

Lawmaker: Statue of Liberty Belongs in France, Not Trump’s America

BLACKPRESSUSA NEWSWIRE — Raphaël Glucksmann, a member of the European Parliament and co-president of France’s left-wing Public Place party, made headlines with his call to reclaim the statue, a gift from France nearly 140 years ago.

By Stacy M. Brown



Statue of Liberty and New York City Skyline with Manhattan Financial District, Battery Park, Water of New York Harbor, World Trade Center, Empire State Building. Photo Credit: NNPA Files

The words inscribed on the Statue of Liberty—“Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free”—once stood as a beacon of hope, a promise that America would welcome those seeking refuge and opportunity. A French politician is now calling for the monument’s return, arguing that the United States no longer deserves it. Raphaël Glucksmann, a

member of the European Parliament and co-president of France’s left-wing Public Place party, made headlines with his call to reclaim the statue, a gift from France nearly 140 years ago. “Give us back the Statue of Liberty. It was our gift to you,” Glucksmann declared, speaking before an applauding crowd. “But apparently, you despise her. So, she will be happy here

with us.” The Statue of Liberty Enlightening the World was conceived as a symbol of French American friendship and shared democratic values. Designed by French sculptor Frédéric-Auguste Bartholdi, the statue was transported to the United States in 350 pieces and dedicated by President Grover Cleveland on October 28, 1886. It was designated a Na-

tional Monument in 1924 and maintained by the National Park Service since 1933. UNESCO recognizes it as a World Heritage site but remains U.S. government property. Glucksmann’s remarks are the latest in a wave of criticism from European leaders over the direction of American democracy, particularly under former

Continue **Statue** Page 6

EDUCATION



Photo Credit/THE HUB

Embracing the right time, trusting the right path: the journey of Comfort Fedoke

“Once you understand your story and find a voice for what you do, you kinda fit in every space,” Comfort Fedoke.

By Lauren Stewart

Discovering your purpose in a world full of influence is no simple task. Finding your voice in the midst of the noise can be even harder. But former Dallas ISD student, Comfort Fedoke was never meant to blend in — she was meant to stand out. Where others see challenges, she sees stepping stones. She leans into life’s uncertainty, running toward the winds of change with grace and confidence. This is the story of a woman who, on a Monday morning, received a call to move across international waters — and by Friday, she was in London. This is the story of a

woman who didn’t hesitate to answer her call. This is the story of Comfort Fedoke, associate choreographer for the 2024 film, “Wicked.” Fedoke’s journey didn’t begin with dance; it started on the track field. An injury forced her to step away from the sport, and at just eight years old, her mother enrolled her in dance classes. That’s where she found her true passion: hip-hop and street battle dance. When it came time to choose a high school, her father convinced her to audition for Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual

Continue **Fedoke** Page 5

Return to Jim Crow: Federal Regulations Rolled Back to Allow Segregation

BLACKPRESSUSA NEWSWIRE — The changes, initiated without the customary public comment period, have been implemented to align with new executive orders on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

By Stacy M. Brown

The Trump administration has blatantly resurrected segregation in federal contracting, undoing decades of civil rights progress by removing anti-segregation mandates. The alarmingly regressive move reopens the door for racially divided facilities, eerily reminiscent of the Jim Crow era, with potential “Whites Only” and


“Colored” signage in government-funded workplaces. “This isn’t just a policy shift; it’s a moral catastrophe,” stated Melissa Murray, a constitutional law professor at New York University, in an NPR interview. “We are witnessing the deliberate dismantling of civil rights protections that generations fought to secure.”


“We are witnessing the deliberate dismantling of civil rights protections that generations fought to secure.” The changes, initiated without the customary public comment period, have been implemented to align with new executive orders on diversity, equity, and inclusion. However, this sudden shift has sparked accusations of undermining democracy and transparency. An anonymous federal employee expressed outrage to NPR. “This is an outright assault on democratic norms, a covert operation to reintroduce segregation without public scrutiny,” the unnamed employee remarked. The National Institutes of Health and other federal agencies have received directives to disregard previous anti-segregation clauses in their contracting processes. Inquiries to the General

Services Administration about bypassing established procedural protocols were met with vague assurances. “The GSA is committed to implementing executive orders effectively and promptly,” GSA spokesperson Will Powell stated. Kara Sacilotto, an attorney specializing in federal contracts, pointed out the broad attack on civil rights, noting that the targeting of these protections extends beyond racial lines to include gender identity, previously expanded under the Obama administration. “It’s clear the target is not just racial equality but all forms of civil rights progress,” Sacilotto explained. Professor Murray added, “This isn’t just a rollback of civil rights protections—it’s a signal that we’re stepping back into a darker past, one that we’ve worked hard to move beyond.”

