

UHD celebrates diversity, inclusion with annual Houston Pride Parade in support of beloved LGBTQ community



Members of UHD's Pride Float. Courtesy: Antre'chelle Dorsey

BY AMY NGUYEN

On June 25, Houston held the 44th annual LGBTQ Pride Celebration at City Hall after a two-year hiatus resulting from the pandemic, and the festival amassed almost a million attendees.

The celebration premiered with a festival from 1 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. while the parade went from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

The theme of the celebration was "The Beat Goes On" and

featured headliner Coi Leray along with several DJs, artists, and grand marshals.

Families were able to enjoy face painting, story time, and food from many vendors.

On June 11, a Pride Parade in Idaho was nearly riotous by nationalist group Patriot Front, and on June 24, the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade.

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Professor Toni Hoang helps inaugurate communications graduate program, shares expert insight on communicating during crisis



Courtesy: UHD

BY INDIRA ZALDIVAR

A proud UHD alumna and native Houstonian, Associate Professor of Communication Studies Toni Hoang was a reliable expert during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic and now finds herself thrilled to expand

what the university offers. Her role in the region's first graduate strategic communication's program is one of her latest accomplishments.

Hoang is one of the faculty members who founded the new strategic communications program inaugurating in the fall semester. She met with industry professionals and discussed what knowledge, skills, abilities, and other qualifications are required for specialists in their fields and agencies. Hoang also helped develop curricula for the program.

"I'm thrilled at the opportunity to teach my first graduate course," Hoang said. "I look forward to engaging with graduate students in ways that my former mentors supported me."

For leaders having to communicate during crisis, Hoang

recommends remaining calm, practicing clear and timely information, planning, and pre-crisis planning. Perhaps the most recent crisis to many was the pandemic.

Health communication theories drove how stakeholders and government officials managed ever-evolving states of information, amplified COVID-19 literacy, and determined how people related to those experiencing varying levels of grief and trauma associated with the pandemic.

As an expert and author of many journal articles on the subject matter, Hoang was a featured panelist in the Fall 2020 Communication Studies Symposium centered on communicating in COVID-19.

PROFESSOR HOANG continued on page 4

UHD mourns passing of former Interim President

BY SONIA SANCHEZ

Former Interim UHD President Michael A. Olivias passed away at 71 years old on April 22 in his home in Santa Fe, New Mexico, due to blood clot complications from a recent knee surgery. UHD President Loren J. Blanchard released a statement announcing the passing of the former interim president.

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Courtesy: UHD



Houston Drought

5

Credit: A. P.



Roe v Wade overturn

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Credit: S. H.



Pokemon Go Events

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Courtesy: G. O.

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UH System students to access NASA career opportunities

BY SHAWN AWAGU

The University of Houston System and NASA's Johnson Space Center, located in Clear Lake, announced a new partnership. The two organizations will cooperate on "joint research, technology development, technology transfer, training, and educational and outreach initiatives," ABC13 reported early June.

The partnership with UHS will encompass undergraduate, graduate, and joint research programs, per a June 10 signing ceremony.

Chancellor of the UH System Renu Khator attended the ceremony, appearing alongside the presidents Loren Blanchard and Richard Walker of UHD and UH-Clear Lake, respectively. The latter campus maintains an already-existing relationship with NASA since the establishment of the JSC in 1961, then named the Manned Spaceflight Center.

JSC Director Vanessa Wyche was also present at the signing ceremony, discussing the future partnership that would "reduce gaps in mission relevant technology development."

The JSC "has a long history of working with colleges and universities that will enable us to meet nation's exploration goals and advance human spaceflight," according to a press release of the event stated by Wyche.

The partnership will collaborate with UHD's Department of Urban Education under the College of Public Service. NASA's Office of STEM Engagement will target students in the department "to identify learning opportunities and expand outreach through seminars and

campus-wide open houses."

Many STEM and business industries are facing critical workforce shortages, according to the press release. The partnership will enable UHS students to access working relationships with NASA and JSC.

