the money for his political and personal purposes. He not only misled those who believed in him, he ripped them off. So it goes.

That's not the real scandal. We have had a sense about Trump for a long time. Even his supporters understood he was a scoundrel, they just mistakenly thought he was their scoundrel.

Those who got misled and fooled aren't really the problem. The problem is the cynical politicians who echoed the lies — and knew better. They not only re-enforced the lies, they acted on them.

Across the country, Republicans used Trump's lies not just

to demand recounts of ballots in various states, they used them to change the law in very specific ways. They made voting more difficult, particularly for working and poor people who live in urban areas. They reduced early voting days, ended voting on Sunday, limited voting places in urban areas, made vote-by-mail more difficult, demanded new forms of ID that discriminated against students and minorities, and more.

Second, they made the possibility of distorting the vote more likely. They got rid of non-partisan election officials and replaced them with partisans. They gave state legislatures greater power to overturn elections simply because they don't like the results, regardless of how the majority voted. By 2024, as many as 20 of the 50 states will run under election orders that are much more exposed to partisan manipulation.

Third, at the national level, they blocked every effort to reform the process. They blocked revival

of the Voting Rights Act, which used to enjoy bipartisan support. They blocked efforts to perfect the electoral system and protect it from partisan meddling. They blocked reforms that would make it easier to register, harder to gerrymander districts, and set national standards for the country.

The cynicism of these politicians is clear. They assume that Americans won't let issues of democracy define their vote. They assume that not only will they pay no political cost for undermining democracy, they will be rewarded for it. The Trump lies fuel the anger of the Republican base — and dismay those who oppose those lies. The former are more likely to vote; the latter more likely to be turned off.

Are these Republican cynics right? Pollsters suggest they are. Voters are concerned about the price of food and gas, jobs and the economy, crime, and other concerns that impact their daily lives. They assume the existence of

democracy. They assume that the debates over reforms are questions of partisanship, not patriotism.

A likely result is that Trump's Big Lie may end up discrediting him, but not the Republican politicians who joined in echoing it and cowered before Trump's wrath. To date in the Republican primaries, those who stood up to Trump have not fared well, while those who kowtowed to him have done better.

That is where we are. The Jan. 6 Committee will prove its case: Trump lied and tried to overturn an election he knew he lost. Now voters have to decide. Will they reward those who spread the lie or hold their representatives accountable?

Many commentators say that the committee has put Trump in the dock. In fact, it is our democracy that is in the dock. Will it be defended or deformed? Will it end strengthened or undermined? We need a new surge from idealists and reformers to overcome the cynics that put democracy at risk.

After the repeal of Roe v. Wade: What does it mean for Black women

From page 5

devastating for women and families in Georgia and nationwide. Across the country, states have already passed dangerous and

uncompromising restrictions that put politicians in charge of health care, instead of women and doctors."

Marcela Howell, president, and CEO of In Our Own Voice:

National Black Women's Health Imperative, rebuked the high court's decision.

"Overturning the historic Roe decision after 50 years of legal precedent impacts women's and

birthing people human and civil rights," Howell said.

"The Supreme Court's ruling declares open season on women and birthing people's rights and lives," Howell continued.

"While we call on Congress and the Biden administration to take immediate action to uphold the Constitution, we will not depend on governing bodies to protect our rights."

NO ONE GETS A DIPLOMA ALONE.

If you're thinking of finishing your high school diploma, you have more support than you realize. Find teachers and free adult education classes near you at FinishYourDiploma.org.

Ad Council | DOLLAR GENERAL LITERACY FOUNDATION

Disney's Wish, sails with magic and wonder

By Ruth Hunt

Recently the Disney Wish Cruise Ship set sail from Port Canaveral, Florida, to Disney's Castaway Cay, a private island in the Bahamas with white sand and crystal clear water. This brand new magnificent 144,000-ton ship accommodates 4,000 passengers and it is purely magical. Just before sailing off, members of the media and their families were greeted by Disney's executive staff and the Make-a-Wish Foundation Ambassadors at a magnificent christening ceremony. This time Disney featured ambassadors, Colby 10, Megan 16, and Jenna 13 instead of the traditional "Godmother." Everyone enjoyed Captains Minnie and Mickey's dazzling performances along with all the Disney characters joining in with spectacular singing and dancing.

A dream is a wish your heart makes and boarding the long-awaited Disney Wish Cruise Ship unlocked the magic for three days! As the members of the press entered the ship through the Grand Hall, we were welcomed aboard, and each person/family's name was announced as they stepped into a stunning fairytale Hall. The Grand Hall is a fantasy-designed three decks high with a magnificent chandelier that burst with magic and wonder. The hall is beautifully appointed with the life-size bronze statue of Cinderella and of course, Cinderella's beautiful glass slipper was sitting high up on a pedestal. A childhood excitement bubbled up inside of me as I recalled the fairytale wonder.

The Disney Wish Cruise ship is sheer Enchantment—a castle on the sea – a floating theme park for kids and adults alike. It is the perfect family cruise. It offers an array of activities for the children i.e., Family Zone, Kids Fairytale Hall with characters telling Disney stories, Kids Academy, and a kid's deck. The highlight of the ship is the Aqua Mouse, a full fledged water attraction that wraps around the top deck of the ship and takes two minutes to slide through. The 760-foot water ride has lighting, audio, video, and water effects, guaranteeing to let out your inner child. In addition, the ship has six beautiful pools scattered throughout the decks.

There are uncharted adventure experiences and hidden layers on the ship. The Walt Disney Theatre features Broadway theatre with Goofy in a starring role, Disney Sea's the Adventure and The Little Mermaid.