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EDITORIAL PAGE

My Day

Wrong Way!

By Dr. J. Ester Davis



Dr. J. Ester Davis

I did not participate in the recent boycott using Target as a target. My reasons are simple. It was a bad idea.

A better idea is to build what we have. What is wrong with 2025 black power? It was magnificent after slavery. Where is our worth in ourselves? When is our worth in each other going to be important enough to spend your money with another black business? What is wrong with the old days? Those days placed us here and now. Successful businesses have an intended lifeline. They are built on generations of worth? Not built in a day. Not even a couple of days.

There was a time-in-this-town when the Dallas NAACP was the undisputed “King” in memberships and volunteers. African Americas was so proud of that accomplish-

ment. The man who lead the charge for membership to the next level was Ted Watkins. Went by one day to see Craig Watkins, his nephew at his law office in South Dallas. Craig told me he had those old records and would get them down for me. However, his untimely death changed our plans.

During Black History Month 2025, the ‘GREATEST SPEAKER ... of all times, was delivered by Hiawatha Williams, CEO of Williams Chicken, who spoke matter-of-factly... quite eloquently and truthfully about his management staff today and 30 years ago. Still rising early every day for work, Mr. Williams is a soft talking Gentleman-of-Distinction with a persona that makes you only want to hear more. He spoke about ‘black mothers not wanting their sons to do this work.’ In plain English, he spoke from the heart and told black mothers, ‘It is your fault.’ For emphasis, he surveyed the room several times.... repeating this fact. Mr. Williams ended quite appropriately, absolutely, and boldly with how

many managers he has working in his businesses today and their \$60,000 a year annual salaries. He wrapped up his presentation with ‘We don’t want to work.’ We have finally come to a place and time where ‘we don’t want to work.’ And he took his seat.

The right way is to build on what we have now ... intentionally. The NAACP is our first duty. The NAACP is over 100 years old. Call the President of the Dallas NAACP Chapter, Dr. Sharon Middlebrooks, pay annual dues, or get the life membership. The Dallas NAACP’s attention to the growth of this organization and their knowledge of its history in this time and space is paramount, sheer passion laced with laborers of love. Madame President won the last election by a genuine landslide. And the able, aggressive staff are on their way to toppling the proposed Ted Watkins record. We need a robust black organization with grit as we welcome so much growth and opportunity in this city. We... can make that happen!

Secondly, the right way to build on what we have is to pay for ads in our black newspapers or podcasts. Intentionally galvanize an audience in America and another country. Network across global media lines. Our entire media world today is all aligned with growing numbers and staying power. No one cares what color you are or your income. But our black newspapers are the pillows that have stood the test of time and won the fight. They need us, and we need them. Our children need much more about our goodness and greatness as told by us. It embodies our history, not to mention... our need to read. The Good News is actually, readership is up, and our seniors depend on what our black papers say. Black newspapers in Dallas have several tenured black female publishers with lots of experience and fortitude. Again....this area is one of the premium reason we should build on what we have. Keep these businesses. The key word here is and pay for it!

Esterdavis2000@gmail.com

Job Loss And Economic Pain Are Gripping America

By James B Ewers Jr. Ed.D



James B. Ewers Jr. Ed.D

I am reminded of the time-honored expression; tough times don’t last but tough people do. We are in the throes of tough times. Some might describe it as a nightmare in real time.

When we thought it couldn’t get any worse, it has. This cycle of madness and meanness is unprecedented at least in my lifetime.

An economic avalanche has hit the United States of America. The stock market is in a state of unrest and uncertainty. Many are placing blame and throwing shade at the new group in Washington DC.