"Houston is 'Space City,'" Khator commented at the ceremony, "it's important for students and faculty to have opportunities to engage in and be exposed to real world space flight-related research and technology developments."



Credit: Sarah Ramirez

PRIDE

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On the same day, Justice Clarence Thomas discussed reconsidering same-sex rights, and Gov. Greg Abbott and his cabinet raised attacks against the transgender community, but those events did not stop celebrations and the resilience of Houston's LGBTQ community.

"So many different companies showing their support... It was so amazing seeing everyone express themselves in their own style," said UHD student Sarah Ramirez. "I went with my best friends which was our first time going to the pride festival together. Overall, super fun. Hopefully it's not that hot next year."

UHD's Center for Diversity & Inclusion, Student Affairs, other departments, faculty, and students walked in the parade along with a university vehicle proudly displaying the UHD banner.

"Our reception as the UHD banner entered the parade route with the giant UHD flag waving from the back of a UHD Facilities truck was incredible," said Direc-



tor of UHD's Center for Diversity & Inclusion John Hudson. "Chants of 'That's my school!' and 'Go Gators!' could be heard as we made our way down the route. Hearing people cheer and claim us as their school – and doing so proudly – was incredibly gratifying."

The Pride events were organized by Pride Houston 365, a non-profit group that works to celebrate Houston's LGBTQ community, raise critical funds for youth scholarships, and offer ongoing health and wellness education.

This month commemorates the Stonewall Rebellion that occurred on the night of June 28, 1969, after New York City police raided Stonewall Inn, sparking violent resistance and becoming an international catalyst for LGBTQ rights. As the Pride celebrations remain illegal in many countries around the

world, brave LGBTQ activists and allies risk beatings, murder, arrest, imprisonment, and execution for celebrating and publicly acknowledging who they are.

The university's participation in the parade events, including UHD volunteers hosting a tent, was crucial for representation and visibility.

"We are a welcoming, inclusive institution, and we have a place for all as we celebrated Houston's first pride parade since the pandemic began," Hudson added. "We all felt like we made a powerful statement." UHD will continue to be visible in the Pride events for years to come.

To further aid the community, students can attend diversity events offered by UHD and the city of Houston to listen, learn, and support the LGBTQ community. Students should stay engaged after the celebration ends and speak up in social circles when someone says something hurtful or ignorant because silence is complicity. In other words, one must become comfortable with being uncomfortable to grow.

HAHMP offers scholarships, workshops, networking events for media students

BY DALILA JUAREZ

The Houston Association of Hispanic Media Professionals hosted a networking event on June 15 welcoming those interested in entering the media industry and a chance to meet and learn from media professionals.

This was an opportunity for many students, especially Gators majoring in media and public communications, who were in attendance.

HAHMP is a media and communications organization that offers network and scholarship opportunities for students.

"People may not be aware of the benefits of networking. You never know who you will meet. It is a step closer to landing the job of your dreams," HAHMP member Johanna Gutierrez expressed.

Making connections in the industry

one desires to enter is vital, according to Gutierrez.

"If you make a great impression on someone, they will remember your name and will try to have you working in their business," Gutierrez continued.

The event included HAHMP President and Assistant Brand Manager of Audacy Inc. Liz Arreola, Vice President Cesar Procel from Univision, former HAHMP President Nelson Vanegas, and more. The organization provided food and drinks for those who attended.

Arreola arranged a "Speed Network"

activity for attendees to communicate with everyone by rotating seats and getting to know each other for a time limit of three minutes. Once the session ended, Arreola and Procel proceeded with a giveaway raffle that included Houston Astros and concert tickets.

Look out for future media events by following the organization on Instagram @ HAHMP. The organization is currently accepting donations to provide scholarships for students. Anyone interested in joining the organization may visit their website at HAHMP.org.



Courtesy: J Torres (instagram: @jescreatr)

INTERIM PRESIDENT

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University of Houston System Chancellor Renu Khator selected Olivas to administer as interim president at UHD in 2016 through-out early 2017. In his 2016 introduction email to UHD students, Olivas said that one reason he holds a special regard for UHD is that several of his nieces and nephews are UHD alumni.