Casual dining is offered at The Market located on the 11th floor with an array of food stations serving breakfast, lunch, and everything in between. Joyful Sweets on 11 serves pastries, candy, ice cream, treats, and much more.

The all-inclusive dining room rotations give you the opportunity to experience two interactive restaurants and one upscale dining experience. World of Marvel, and Star Wars, is a cinematic interactive dining experience with a quantum



at every table. You can see the full show with Marvel Characters and superheroes, including Captain America, Black Panther, and Iron man among others. The children were in wonder especially when the characters joined them after dinner. Arendelle: Frozen dining adventure was equally as entertaining. A themed theatrical show and dining experience that the children loved seeing their favorite characters, Elsa, Anna, Kristoff, and Olaf.

At the same time, this magnificent ship offers a luxurious opportunity to experience pure luxury for the adult-only encounter. The restaurant "1923" is part of the rotating restaurants, it is a more intimate, refined, and upscale

restaurant that pays tribute to the history of Walt Disney. Walt and his brother Roy Disney founded Walt Disney in 1923 and this restaurant celebrates and reflects the golden years of moving making, Hollywood, and glamour. The walls are filled with artwork!

The most exquisite restaurant on the Disney Wish Cruise Ship is "Enchante!" It's a "Wish" come true ... for the most enchanting dining experience, it is an evening at the Enchante! Their service meets the highest expectations, and the food is superb. Chef, Arnaud Lallement, is a true master at his craft, he skillfully layers your sense of taste with goodness in every morsel.

Enchante' is the ultimate adult experience at its best. It starts with

the most gorgeous chandelier that represents champagne bubbles and the restaurant setting is simply elegant. The French attention to subtle details screams elegance from the marble table tops to flatware and stemware. From the menu, I chose "The Passion" 6 courses, each presented with such a flair, and everything was so delicious, priced at \$125. "The Collection" is a 10-course fixed priced at \$195.

The total tomato experience was exceptional. It starts with a succulent tomato that is cooked for 12 hours, it is complemented by a delightful tomato soup, followed by bread dipped into a delicious tomato sauce. This course was topped with refreshing tomato

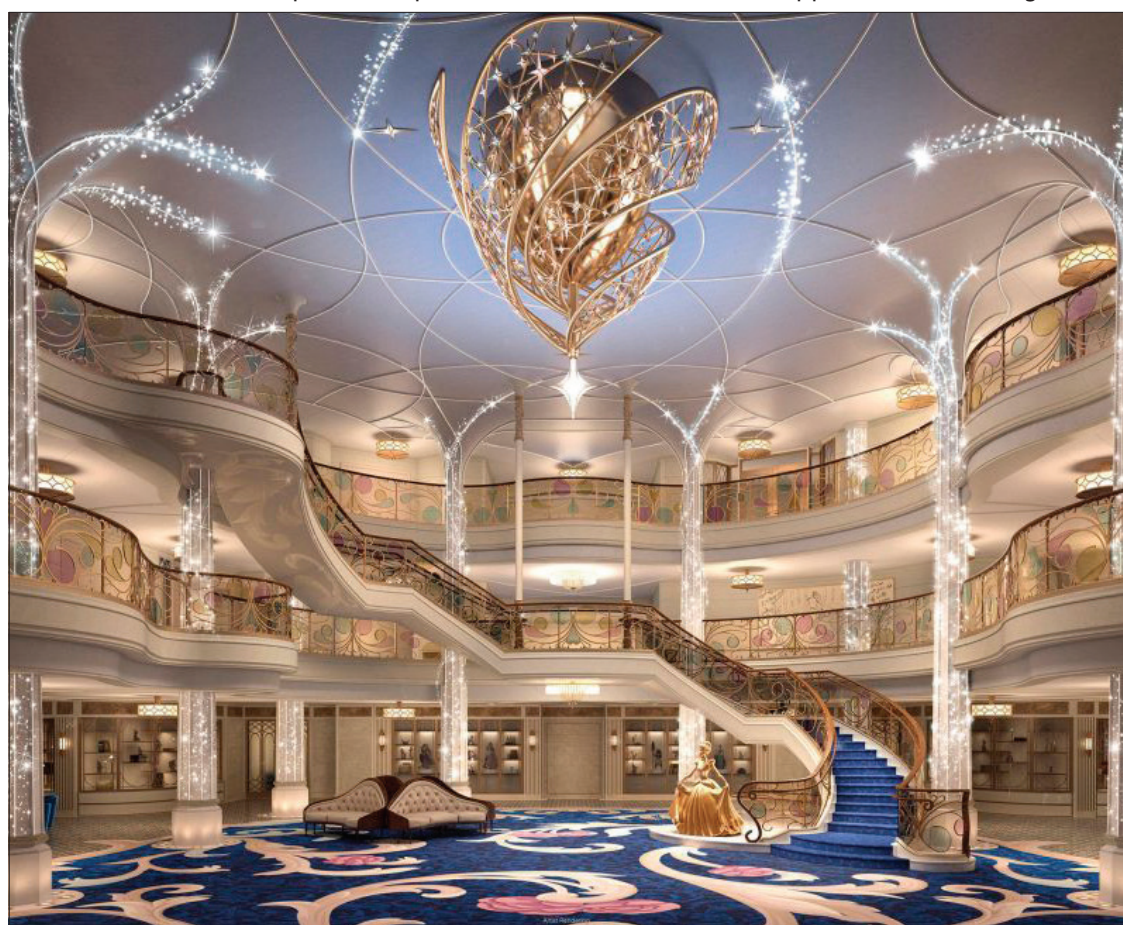
and cucumber water to clean your palate. You will want to try this one at home.