Citizens regardless of their political affiliation believe that we are in a moment of crisis. Lawmakers when they return home to give updates are being booed off the stage.

This is what happened

to Republican Congressman Chuck Edwards from North Carolina recently. He was in Asheville where the city is still recovering from devastating floods some months ago.

One person in attendance asked, “How do you justify cuts to staff of the VA helping veterans especially those with long-term care needs.? The Congressman responded by saying, “Like him or not, Elon Musk has brought a lot of really smart people.”

In my opinion that was a frail and puny response to that question. Reports show that the Veterans Administration is preparing to lay off 80,000 staffers. Can you get the gravity of how letting go that number of people will affect the delivery of services?

The GOP has been advised not to do town halls and public assemblies. So, it begs the question, how do voters get updates and questions answered? It appears that the new trend in DC is to do it by sending out emails. As we can see now, that is a popular way to be told you are being fired. That is appalling at every level of

decency and humanity.

These cuts and gashes are also occurring at the US Department of Education. First off, if you have a family member who is going to college now, you should be worried. If you have a relative who will be graduating from high school in the coming months, be watchful about the future.

The leader of the US Department of Education proudly said that she is putting herself out of a job and that the dismantling of the department is her final mission. Let’s be clear and know that she is a millionaire.

What will happen to Pell grants and loans? Will they disappear from the higher education landscape? Will Trio programs like Upward Bound and Student Support Services be upended? Will summer enrichment programs and internship programs be dissolved?

All these questions are being juggled by people who are far removed from real America. They are living in a bubble of bad ideas and bad practices. They share the same philosophy of their leader.

I wonder what the current vice president of the United States of America JD Vance thinks about all these education cuts. He was raised in a working-class family in Middletown Ohio. I wonder if he is familiar with a Pell Grant or a student loan?

National reports say the US Department of Education will cut approximately 1300 employees. These are men and women in the department with varying years of experience.

What this means to me is that the remaining staff will be stretched thin as they try to provide services for families. In addition, colleges and universities will feel the adverse effects of these drastic measures.

Dismissals and discharges have also affected the Internal Revenue Service. The Associated Press reports the agency is getting ready to cut its workforce in half. There are approximately 90,000 employees in the IRS.

We are in troubling times. When you have a moment, listen to Lord You Are Good, a song sung by Todd Galberth. It will strengthen you and make you know that this trouble is only temporary.

THE TRUTH CLINIC - Let Us Rise Up and Build (Neh. 2-18) - Part 4 will continue in or next edition, March 27. 2025. -

RELIGIOUS/NEWS

The Superior Priesthood of Christ

Hebrews 7:23-28



Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith

The author of this superb book of Hebrews has written with an aim of proving that Jesus Christ is Superior to anything that Judaism has to offer. In his lofty argument, he has proven convincingly that Jesus is Superior (better than) the Prophets (Hebrews 1:1-3) because the Prophets' revelation was only partial and fragmentary; however, God's revelation found its finality with or in Christ. The author presented further that Jesus Christ is Superior to Angels (Hebrews 1:4-2:18) for Angels, who were highly revered by the Jews, were mere messengers; whereas, Christ is the Son who will inherit the Messianic Kingdom! In Hebrews 3:1-6, the author directed our attention to the truth that Jesus Christ is Superior to Moses, because Moses was a servant in the house, but Christ is the blessed Son who made the house. Thus far, the author has unfolded some very astonishing warning passages that consist of: the danger of drifting (Hebrews 2:1-4), the danger of hardening the heart (Hebrews 3:7-4:13), and the danger of falling away (Hebrews 5:11-6:20).

In the author's consideration of the Melchizedecan Priesthood, of which Jesus Christ is a type, the author has proven that the Melchizedecan Priesthood is superior to the Aaronic Priesthood. Melchizedek was a mysterious figure who lived prior to the establishment of the Aaronic Priesthood. He was the king of Salem or Jerusalem, the city of peace. His name means king of righteous. King of peace, king of righteousness are the titles that could be applied to Jesus. This has been proven historically, for Abraham honored Melchizedek above Levi; also it was proven doctrinally, for Psalm 110:4 definitely states that God has made a change in the priesthood and thus, in the Mosaic Law. Since Levitical Priesthood stemmed from Abraham, even priest born of Aaron were involved through Abraham in the payment of tithes. By tithing to Melchizedek and receiving a blessing from him, Abraham demonstrated that Melchizedek was his superior (Heb. 7:4-10). Continuing his presentation on the Superior Priesthood of Jesus Christ, let us observe: "The Continuing Priesthood of Christ" and "The Capable Priest-

hood of Christ."