“I deeply support the mission of UHD to offer strong academic and career preparation and lifelong learning opportunities,” he said in the introduction email.

While serving as interim president at UHD, Olivas honored his commitment to his UH law students by continuing to teach his class.

During his time as interim president at UHD, Olivas left a legacy. UHD alum, Heather Strange recalled, “The work President Olivas did was substantial because he paved the way for Latinos, Chicanos and Native-identifying Hispanics in law.”

President Blanchard bragged that Olivas’ “most notable achievements” as interim president included a \$10 million gift that named the Marilyn Davies College

of Business, the purchase of a 17-acre land parcel north of the campus’ One Main Building, and articulation agreements with Houston Community College and Lone Star College to help students transition from a two-year to a four-year university.

Olivas dedicated nearly four decades to the UH System. For 38 years, Olivas served as a faculty member at the University of Houston Law Center culminating as the William B. Bates Distinguished Chair of Law and was the founder and Director of the Institute for Higher Education Law & Governances before retiring in 2019.

Olivas helped a Texas state representative draft the successful 10%, which gave diverse students the opportunity to attend public universities in Texas. Olivas contributed on the federal level to the implementation of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. He also helped articulate the legal framework to allow migrant students such as “Dreamers” to pay in-state tuition at Texas higher education institutions.

When Olivas started in the academy, there were only 22 Latino law professors. In response, he created “The

Dirty Dozen List,” a list of 12 law schools in the nation that had a large Hispanic community but did not have a single Latino law professor. He also founded the Latino Law Professor Association and served as a mentor to law professors all over the country.

Before his death, UH announced that a space at their new O’Quinn Law Building will be named the Olivas-Reyes Reading Room in honor of Olivas and his wife, retired Professor Emerita Augustina H. Reyes. UH Law Center hosted a “celebration of life” event for Olivas in person and virtually via Zoom on June 16, 2022. The First Annual Olivas Writing Institute will be held virtually by Zoom on July 21-22, 2022 at Florida International University’s College of Law, and registration is free. Also, The AALS is renaming their annual event as the Michael Olivas Annual AALS Dinner.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to MALDEF, 634 S. Spring St. 11th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90014 or to student scholarship funds that Olivas set up at the UH Law Center for the Hispanic Law Alumni Scholarship Fund in memory of Michael A. Olivas.

THE DATELINE

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Submission Policy

The Dateline staff consists of students from UHD who complete all tasks required to produce the newspaper, which serves all UHD campuses. The opinions and commentaries expressed within reflect the views of the contributing writers. No opinions expressed in The Dateline reflect the viewpoints of UHD, its administration, or students.

The Dateline reserves the right to edit or modify submissions for the sake of clarity, content, grammar, or space limitations. All submissions become property of The Dateline and may not be returned. All paid writers must be currently enrolled students at UHD. All paid writers must also complete vendor registration with the University of Houston System prior to contributing. Press releases, story ideas, news tips and suggestions are always welcomed. We encourage all students to contribute.

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Professor Hoang

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Early in the pandemic, Hoang explained that when uncertainty is high and information confidence is low, the risks associated with the virus were not clearly understood. As weeks and months passed, experts continued to learn about the virus and educate communities.

Despite efforts, disbelief or inaction manifested by choosing not to keep a safe distance from others, wear a mask despite mandates or remaining unvaccinated despite consequences.

“From a health and crisis communication perspective, education and awareness may not be enough for attitude and behavior change,” Hoang said. “As the world witnessed its

susceptibility to the pandemic, fears about the virus were relieved by clear and specific actions to reduce the spread. More importantly, people began to understand how they each play a role in carrying out these actions.”

These crisis communication theories are further explored in the new strategic communications master’s degree.

Graduate programs can be a turning point, emphasized Hoang who spoke from experience. During an unfulfilling experience working at a corporate bank office for two years, Hoang reminisced on her former communication classes and professors.