The wait staff was service at its best, attentive, and very accommodating. The hostess, Solange, was the best. She is the epitome of grace and hospitality, and she is fabulous with excellent customer service skills. Polo Steak House is a charming and elegantly appointed restaurant with an Italian experience. Wine by the glass or by the bottle ranges from \$35 to \$200, serving brunch, dinner, and dessert.

So many adults-only lounges to choose from, Keg, Nightingale's piano bar, and Bayou. The Star Wars enthusiast of legal age will enjoy the high-end Hyperspace Lounge and my favorite for after-dinner cocktails is The Rose, known for its exotic and high-end drinks overlooking the sea. What is a cruise without the total spa experience? Senses Spa is an oasis for pampering and relaxation. There is an acupuncturist and cosmetic specialist on board for your beauty needs. For a quiet time, there is a private adult infinity pool and sundeck on deck 14. These exclusive venues are tailored for sophisticated adults, including the Castaway Cay Adult Only Beach.

Should you like to entertain your private guests, The Wish offers two Suites at the bow of the ship. The Wish Tower Suite is a 2000 square feet duplex of luxurious accommodation with a private elevator and superb amenities that sleeps eight. The Princess Aurora Royal Suite is equally luxurious that sleeps six with a private deck and a private jacuzzi.

The Disney Wish Cruise ship is an enchanting voyage—a castle on the sea and a floating theme park for kids and adults alike. It is the perfect family cruise or an adult get-away the maiden voyage is set to sail on July 14, 2022. To book a vacation visit Disneycruise.com or call 888-325-2500.



On the scene

Rap influencer Nas puts his foot in the director's pool and it's supreme!



By Audrey J. Bernard

From Showtime comes “Supreme Team” directed by iconic rapper Nasir “Nas” Jones who can add director to his impressive list of accomplishment with the release of the “Supreme Team,” a three-part limited docuseries that takes an in-depth look at the notorious Queens, New York crime syndicate, and tells the real story from the mouths of its two leaders and family members, Kenneth “Supreme” McGriff and Gerald “Prince” Miller. Through the voices of these two infamous entrepreneurs as well as others in the community, politics, law enforcement, academia, and popular culture, viewers are given access beyond the headlines to examine the broader cultural dynamics, and the impact that this small

group from South Jamaica Queens has had on society. “Supreme Team” features LL Cool J, Mayor Eric Adams, Joy Reid, Irv Gotti and more, recalling Notorious New York Syndicate and its long-standing cultural influence.

From Showtime comes “Supreme Team” is a three-part limited docuseries that takes an in-depth look at the notorious Queens, New York crime syndicate

While the “Supreme Team” reached its height in the ‘80s and ‘90s, the series spans across six decades. It starts in the early 1970s as Prince and Supreme seek to understand what caused the decisions they made later in life. What transpires is a tightrope walk as these two men navigate choices that could land them as leaders of their industry, or behind bars for life – all

the while causing havoc in their community that is still felt to this day. America has a long history of illegal activity as the seed for success: from bootlegging to the plausible deniability in the pharmaceutical industry of today, “Supreme Team” tells the story of why that path that’s been modeled isn’t designed for everyone.

“Supreme Team” is directed by: Nasir “Nas” Jones and Peter J. Scalettar and written by Cameron Dennis, Camara Rose, Peter J. Scalettar, Nasir “Nas” Jones. The documentary has an illustrious list of executive producers: Nasir “Nas” Jones, Peter Bittenbender, Matt Whittington, Don Sikorski, Peter J. Scalettar, Charles King, Aisha Corpas Wynn, Jelani Johnson, Monique McCrae, and Doug Banker

Batter Up! Amazon Studios sets premiere date for ‘A League of Their Own’



Chanté Adams

Amazon Studios and Sony Pictures Television debuted the first-look teaser for the highly anticipated series, “A League of Their Own,” and announced that the series will premiere all eight episodes exclusively on Prime Video on Friday, August 12, 2022, in more than 240 countries and territories worldwide. “A League of Their Own” evokes the joyful spirit of Penny Marshall’s beloved classic, while widening the lens to tell the story of an entire generation of women who dreamed of playing professional baseball.

The show takes a deeper look at race and sexuality, following the journey of a whole new ensemble of characters as they carve their own paths towards the field, both in the league and outside of it. With Abbi Jacobson as Carson, Chanté Adams as Max, D’Arcy Carden as Greta, Gbemisola Ikumelo as Clance, Roberta Colindrez as Lupe, Nick



A scene from ‘League of Their Own’

Offerman as Dove, Saidah Arrika Ekulona as Toni, Kate Berlant as Shirley, Kendall Johnson as Gary, Kelly McCormack as Jess, Alex Désert as Edgar, Priscilla Delgado as Esti, Aaron Jennings as Guy, Molly Ephraim as Maybelle, Melanie Field as Jo, Dale Dickey as Beverly.

“A League of Their Own” is from Amazon Studios and Sony Pictures Television in association with Field Trip Productions. The series is based on a story by Kim Wilson and Kelly Candaele and co-created and executive produced by Will Graham and Abbi Jacobson. Field Trip’s Hailey Wierengo and Desta Tedros Reff also serve as executive producers. Jamie Babbit directed the pilot and also serves as executive producer. Based on the motion picture Screenplay by Lowell Ganz & Babaloo Mandel.