I. The Continuing Priesthood of Christ – Hebrews 7:23-24

The Aaronic Priesthood of the Old Testament always ended by death. The Lord Jesus is able to minister for us effectively because He is a continuing Priest. As the writer of Hebrews says in verse 23-24: "And they were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death. But this man, because He continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood." The Old Testament priests were limited by length of life in their bringing people near to God. Christ, however, through His saving work and intercession provides continual access into God's presence. His work is not hindered by death.

Our Lord, who died for our sins, will not be dying anymore. Jesus Christ has an unchangeable priesthood because He lives by the power of an endless life! Thank God that Jesus Christ has an unchangeable priesthood, and we can call on Him at any time, for Hebrews 4:14-16 says: "Seeing

then that we have a great High Priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of out infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Having discussed "The Continuing Priesthood of Christ", let us observe "The Capable Priesthood of Christ."

II. The Capable Priesthood of Christ – Hebrews 7:25-28

The Lord Jesus is a qualified and capable priest, more capable than any Aaronic priest because He represented guilty mankind on the cross; and in so doing, He satisfied God's righteous indignation against sin. His death on the cross fully satisfied God's wrath against sin. Note that Jesus is referred to as "this man." This emphasizes Christ's humanity. His incarnation and death enable Him to function as our Priest because of

His sacrifice that He offered. As our High Priest, His offering is acceptable for our forgiveness. In verse 25, because of Christ's Person and position, He can save to the uttermost. Uttermost means completely, entirely or perfectly. By having the qualities of both God and man, Jesus knows the will of God and the trials of man; so He can act as the Perfect Mediator.

As our perfect High Priest, His life served as a marvelous testimony, for Hebrews 7:26 says: "For such an High Priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens." His life on earth was undefiled, without any taint of sin! Although He mingled with sinners, He was separate from them. In verse 27, Aaron and his sons had to offer daily sacrifices, for themselves first, and then for the people. Christ, however, was sinless and His one sacrifice forever settled the sin problem. In verse 28, Aaron and his sons had infirmities of one kind or another; but Christ is unblemished and free from all sin and weakness.

In summation, thank God that Christ's eternal priesthood brought surety of a better testament. Jesus' death and resurrection are God's guarantee that the promises of the new covenant will be fulfilled. Better testament, meaning covenant, compares the New Covenant established by Christ to the Mosaic Covenant. The Mosaic Covenant demanded fulfillment of the law for acceptance with God. We gain acceptance with God through faith in Jesus Christ's finished work on Calvary, because the New Covenant institutes salvation through the blood of Jesus Christ.

*"What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus,
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus."*

*"Oh, precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus".*

May God Bless!

~ VACATION DESTINATIONS ~
(Solution, will appear on page 5, March 27)

- ACROSS
- 1. Aladdin's find
 - 5. Reggae precursor
 - 8. "Lights out" signal
 - 12. Not good
 - 13. Flock's echo
 - 14. ____ diet, a.k.a. caveman diet
 - 15. Kind of jerk
 - 16. *Southern and Southwestern U.S. region: Sun ____
 - 17. Financial backer
 - 18. *Switzerland's skiing destination (2 words)
 - 20. Ivan the Terrible, e.g.
 - 21. Clint Eastwood's "Play ____ for Me"
 - 22. One in a pod
 - 23. Wear out
 - 26. Masculine
 - 30. *Princess' turf
 - 31. Makes a sum (2 words)
 - 34. "He's Just Not That ____ You"
 - 35. Dionysus' pipe-playing companion
 - 37. Choose
 - 38. Provide food
 - 39. Answer from a tunnel
 - 40. Virtual you
 - 42. ____ Scare
 - 43. Prickly plant
 - 45. *Second "National Lampoon's Vacation" destination
 - 47. Biblical Adam's partner
 - 48. Cause and effect cycle?
 - 50. Goals
 - 52. *Jamaica and Cayman Islands location
 - 56. Bert's sidekick
 - 57. Poet Pound
 - 58. Hay bundle
 - 59. "The Great Gatsby" author
 - 60. Billiards relative
 - 61. Theories
 - 62. ____-deaf
 - 63. Boar's mate
 - 64. Reason to cram