She went on to pursue a master’s degree at UH which developed a curiosity for health and

communication issues. To her surprise, she was encouraged by a former mentor to apply to doctoral programs and now hopes to return the favor to incoming communication-studies graduate students.

Personal attention from professors through “small and engaging” classes is Hoang’s favorite perk from choosing to pursue a degree at UHD in comparison to other large universities before joining the faculty at UHD.

Another benefit of studying at UHD, Hoang said based on both her experience as an undergraduate student and a faculty member, is inclusivity. When it was founded, UHD boasted open admissions, and today the university offers multiple programs for minority studies including the Center for Diversity & Inclusion,

Center for Critical Race Studies, and Center for Latino Studies.

“Diverse perspectives are essential for learning from others,” Hoang said.

“UHD is educating the fastest growing student population and excels through culturally sensitive curricula, caring faculty and staff, and inclusive environment which promotes students’ development of their identity and self-worth.”

As a proud Philippina woman, Hoang said that UHD is in a great position to support members of the AAPI community and hopes that future academic programming or centers be developed specifically in the area of Asian Studies and social justice.

On a personal note, Toni Hoang is a lover of travel who does not have to go far to

enjoy a change of pace, scenery, food, and way of life. As a product of her profound AAPI heritage, Filipino and Thai cuisine are her favorite foods, and she celebrates her cultural heritage everyday with family, friends, colleagues, and students.

She wants to encourage Gators to find ways to serve whether it

is in class, work, home, religious services, or book club.

“Your presence matters, and your contributions are valuable to those around you,” she said. “Not everything comes with a distinct leadership title. Serve and lead through your actions and commitment.”



Dr. Hoang poses for selfie Courtesy: Dr. Toni Hoang

ISA struggles through pandemic, re-surges in 2021 school year

BY ASTI PHEA

The International Society of Automation is a professional group with student chapters. Our chapter “suffered due to the pandemic.

The faculty mentor worked to keep ISA in existence at UHD,” says Irene Prado, president of the UHD chapter of ISA. The ISA’s student

officers worked extensively during the 2021 - 2022 school year to revitalize the organization when returning to campus after the pandemic. Their efforts resulted in the new growth of the organization.

The cabinet was formed in Fall 2021. Vice president Briana Canizales stepped up to help get more students

involved, and Prado worked on the administrative aspects of managing the documentation required to maintain the UHD chapter of ISA.

“It helps us move forward in our professional careers by giving us access to connect with mentors who are already working in the industry. If you want to

get jobs, it is important to know people,” Prado on the importance of ISA.

The UHD chapter of ISA arranges field trips to companies in various industries related to automation, such as drilling and oil and gas.

Canizales explains that field trip visits to companies “help students decide on a career path.” Canizales said ISA shows “the numerous opportunities out there” for students.

Both officers reflected on receiving mentorships throughout this opportunity.

“The faculty helps us get in contact with their network and do a really good job with connecting students with internships. Next week they are bringing in a speaker from

NASA.”

Weining Feng is the faculty mentor for the UHD chapter of ISA and the Program Coordinator of Control & Instrumentation Engineering Technology.

“Dr. Feng has also actually done quite a bit of reaching out to previous students to have them come in and talk.” Prado said.

One of the goals of ISA is to help students to gain connections to professionals in their industry. ISA is “geared towards giving students more opportunities to gain professional experience” she states.

Speakers explained the range of career options available to ISA members at the ISA event on Saturday, April 30. President of the Houston chapter of ISA Jeremy Stagers

along with Student Section Liaison, Garrett Murphy, visited UHD to share their experience with students. Prado states that the goal for next year is to, “Maybe once a month to have a guest speaker and then do field trips.”

With many members graduating soon, the chapter is focused on welcoming new members and training them to take over leadership roles as officers.