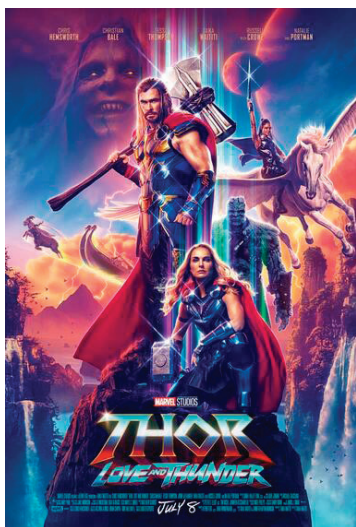


Sony Pictures invites you to their horror thriller ‘The Invitation’

After the death of her mother and having no other known relatives, Evie (Nathalie Emmanuel) takes a DNA test...and discovers a long-lost cousin she never knew she had. Invited by her newfound family to a lavish wedding in the English countryside, she’s at first seduced by the sexy aristocrat host but is soon thrust into a nightmare of survival as she uncovers twisted secrets in her family’s history and the unsettling intentions behind their sinful generosity. “The Invitation” opens August 26, 2022 and is directed by Jessica M. Thompson and written by Blair Butler, and produced by Emile Gladstone. Michael P. Flannigan and Jessica M. Thompson are executive producers. “The Invitation” boasts a cast of Nathalie Emmanuel, Thomas Doherty, Stephanie Corneliussen, Alana Boden, Courtney Taylor, Hugh Skinner, and Sean Pertwee.

On the scene

Disney's 'Thor: Love and Thunder' trounces weekend box office with \$302M



By Audrey J. Bernard

The God's have spoken and Disney's blockbuster "Thor: Love and Thunder" thrashing the competition with \$143M opening and \$302M worldwide over the holiday weekend! Directed by Taika Waititi ("Thor: Ragnarok," "Jojo Rabbit") and produced by Kevin Feige and Brad Winderbaum, 'Thor: Love & Thunder' is the latest addition to the hitmaking Marvel Cinematic Universe enjoying phenomenal success. Moviegoers are loving the over-the-top fight scenes and moviemaking magic. The movie features Chris Hemsworth as Thor and Natalie Portman takes up Mjolnir, the legendary hammer. The movie also stars Tessa Thomp-

son as Valkyrie, Jamie Alexander as Sif, Jeff Goldblum as Grandmaster, Chris Pratt as Peter Quill/Star-Lord, Karen Gillan as Nebula, Pom Klementieff as Mantis, Dave Bautista as Drax, Sean Gunn as Kraglin, Vin Diesel as Groot. And Christian Bale as the villain Gorr the God Butcher. Russell Crowe makes a cameo appearance as Zeus.

SYNOPSIS: Marvel Studios' "Thor: Love and Thunder" finds the God of Thunder (Chris Hemsworth) on a journey unlike anything he's ever faced – one of self-discovery. But his efforts are interrupted by a galactic killer known as Gorr the God Butcher (Christian Bale), who seeks the extinction of the gods. To combat the threat, Thor enlists the help of King Valkyrie (Tessa Thompson), Korg (Taika Waititi) and ex-girlfriend Jane Foster (Natalie Portman), who – to Thor's surprise – inexplicably wields his magical hammer, Mjolnir, as the Mighty Thor. Together, they embark upon a harrowing cosmic adventure to uncover the mystery of the God Butcher's vengeance and stop him before it's too late.

PREMIERE PARTY: Disney hosted a spectacular soiree for their newest successful moneymaker at the El Capitan Theatre in Los Angeles on Friday, June 24, 2022. Stars, filmmakers and special guests dazzled onlookers as they walked the red carpet in the heart of Hollywood to celebrate the world

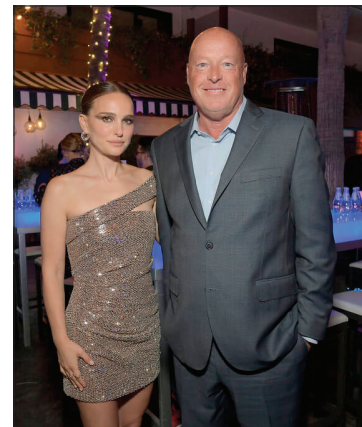


The cast of 'Thor Love and Thunder' at the film's world premiere in Hollywood, California

premiere of Marvel Studios' "Thor: Love and Thunder." Cast members attending the fabulous premiere party included Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman, Christian Bale, Tessa Thompson, Jaimie Alexander, Chris Pratt, Karen Gillan, Kieron L. Dyer, Jonny Brugh. Joining them were filmmakers including Taika Waititi (directed by/screenplay by), Kevin Feige, Brad Winderbaum (producers), Louis D'Esposito, Victoria Alonso, Brian Chapek and Todd Hollowell (executive producers), and Jennifer Kaytin Robinson (screenplay by). "Thor: Love and Thunder" opened nationwide on Friday, July 8, 2022. (Photos courtesy Disney)



Taika Waititi, Marvel Studios' president Kevin Feige



Natalie Portman, Disney CEO Bob Chapek



Taika Waititi, Chris Hemsworth, Chris Pratt



Tessa Thompson and Chris Hemsworth in scene from 'Thor Love and Thunder'



Samantha Hemsworth, Luke Hemsworth, Elsa Pataky, Chris Hemsworth, Leonie Hemsworth, Craig Hemsworth



Chris Hemsworth



Tessa Thompson



Kat Dennings



Taika Waititi



Natalie Portman



Karen Gillan



Jaimie Alexander



By Don Thomas

Tracey Washington Bagley makes directorial debut

The film "Niko Newark" is currently in pre-production and is set to start filming Summer 2022. The focus of the project is the racial tensions leading to the riots that gripped the City of Newark in 1967. The Plot...The shines a light on the everyday plight of young people in the urban community and how they were affected by the tragedies (racism, death, corruption) that took place and changed their lives and the city's history forever.

This is a topic stirred by controversy and intrigue while bringing up a valid and necessary conversation about race relations that we still feel overwhelmingly to this day. Inspired by a True Story...This tragic coming of age film will be brought to you by Nick Dessipris of New Ark Productions in partnership with Producer Rhyann St. Clair of Little King Studios. Tracey Washington Bagley will make her directorial debut for "Niko Newark."