- DOWN
- 1. Not more
 - 2. Swear, not curse
 - 3. Between mini and maxi
 - 4. Bodily fluid
 - 5. Small silvery fish
 - 6. ____ G. of "SpongeBob SquarePants"
 - 7. Aardvark's repast
 - 8. *Serengeti National Park location
 - 9. Aquatic plant
 - 10. Pressure inducer
 - 11. *Costa del ____, Spain
 - 13. Humiliated
 - 14. Eucharistic plate
 - 19. Fretted instrument
 - 22. OB-GYN test
 - 23. Balance sheet item
 - 24. *Coastal destination
 - 25. Policeman's club in India
 - 26. Cockapoo or Puggle, e.g.
 - 27. Foreword
 - 28. Make tea
 - 29. Vast multitude
 - 32. Peace symbol
 - 33. *Rest and relaxation destination
 - 36. *El Capitan and Half Dome location
 - 38. Pigeon food?
 - 40. Brewery order
 - 41. Acrobatic move
 - 44. Living room centerpiece?
 - 46. Velveteen creature
 - 48. Type of membranophone
 - 49. Cupid's ammo
 - 50. Gas station brand
 - 51. Aware of a secret (2 words)
 - 52. Porcinos
 - 53. "At ____, soldier"
 - 54. Charitable contribution
 - 55. Hawk's aerie, e.g.
 - 56. Time in NYC

Statepoint Crossword Puzzle
Theme: VACATION DESTINATIONS

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4			5	6	7			8	9	10	11
12						13					14			
15						16					17			
18					19						20			
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23	24	25						26				27	28	29
30					31		32	33			34			
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	50	51					52					53	54	55
56							57				58			
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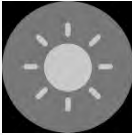
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L - 40°

Friday, Mar. 21




H - 77°
L - 57°

Saturday, Mar. 22



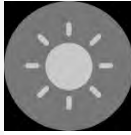
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L - 67°

Sunday, Mar. 23



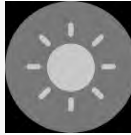
H - 85°
L - 61°

Monday, Mar. 24




H - 71°
L - 56°

Tuesday, Mar. 25



H - 74°
L - 64°

Wednesday, Mar. 26



H - 81°
L - 64°
40%

South American soccer president apologizes for comparing Brazilian clubs to Tarzan's chimp

By MAURICIO SAVARESE AP Sports Writer

SAO PAULO (AP) — Alejandro Domínguez, the president of South American soccer body CONMEBOL, apologized Tuesday for his remarks the previous day comparing Brazilian clubs to a chimpanzee from Tarzan films.

Domínguez told journalists the previous night after the Copa Libertadores draw in Paraguay that the South American club tournament without Brazilian teams that have dominated it in recent years would be "like Tarzan without Cheetah."

"Regarding my recent statement, I want to express my apologies," Domínguez said in a statement. "The expression I used is a popular phrase and I never intended to belittle or discredit anyone. The CONMEBOL Libertadores is unthinkable without the participation of clubs from the 10 member countries. I reaffirm my commitment to continue

working for a fairer, more united soccer, free from discrimination."

CONMEBOL has been under increased pressure to act decisively against racism. Moments before his comment to journalists, Domínguez spoke in Portuguese and claimed CONMEBOL has worked hard to stop racism. Several Brazilian players and fans have been targeted by monkey chants at away matches in recent years, which has also brought more pressure on the confederation's president to act.

The most recent case took place on March 6, when Palmeiras U-20 striker Luighi spoke with tears in his eyes about the racism he had endured from fans of Paraguay's Cerro Porteno in a U-20 Copa Libertadores match. Later, CONMEBOL fined the club \$50,000 and banned its supporters from attending the tournament,

which Brazilian clubs saw as a timid punishment.