ISA invites students interested in learning more to attend meetings in Fall 2022 and visit their website to stay updated on upcoming events. The UHD chapter of ISA has a GroupMe chat to stay connected. To learn more about ISA visit their website: <https://isa-uhd.weebly.com/>



From Left: Julio Aleman, Lacey Singleton, Jeremy Staggers, Rick Schauger, Garrett Murphy, Osman Ramirez, Scott Hoang, Briana Canizales, and Irene Prado. Courtesy: UHD ISA

Stock market concerns continue into year's second half

BY SHAHERYAR KHAN

As inflation remains rampant, many of the same economic threats still loom despite the stock market's historic drop during the year's first half.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine, inflation, ongoing interest rate hikes, and a potential recession continue to threaten the market.

As a result of a decline of 20.6%, the S&P 500 posted its worst performance in the first half since 1970. In the same period, the tech-heavy Nasdaq fell more than 28%; the Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped more than 14%.

It is proving to be costly for American families as the price of

gas continues to rise towards the \$5 mark, representing an almost \$2 increase in the cost of a gallon of gas a year ago. The International Energy Agency predicts a 1.3% increase in total demand by the end of 2022.

While supply continues to decline primarily due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the sanctions imposed by the international community on the Kremlin, which has targeted Russian President Vladimir Putin's vast energy resources. However, gas prices have declined; the national average is \$4.77/gallon. 80% of pumps across the country are now under \$5, according to the American Automobile Association.

Investors decide whether to buy or sell based on the likelihood that a company will succeed over time, Mason Robertson, an investment consultant at TD Ameritrade, told The Dateline. "It ultimately comes

down to profits," Robertson said. "We buy stocks based on how much money we think a company is going to make."

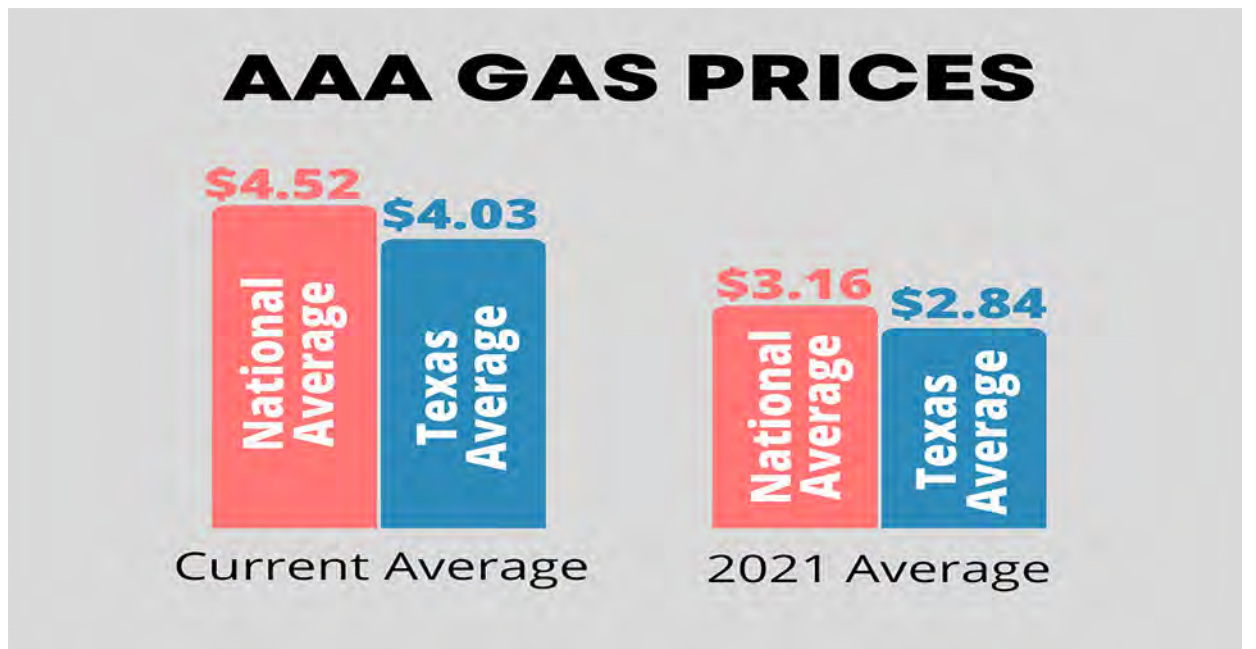
Business and consumer expectations may further drain if the U.S. enters a recession,

which could slow economic activity and batter markets.