Inspired by true events, the drama takes place at City Diner in downtown Newark, New Jersey. There, eleven-year-old Niko would watch diners of different races enjoying their meals but not each other due to their deeply held bigotry.

As this hideous outlook on society grows in the minds of those tainted by the toxicity, an unlikely friendship forms between the naive but fearless Niko, the son of a Greek immigrant, and Arty, an eleven-year-old quiet but curious African American kid from the nearby projects.

This bond, formed organically from their innocence and lack of prejudice, will be tested as the City of Newark erupts in race riots during the long hot summer of 1967. Will this powerful unity survive and serve as a beacon of hope for the future of the city, or will it crumble in the flames of a city many deemed to be lost? This is a cautionary but ultimately inspiring narrative that beckons the viewer to value the quality of a person over the color of their skin. The production is currently casting.



(L-R) Nick Dessipris, Producer Rhyann St. Clair and Director Tracey Washington Bagley



Soul Snacks Cookies on shelves

After a successful national retail launch, Celebrity Drummer Ralph Rolle's Soul Snacks cookies have rolled into the Kroger line of supermarkets. Rolle, who provides the backbeat for hit makers such as Nile Rodgers and Chic, Sting, and Queen Latifah will tour with Cher this fall. Rolle founded The Soul Snacks Cookie Company more than 25 years ago. Based on recipes inherited from his mother and grandmother (who emigrated from Florida to New York decades ago), his line of treats ranges from Georgia Oatmeal Raisin, Peanut Peanut Butter, Down Home Double Chocolate Chip, Ebony and Ivory Almond Cookie, Grampy's Chocolate Peanut Butter Cookie and most recently added, but now #1 seller, Sweet Potato Cookies. Kroger joins big retailers such as Walmart and Walgreens that carry Soul Snacks Cookies. For more information, go to www.soulsnacks.com

International

Nelson Mandela International Day is marked around the world

(GIN)

Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, an iconic figure who fought South Africa's apartheid regime, was a human rights lawyer, a prisoner of conscience and an international peacemaker. And he was the first democratically elected president of a free South Africa.

In light of these accomplishments, the United Nations General Assembly designated July 18, his birthday, as Nelson Mandela International Day. It celebrates the idea that each individual has the power to transform the world and the ability to make an impact. In honor of his 67 years of public service, the Nelson Mandela Foundation and the U.N. ask that you spend 67 minutes of your time helping

others.

In South Africa, celebrations start early at Mvezo, Madiba's birthplace. Chief Zwelivelile 'Mandla' Mandela, Nelson Mandela's grandson, addressed the community: "Madiba was outspoken in human rights, justice and peace. We continue to utilize his legacy as a voice for many oppressed nations around the world." He mentioned consultations about the "last colony in Africa – Western Sahara", as well as the case of the Palestinians, Kashmir, Yemen, Syria, and Ukraine.

This year the focus is on food security and fighting global warming. Hundreds of trees will be planted to bring this vision to life. "We're here to reverse whatever global warming is bringing

to Mother Earth," said one local gardener.

At the United Nations, Prince Harry, accompanied by his wife Meghan, has been chosen to give the keynote address on 'memories and legacy' of the African leader. According to a post by the Nelson Mandela Foundation on Twitter, he will also be asking for more peacekeeping troops for South Africa.

The annual Nelson Mandela lecture held in South Africa will be delivered by Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley in November.

And in Chicago, Nando's Peri Peri, a South African style restaurant, will honor the memory of former president and anti-apartheid activist Nelson Mandela with a day of giving on Mandela Day,



All Nando's restaurants will be serving their signature meal of a quarter of a flame-grilled chicken with chips (fries) for free between 3-6pm on July 18. Guests are encouraged to donate schools supplies like pens, erasers and

composition books to help children in underserved communities.

Nando's restaurants will also donate 67 meals to local charities, as acknowledgement of Mandela's 67 years of battling for social justice.

I asked what kind of family

Denise, adopted 17-year-old Amina



LEARN ABOUT ADOPTING A TEEN
YOU CAN'T IMAGINE THE REWARD

ADOPTUSKIDS.ORG

Video of yet another police shooting of unarmed Black man debuted July 4th weekend

People for the American Way presents new plan for police and law enforcement

By Barrington M. Salmon and Hazel Trice Edney

- As millions of people across America prepare to celebrate "liberty and justice for all" on July 4th, 2022, yet another news story of a police shooting of an unarmed Black man was breaking nationally. The killing of fleeing Jayland Walker, 25, by Akron, Ohio Police officers, who reportedly shot him 60 times, is still under investigation while the officers involved have been suspended pending the results.

Police say the shooting occurred after a high-speed chase during which they say a shot came from the vehicle driven by Walker, a report that Walker's family and lawyer has called into question. Police also said they found a gun in the car. They claim he appeared to be reaching for his waistband as he fled. But why he suffered 60 wounds in the June 27 killing is still in question.

Police Chief Stephen Mylett said at a July 3rd news conference that reviews of body camera videos of 13 officers at the scene prompted more questions about Walker's death. As the video was released, protesters, led by the Akron NAACP, took to the streets, a familiar site in modern day America.

Akron police said they had tried to pull Walker over on a traffic violation and began the chase after he did not stop.

Meanwhile justice-seeking organizations continue to present ideas on ways to prevent unjust police shoots, disparated of unarmed African Americans. The continued scourge of police violence against African Americans is one of the most contentious issues in the nation. According to statistics provided by People for the American Way (PFAW), in 2021 alone, police officers killed at least 1,134 people, with African Americans making up at least 23 percent of those killed, despite being only 13 percent of the US population. Racism is at the core of policing in this country, from colonial-era slave patrols to the post-Reconstruction vigilantism of the Ku Klux Klan to "order maintenance" policing of the late 20th century, Ben Jealous and his research colleague Dr. Niaz Kasravi contend.