Domínguez, who is from Paraguay, said in prepared remarks at the draw that he is sensitive to "Luighi's pain."


"Our challenge is to be fair to those who are responsible for these acts," Domínguez said. "CONMEBOL applies sanctions and does everything in its power to change this reality. But it is not enough."

Brazil midfielder Bruno Guimarães criticized Domínguez during a press conference ahead of his team's World Cup qualifying match against Colombia on Thursday.

"The president of CONMEBOL has a lot more to worry about that doing that kind of joke. We saw what happened in Luighi's case, the punishment given to Cerro Porteno was a tremendous lack of respect," Guimarães said in Brasilia.

The President is the Symptom Not The Disease

By: Dr. John E. Warren, Publisher
San Diego Voice & Viewpoint Newspaper



Dr. John E. Warren

The actions of the U.S. Congress and Senate on the Presidential confirmations of a host of people not qualified to hold the positions they sought and the free hand that the President has given to Elon Musk, a non-elected person exercising control over Constitutionally created governmental entities, without a word of challenge or objection, all point to an issue much bigger than the President himself. That issue is America's loss of its "moral compass" and the disease underlying the loss itself. Plainly stated, that disease is "Racism," which has become more important than the democratic principles that provide the foundations for our Constitutional form of government.

Racism says when the President calls some emerging countries "S - -holes" rather than human beings seeking the same freedoms we enjoy, there are people in this nation who agree with him but would rather not have it known. When the President moves against the influx of migrants because the country appears to be overrun with illegals, there are many who agree but would rather not have their positions known to those they pretend to like or tolerate. When the President declares war on DEI and affirmative action, both of which were created to level the playing field for those who were already being written out of the dream, even though they were born with citizenship, there are those who agree with him that too many are already getting too much of the pie which, according to some, should not be the case.

The problem is that everything the President is doing by force, indifference to the law, and disregard for the Oath of Office he took when becoming President for the second time should have been expressed within the legal bounds of Due

Process, which our constitutional form of government permits with checks and balances as safeguards against what we are currently experiencing.

There is a cure for this disease that is eating at the very fabric of our democratic form of government. First, we must return to being the God-fearing nation we have been called to be with respect for the rights of all, including those we disagree with. We must elect people to office who will take their oath of office seriously and respect the God-given rights of all. We must not be afraid to remove from office those who fail to "Protect the Constitution From All Enemies, Foreign and Domestic". While we know from past experience that we can not remove this President through impeachment, we can remove those who fail to exercise their votes and responsibilities in support of our Constitution. This is also a time to use our dollars as wisely as our votes. Between the two, we can defeat this to the extent we save our way of life as we work collectively to do and be better than what we have.

Continued Fedoke Page 1

Arts, assuring her they offered hip-hop classes. She was accepted, but soon discovered there were no hip-hop classes. Instead, her father guided her toward a world of limitless artistic possibilities.

At Booker T. , what seemed like a setback became a turning point. Fedoke was introduced to a new realm of movement and expression, expanding her artistic lens beyond hip-hop.

She found inspiration in Teresa Espinosa, a Booker T. alumna who helped shape her style.

"This is where dreams are made," said Fedoke, recalling the moment she realized legends like Erykah Badu once walked the same halls.

Dallas ISD broadened her perspective, challenging her to think beyond limits and embrace new possibilities.

Fedoke stepped onto the national stage, competing in season 4 of "So You Think You Can Dance." She later returned as an all-star in season 7 and a guest judge in season 18.

It was the toughest challenge yet for a bold, self-proclaimed country girl from Dallas, but she leaned on the foundation she built at Booker T. and kept pushing.

Fedoke has graced countless stages and performed alongside the biggest names in the industry. One standout moment came when Missy Elliott held a cattle call in Los Angeles, auditioning hundreds of dancers — yet Comfort was the only one chosen.

It was a testament to her ability to trust her instincts,

study the artist, apply her technique, and think beyond the expected.

Missy's words reinforced Comfort's uniqueness. In that moment, she recognized that she was forging her own path, staying true to her journey and process.

Comfort's belief in nurturing relationships and never burning bridges led her to one of the most defining moments of her career: "Wicked."