"The market is suspect of the possibilities for earnings and expansion," Robertson said.

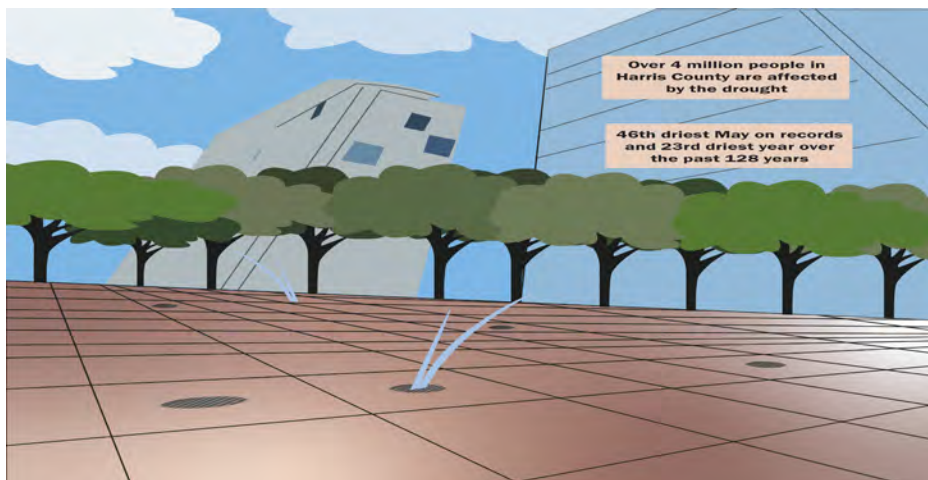
The market will eventually drop enough that investors can pur-

chase shares at a price that seems more like a buy-low than a risk of further losses, according to Robertson. Once traders return to stocks, the market will stabilize and begin to recover.



Credit: Shaheryar Khan

Houston experiences historical drought, city officials ask residents to voluntarily conserve water and energy



Credit: Amy Nguyen

BY JACQUELINE VAZQUEZ

Houston Public Works urged residents to take voluntary conservation measures in order for the city to reduce water use by 5% due to record-setting temperatures and a significant lack of rainfall in the recent months.

"We were basically sitting beneath a ridge of high pressure for much of the month," Eric Berger, a meteorologist for Space City

Weather, said in an interview with Houston Public Media.

Because of the warm temperatures associated with this ridge caused by the northward transport of warmer air in the lower atmosphere, Houston has broken a heat record. When it comes to the historic weather patterns in July and August, Berger admitted that, when comparing this year's June to 2011, "it's a little bit scary."

"Although the Houston area last year did receive a reprieve from the drought of 2011, much of Texas has remained dry, and more than 80 percent of the state is in a moderate drought." Berger said on the topic of the historic weather conditions plaguing Houston.

"Rising temperatures can also be attributed to the effects of climate change."

Warmer temperatures over time are

changing weather patterns and disrupting the usual balance of nature.

"Under the present trends, assuming a warm and dry summer, the drought that began in 2011 could become the state's second-worst on record after one that occurred in the 1950s", Berger stated. In addition, the drought, which caused wildfires across the state earlier this year and prompted burn bans, is now negatively affecting farmers and ranchers.

On average, temperatures have risen due to climate change because of extreme weather events, more evaporation causing more precipitation. This proves that the water cycle are expected to increase as climate changes when little or no rain falls, soils can dry out and plants can die. When rainfall is less than normal for

several weeks, months, or years, the flow of streams and rivers declines, water levels in lakes and reservoirs fall, and the depth to water in wells increases.

Impacting water

resources. A lack of adequate water supplies, flooding, or degraded water quality impacts civilization — now and throughout history.