In the aftermath of national and global protests following the murder of George Floyd by a quartet of Minneapolis police officers in 2020, Jealous said PFAW partnered with Covington & Burling LLP, and the Avalan Institute for Applied Research and consulted closely with law enforcement and policing experts, social justice activists, elected officials, communi-

ty leaders produce a blueprint for reducing police violence titled, "All Safe: Transforming Public Safety."

"We are very proud to unveil All Safe: Transforming Public Safety as a guide for local communities to take solutions to our public safety crisis into their own hands. Let's face it: the federal government has failed to act on meaningful public safety legislation," Jealous, president of People For the American Way and former president and CEO of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People said in an exclusive press briefing for African American journalists. "Meanwhile Black and brown people are dying at the hands of police officers. This has to stop. We can seed true, nationwide change by putting the right tools into the hands of communities now and building on their success, to create an unstoppable movement for public safety transformation."

Jealous and Kasravi announced release of the report. Kasravi – founder and director of the Avalan Institute and editor-in-chief of All Safe – said the report provides concrete policy proposals for the transformation and implementation of public safety programs at the local level.

"We know that this. We know that it's time for a change because the tradition approach just hasn't worked. Right? For centuries, this country has relied on "tough on crime," over-policing, and law and order policies," Kasravi explained. "And more moderate reforms around training and recruitment, of course are necessary and needed, but they are not the answer, the foundational answer to a long-term change that we need. We are in America, the #1 incarcerator in the world with roughly five percent of the world's population but we have 25% of its prisoners because of centuries on overreliance on police and systems of incarceration ..."

Jealous, echoed Kasravi's comments that described the report as "the most comprehensive vision for transformation of public safety in our country." He credited Ithaca, New York's three-term Mayor Svante Myrick with embracing the report's provisions and implementing many of the proposals on the ground and in real life.

"We have to build the criminal reform movement from the bottom up," said Jealous, a trained criminologist who grew up in a family in law enforcement.

He described the challenge of achieving meaningful change with America's mélange of police departments – 16,000 local individualized police departments – each agency with its own rules and regulations.

"I figured out when I was at the NAACP that about 85 percent of African Americans live in 500 of these jurisdictions which means when it comes to saving Black



Jayland Walker

lives, we really have to reform 3-5 percent of law enforcement agencies in the US," Jealous said.

Among the report's proposals is changing police departments to public safety departments led by civilians with half the department comprised of typically armed officer and the other half made up of unarmed officers who are social work experts catering to the needs of the drug-addicted, homeless and mentally ill.

"We don't train these folks because that's not what they're supposed to be doing," he said, referring to police officers ill-equipped to handle non-crime issues. "It's shoot to kill and everything else. It would mean 60 percent of the officers we have now, radically less numbers carrying guns."

Kasravi elaborated.

"This report is the most comprehensive report that we've been involved with or seen produced. It's a handbook for elected officials with a large range of policy options to respond to the public demand from police reform," she said. "There are two co-equal teams of armed and unarmed individuals. The public safety model is a win on all fronts: it reduces the risk of harm and armed encounters; people are treated more humanely; this addresses medical and psychological needs; puts less stress on officers; and increased trust in the community."

Kasravi said the model also saves communities more money and increases efficiency and effectiveness as communities move towards "the vision we all want."

"It's a local fight in every jurisdiction, a fight police must take up. No size fits all. There are different models and ways to respond," Kasravi said.

The report presents facts and statistics which illustrate the current states of affairs and the challenges of effecting police reform:

Police violence disproportionately affects communities of color. In 2021, while Black people accounted for only 13 percent of the US population, 28 percent of people killed by the police were Black. Another 19 percent were Latinx.

Of the estimated 240 million calls made to 911 each year, studies have found that 90 percent of calls involve situations that are nonviolent before police are called.

Police unions have erected barriers to prevent removal for those officers accused of misconduct. At the state level, unions have passed police officer "bills of rights," which provide broad protections for officers which are not provided to other people in similar situations.

In addition, the report's researchers showed that over-policing is encouraged as police brass demand that officers meet quotas which is one evaluation tool. And that police recruitment strategies attract aggressive men and women.

"A comprehensive study analyzing the recruiting materials used by the 200 largest police departments in the United States found that: 42.7 percent contained some display of drawn

firearms; 34 percent portrayed military-style weapons; 32 percent showed officers in tactical vests; and 27.7 percent depicted paramilitary policing units," the report said.

Key tenets of the report are to remove police officers from schools; eliminate unnecessary misdemeanors and fines and fees; and ending the use of "excess" military equipment by law enforcement.

Jealous said PFAW focused on small college towns, like Ithaca, New York, where supporters and those connected to or affiliated with PFAW coalesced around the police reform policy proposals. The bedrock of the report is to restructure, hold responsible, remove, and recruit as a means of change, all the while addressing "the underlying issues and concerns that shape the organization's public safety programs and make specific suggestions for transforming both how we think of public safety and our public safety programs."

Their focus, Kasravi and Jealous said, has been at the local level because they contend that while a system overhaul will only come when state and federal officials move on it, "at the local level, executive, legislative, and judicial authorities can take steps immediately to reduce police violence."

But as it has in the past, the post-Floyd effort to secure meaningful reform fizzled because of the lack of political will, raw, hyper-partisan politics and an unwillingness of national politicians to accede to the real demands of African Americans. Yet Jealous and Kasravi argue that even in the face of these and other challenges, it is imperative for the Black and brown communities most affected to devise new ways to confront, address and change the status quo as it relates to policing in America.