One Monday morning, Comfort received a call from a former "SYTYCD" colleague, asking if she would ever consider moving to London to join a crew. Little did she know, her affirmative response would mean packing up and moving across the world just four days later.

Fedoke served as associate choreographer for the film "Wicked," collaborating closely with choreographer Christopher Scott. Together, they poured their artistry into the performances of Cynthia Erivo, who portrayed Elphaba, and Ariana Grande, who played Glinda.

One of the film's most iconic moments — the ballroom scene — was a creation of Fedoke, born out of a shift in the original choreography. When the scripted plans were scrapped, she tapped into her foundation, crafting movement so powerful that it moved both actresses to tears.

After spending two years in London, Comfort's work resonates in homes and movie theaters worldwide.

Fedoke advises rising dance stars and students to remain adaptable, think creatively, and continually ex-

pand their understanding of various dance styles. She emphasizes the importance of building a strong community and network of relationships, trusting your unique path, staying grounded, and always listening to something bigger than yourself.

"Don't let your setbacks or what we call failures define you," she said. "They're simply guides to show you what you'll never do again."

While adaptability is key, Comfort also believes it's essential to nurture your individuality.

"Feed yourself first," she said. "Don't lose yourself in the pressure to fit into a mold."

Comfort's future is filled with promise as she looks forward to leaving an even bigger mark on the industry. With a passion for growth, she's excited to explore new horizons, including stepping into the world of film directing and continuing to break new ground in her career.

In honor of Women's History Month, we recognize the remarkable journey of Comfort Fedoke—a woman who exemplifies vision, resilience, and the courage to embrace every opportunity.

Her story is one of fearlessness—of stepping into the unknown, trusting her instincts, and forging her own path. As a former Dallas ISD student, she is a testament to the impact of education, mentorship, and community in shaping future leaders. Today, as associate choreographer for "Wicked," she continues to break barriers and inspire others to follow their dreams.

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Trump says he's ending Secret Service protection for Biden's adult children

By **ZEKE MILLER** and **MICHELLE L. PRICE** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump said Monday he was ending "immediately" the Secret Service protection details assigned to Democrat Joe Biden's adult children, which the former president had extended to July shortly before leaving office in January.

The Republican president on social media objected to what he said were 18 agents assigned to Hunter Biden's protective detail while in South Africa this week. He said Ashley Biden has 13 agents assigned to her detail and that she too "will be taken off the list."

There was no immediate reaction from the former president's office.

Former presidents and their spouses receive lifelong Secret Service protection under federal law, but the protection afforded to their immediate families over the age of 16 ends when they leave office. But outgoing presidents can extend protection for those who might otherwise not be eligible for up to six months after they leave office, something Biden did for his children and Trump did for his family after leaving office in 2021. Former Presidents Barack Obama and George W. Bush also extended protection for their families for a period.

"We are aware of the President's decision to terminate protection for Hunter and Ashley

Biden," the agency said in a statement. "The Secret Service will comply and is actively working with the protective details and the White House to ensure compliance as soon as possible."

While touring the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Monday afternoon, a reporter asked Trump if he would revoke the protection for the former president's son.

"Well, we have done that with many. I would say if there are 18 with Hunter Biden, that will be something I'll look at this afternoon," Trump said, who added this was the first time he heard about the matter.

"I'm going to take a look at that," he said.

Continued **Statue** Page 1

President Donald Trump. His policies on immigration, which included detaining families at the border, restricting asylum, and implementing travel bans, drew widespread condemnation. Glucksmann and his party argue that Trump's approach not only abandoned the ideals symbolized by the Statue of Liberty but actively undermined them, targeting Black and

Brown immigrants while fueling nationalist rhetoric.

French leaders have not been shy in their criticism of Trump's foreign policy. Prime Minister François Bayrou condemned the White House's treatment of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and the temporary freeze on military aid to Ukraine, warning that such actions strengthened Russia's position. Glucksmann's party has gone further, cal-

ling Trump's leadership "authoritarian" and accusing him of delivering Ukraine "on a silver platter" to Russia. Glucksmann's speech directly referenced The New Colossus, the 1883 poem by Emma Lazarus inscribed on the statue's pedestal. He invoked its message of refuge and freedom, only to argue that those ideals no longer reflect today's United States. "Today, this land is ceasing to be what it was," Glucksmann said.

Keith Green Presents "Unbuttoned" — A Bold Journey Through Color, Texture, and Emotion

PLANO, TX — March 18, 2025 — On April 12, 2025, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, Ten20 Gallery (1001 14th Street #200, Plano, TX 75075) will open its doors for "Unbuttoned," a captivating solo exhibition by Texas-based artist Keith Green.

"Unbuttoned" is an unapologetic celebration of freedom, movement, and raw emotion. In this dynamic collection, color moves without boundaries, textures whisper untold stories, and every brushstroke becomes an invitation to pause, feel, and connect. Green's work refuses to sit politely within the confines of a frame — instead, it reaches out to pull viewers into a world where creativity flows untethered and expectation is left at the door.

Keith Green, a creative force from Grand Prairie, Texas, brings a rich and unexpected journey to his art. A former Arkansas Razorback football player, Keith transitioned from the intense discipline of the field to the expressive world of hip-hop choreography, and ultimately to painting — picking up his first brush in 2014. His evolution as an artist is as striking as his artwork: a metamorphosis shaped by rhythm, athleticism, and a deep connection to music.

"My art is like a beat you can see," says Green. "It's about movement, emotion, and telling stories without words."

Each of Green's abstract pieces bursts with vibrant life and layered textures, shaped by the rhythm of choreographed beats and the relentless drive of his athletic past. His unique ability to visualize music transforms his paintings into immersive experiences, offering viewers more than just something to see — something to feel.

With "Unbuttoned," Keith invites the public to let go, embrace the unexpected, and step into a world where creativity is a release, a moment of escape, and a powerful expression of self.

Event Details:
Date: Saturday, April 12, 2025
Time: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Location: Ten20 Gallery, 1001 14th Street #200, Plano, TX 75075

This exhibition is free and open to the public. Join us for an evening of art, conversation, and connection as we experience the world "Unbuttoned."

For media inquiries, interviews, or more information, please contact:
Instagram: @kg_abstracts

Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/share/19pWSSULaj/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Follow Keith Green on social media:
Instagram: [*@KeithGreenArt*]
Facebook: [*Keith Green Art*]

~ EXHIBIT ~



Continued **Survey** Page 4

Wildfires fueled by high winds swept across the state on Friday. The Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management said Sunday evening that over 400 homes were damaged statewide. Officials said Sunday that at least four people had died because of the severe weather in Oklahoma.

Jeremy Cook was among the residents in Stillwater, a city of about 50,000 located about 65 miles (100 kilometers) northeast of Oklahoma City, who returned home Saturday morning to find that his house was gone. Cook told The Oklahoman that when his family fled Friday, they loaded up three cars with photographs, pets, books, and paintings.

After returning to find his home burned to the foundation, he said he was going back and forth "between laughing and crying."

At least 74 homes in and around Stillwater were destroyed by wildfires, Mayor Will Joyce said Sunday night on Facebook. Fire Chief Terry Essary said at a news conference Saturday that the fires spread rapidly and crews had difficulty containing each one because of the high winds and low humidity. He said they quickly became overwhelmed.

"Nobody has enough resources to fight fires when the wind is blowing 70

mph," Essary said. "It's an insurmountable task."

The Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management said on Sunday evening that the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner had confirmed four fatalities related to the fires or high winds across the state. There was one death each in Lincoln, Garfield, Haskell, and Pawnee counties.

Details were not given on the deaths in Haskell and Pawnee counties. Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management spokesperson Keli Cain said a person in Garfield County was killed in a vehicle accident due to poor visibility due to dust or smoke and that a man died in Lincoln County.

Deborah Ferguson told News 9 that her husband, Allen Ferguson, was killed in Lincoln County. She said that her husband and her 15-year-old son had been fighting a wildfire in a pasture on Friday, and as they fled on a four-wheeler, it crashed into a tree amid heavy smoke. She said her son was badly burned and is hospitalized.

Erin O'Connor, a spokesperson with the Texas A&M Forest Service, said the region on Friday had the "perfect recipe for wildfires" with high winds, dry conditions and above normal temperatures.