"It's time for a fresh approach to the delivery of public safety in this country, because the hard truth is that what we have been doing hasn't worked," Kasravi said. "We have some of the most highly armed police forces and the greatest rates of incarceration in the world. If those strategies worked, we should be the safest nation in the world. But we all know that's not the case. It's time to transform our approach, and this report offers a range of options for communities to do that – and to improve and save lives, starting now."

The release of the report coincides with People for the American Way kicking off its "Big Ideas" Summit in Atlanta this week. Civil Rights leaders, grassroots activists, elected officials and faith leaders will gather from around the US and mayors and other local officials have the option of taking All Safe recommendations back to their own communities to implement them.

Subscribe Philadelphia Observer

405 Lexington Avenue, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10174.

philadelphiaobserver.com

Classified

ATTORNEY

Lung Cancer? And Age 60+? You And Your Family May Be Entitled To Significant Cash Award. No Risk. No Money Out Of Pocket. For Information Call 877-225-4813

AUCTIONS

NYS SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY PUBLIC AUCTION: 11/8/19, 335 Nashopa Road, Mamakating, NY, 3,767sf colonial, 3.26acs, 5BR, 3.5baths, fin-bsmt, MINBID \$249,000; Open House: 11:00am-1:00pm, 10/15,10/23,11/1; ogs.ny.gov/NYSStore 518-474-2195

AUTO DONATIONS

Donate your car to Wheels For Wishes, benefiting Make-A-Wish. We offer free towing and your donation is 100% tax deductible. Call (917) 336-1254

FINANCE

Denied Social Security Disability? Appeal! If you're 50+, filed SSD and denied, our attorneys can help! Win or Pay Nothing! Strong, recent work history needed. 866-

979-0096 [Steppacher Law Offices LLC Principal Office: 224 Adams Ave Scranton PA 18503]

HEALTH

A PLACE FOR MOM has helped over a million families find senior living. Our trusted, local advisors help find solutions to your unique needs at no cost to you. Call 855-977-3677

SAVE ON YOUR NEXT PRESCRIPTION! World Health Link. Price Match Guarantee! Prescriptions Required. CIPA Certified. Over 1500 medications available. CALL Today For A Free Price Quote. 1-866-569-7986 Call Now!

VIAGRA & CIALIS! 60 pills for \$99. 100 pills for \$150. FREE shipping. Money back guaranteed! 1-855-579-8907

HOME IMPROVEMENT

BATHROOM RENOVATIONS. EASY, ONE DAY updates! We specialize in safe bathing. Grab bars, no slip flooring & seated showers. Call for a free in-home consultation: 888-657-9488.

MISCELLANEOUS

COMPUTER ISSUES? FREE DIAGNOSIS by GEEKS ON SITE! Virus Removal, Data Recovery! 24/7 EMERGENCY SERVICE, In-home repair/On-line solutions . \$20 OFF ANY SERVICE! 844-892-3990

TV INTERNET PHONE

DISH TV \$59.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. 1-888-609-9405

Get DIRECTV! ONLY \$35/month! 155 Channels & 1000s of Shows/Movies On Demand (w/ SELECT All Included Package.) PLUS Stream on Up to FIVE Screens Simultaneously at No Additional Cost. Call DIRECTV 1-888-534-6918

Spectrum Triple Play! TV, Internet & Voice for \$99.97/mo. Fastest Internet. 100 MB per second speed. Free Primetime on Demand. Unlimited Voice. NO CONTRACTS. Call 1-855-977-7198 or visit <http://tripleplaytoday.com/press>



Discover the world's best walk-in bathtub from *American Standard*

5 Reasons American Standard Walk-in Tubs are Your Best Choice

- 1 Backed by American Standard's 140 years of experience
- 2 Ultra low entry for easy entering and exiting
- 3 Patented Quick Drain® fast water removal system
- 4 Lifetime Warranty on the bath AND installation, INCLUDING labor backed by American Standard
- 5 44 Hydrotherapy jets for an invigorating massage

\$1,500 SAVINGS

Includes FREE American Standard Right Height Toilet Limited Time Offer! Call Today!

888-609-0248

Receive a free American Standard Cadet toilet with full installation of a Liberation Walk-In Bath, Liberation Shower, or Deluxe Shower. Offer valid only while supplies last. Limit one per household. Must be first time purchaser. See www.walkintubs.americanstandard-us.com for other restrictions and for licensing, warranty, and company information. © 2022 American Standard, Inc. All rights reserved. NYS Lic. # 2022748-DCA. Safety Tubs Co. LLC does not sell in Nassau NY, Westchester NY, Putnam NY, Rockland NY.



Donate A Boat or Car Today!

Boat Angel

"2-Night Free Vacation!"

800-700-BOAT (2628)

www.boatangel.com

sponsored by boat angel outreach centers STOP CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN



Saving a Life EVERY 11 MINUTES

I'm never alone

Life Alert® is always here for me even when away from home.

One touch of a button sends help fast, 24/7.

Help at Home

Life Alert®

Batteries Never Need Charging.

Help On-the-Go

FREE! FIRST AID KIT WHEN YOU ORDER!

For a FREE brochure call:

1-800-404-9776



DENTAL Insurance

Physicians Mutual Insurance Company

A less expensive way to help get the dental care you deserve!

CALL NOW! 1-855-225-1434

- ✓ Get help paying dental bills and keep more money in your pocket
- ✓ This is real dental insurance – NOT just a discount plan
- ✓ You can get coverage before your next checkup

Don't wait! Call now and we'll rush you a FREE Information Kit with all the details.

FREE Information Kit

Here's the information you requested on Dental Insurance

Your Name Here

1-855-225-1434

Visit us online at www.dental50plus.com/nypress

Insurance Policy P15ONY 6129 MB17-NM003Ec



UNCF
A mind is a terrible thing to waste®

IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO INVEST IN A GOOD THING.

Introducing Better Futures™—a whole new kind of investment with a greater return than money. When you invest, it helps kids go to college. Because a mind is a terrible thing to waste but a wonderful thing to invest in.™ Invest in Better Futures at UNCF.ORG/INVEST

Subscribe Philadelphia Observer

405 Lexington Avenue, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10174.

philaobserver.com

Remembering

Producer Bernard Belle, brother of Singer Regina Belle

Posted By Don Thomas

Multiple Grammy Award-winning Musician/Composer/Songwriter/Producer Bernard Belle died Thurs., June 23, 2022 at Piedmont Atlanta Hospital in Georgia, at the age of 57. Belle's official cause of death was due to congestive heart failure, according to his sister and primary caretaker, Regina Belle, a Grammy Award-winning recording artist, who posted on her Facebook Page, "The smartest part of me has passed on. My brother, Bernard Belle was brilliant. Bernie, please help me to shine from heaven. I love you."

Born Nov. 12, 1964, to the late Judge Belle and his mother, Lois Belle, who now resides in Atlanta, Bernard Belle was born and raised in his hometown of Englewood, and the neighboring town of Teaneck, New Jersey. During the past seven years, Bernard had suffered from two strokes, and was later moved from Englewood, New Jersey to Signature HealthCARE of Buckhead, where he could be

close to his parents, daughter Asia Milner, and sister, Regina.

A world-class musician and songwriter/producer for multiple award-winning pop, R&B and gospel recording artists, including the late Michael Jackson and Whitney Houston, Bernard received his first career break in the 1980s, when Regina, who was performing as a background vocalist for the R&B group, The Manhattans, recommended him to join the group as the bassist.

A multi-instrumentalist (pianist, bassist, guitarist, drummer and vocalist), Bernard later became one of Black Music's most gifted and prolific creators; penning hits for Michael Jackson such as "Remember the Time" "Privacy," and "Why You Wanna Trip on Me." He also produced records for Whitney Houston, Aaron Hall, Keith Sweat, and Al B. Sure! and Today, among numerous others.

During his nearly 40-year career, Bernard partnered with producer Teddy Riley, and together they established footprints and became pioneers of the New Jack



Producer Bernard Belle and his sister Regina Belle



Producer Bernard Belle proudly displays one of his many awards

Swing era and produced songs for Guy and others. Some of Bernard Belle's other credits include Boy George's "You Found Another Guy" (composer); Regina Belle's "Baby Come To Me" (composer); "I Gotch U" (composer), "Johnny's Back," (composer and producer) along with Regina Belle's gospel hits "God Is Good," and "Good to Be Loved" (composer) Guy's "Let's Chill," and "Long Gone" (composer and producer).

Bernard also produced Hi-Five's "I Just Can't Handle It," and "I Like The Way (The Kissing Game)," The Winans' "It's Time" and "A Friend" (producer and composer), Bobby Brown's "Get Away," "Two Can Play That Game," "One More Night," and "Something in Common," a duet with Whitney Houston" (composer and backing vocalist), Patti LaBelle's "If By Chance" (composer), Glenn Jones' "I've Been Searchin',"

and "In You" (composer and producer), Jaheim's "The Chosen One" and "Everytime I Think About Her" (writer and producer) and many more.

Belle has received multiple Grammy Awards, American Music Awards, Billboard Awards, Stellar Gospel Music Awards, and ASCAP and BMI Awards for his music as a songwriter and producer. In 1994, he re-dedicated his life to Christ. He was also one of the most sought-after musicians and producers in Gospel Music.

Under the musical direction of Ray Chew, he was a recurring bassist on BET's Gospel shows, Sunday Best and the Celebration of Gospel. He also performed with Gospel legends Donnie McClurkin, Shirley Caesar, Richard Smallwood, John P. Kee, Marvin Sapp, Fred Hammond, Yolanda Adams, Tye Tribbett, Mary Mary, Kirk Franklin,

Donald Lawrence, Smokie Norful, Hezekiah Walker, and BeBe & CeCe Winans.

While at the rehabilitation center, Bernard finished a series of online seminary courses and received his certification from Bradley Bible College. He was also honored by the facility for being a model patient. The Belle family would like to thank the caregivers of Signature HealthCARE for their service and commitment to Bernard during his time of need.

Bernard Belle has five children Asia Milner of Atlanta, GA, Jahmel Belle of Charlotte, NC and his identical twin sons Tyrone Belle of Houston, TX, and Tyrell Belle of Englewood, NJ and Ny'Jeana Belle of Charleston, SC and his mother, Lois Belle of Atlanta, GA, his sister Regina Belle and brother-in law, Bishop John Battle, and a host of grandchildren.

Ahhhhhhh. That “be your own boss” feeling. Join the Cricket Authorized Retailer Network!



Why Join?

Location, Location, Location:

- We have 4,800+ stores.
- 98% of them are independently owned and operated by Authorized Retailers.

Development and Expansion:

- Cricket Wireless is one of the fastest-growing prepaid wireless companies.
- We now have over 9 million subscribers, which is double our subscriber base from 2014.

Cricket is looking for exclusive authorized retailers across the nation who want to be part of an extraordinary team. With nationwide coverage, unlimited talk & text, various data options, an exceptional lineup of smartphones, and no annual contract, we pride ourselves on providing a simple, delightful customer experience—and you can, too.

If you think you have the drive to be part of our amazing Cricket Authorized Retailer Team, contact us today!

Take the next step by contacting us at:
becomeacricketdealer@cricketwireless.com

Smile, You're on
cricket
wireless