Credit: Jacqueline Vazquez

United States Supreme Court overturns Roe v Wade, taking aim against human rights, nationwide backlash ensues

BY SERGIO PRESA JR

Roe v. Wade, the case that protected abortion rights across the nation has been overturned by the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court ruled in a 5-4 vote on June 24 that abortion is no longer a protected constitutional right. The court's ruling means that now, abortion rights will be determined by the states unless Congress codifies Roe v. Wade into federal law. President Joe Biden called the day of the ruling a "sad day for the court

and for the country" and called for the codification of Roe v. Wade.

All three justices appointed by former President Donald Trump, Neil Gorsuch, Amy Coney Barret and Brett Kavanaugh along with justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito, voted to overrule Roe v. Wade.

"Roe was egregiously wrong from the start," Alito wrote in his majority opinion. "Its reasoning was exceptionally weak, and the decision has had damaging consequences."

In a joint opinion, Justices Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor, and Elena Kagan expressed their dissent.

"With sorrow -- for this court, but more, for the many millions of American women who have lost a fundamental constitutional protection -- we dissent," they wrote.

Chief Justice John Roberts did not join the majority, writing that he would not have overturned Roe, but would have upheld Mississippi's law that bans abortions after 15 weeks.

President Biden says that the ruling endangers the health and life of women in the country.

"It was three justices named by one president, Donald Trump, who were the core of today's decision to upend the scales of justice and eliminate a fundamental right for women in this country," Biden said. "Make no mistake, this decision is a culmination of a deliberate effort over decades to upset the balance of our law."

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi said the ruling is, "such

an insult and slap in the face to women." Around 21 states have a constitutional amendment or laws in place that make a ban on abortion highly likely in those states. State officials in at least seven states say that state abortion bans can now be enforced.

Texas's trigger ban takes effect 30 days after the court's ruling, though, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is attempting to enforce pre-Roe laws that are still on the books in Texas. Polling results from CNN that were

obtained after the Court's draft leak in May showed that 66% of Americans did not want Roe v. Wade overturned while only 34% of Americans said they favored the overturning.

When asked about state laws if Roe were to be overturned, 58% of US adults said they would want their state to enact more permissive laws versus restricted ones. As many as 26 states could ban or severely restrict abortions.

City officials pause TxDOT demolition on downtown apartments

BY INDIRA ZALDIVAR

UHD alumnus Fabian Ramirez joined social welfare organization Stop TxDOT I-45 in 2019 to protest the controversial North Houston Highway Improvement Project.

Also known as the I-45 expansion, the \$9 billion project proposes to expand I-45 by four managed express lanes. This proposed expansion begins from the lower east side of downtown Houston and ends at the intersection of I-45 and Beltway 8. The I-45 proposed expansion displaces 1079 homes, two schools, five places of worship, and 344 businesses in predominantly low-income black and brown communities.

"I advocate against any engineering and construction that is unsustainable and unethical," said Ramirez, who is a Northside-Village resident, structural engineer, and a UHD Master of Science in Technical Communication.

After meeting Stop TxDOT I-45 members at a Cynthia Reyes-Revilla fundraiser, he



Fabian Ramirez holds a sign on June 18, 2022 in response to TxDOT's planned demolition of the three-building apartment complex Lofts at the Ballpark Courtesy: Fabian Ramirez

felt relieved someone had begun a resistance against TxDOT. He now joins them in meetings, rallies, community events, and rides to Austin, Texas to express dissent and advocate for his community.

"I joined the group immediately in order to help fight against genocide of our indigenous, black, and brown communities."

TxDOT recently took heat from city and community members following concerns

of TxDOT's planned demolition in late June of the Lofts at Ballpark, a the three-building apartment complex housing 375 apartment units.

Community members questioned whether the demolition complied with the pause imposed by the Federal Highway Trade Administration due to investigations of civil rights violations and cited that TxDOT reported on the environmental impact study to only demolish 165

apartment units but now planned to tear down 375 units.

TxDOT released a June 20 statement saying the tenants had been relocated and explained the now vacant buildings were being demolished because they present a threat to the community.

"Vacant buildings such as these have attracted illicit and illegal activity, which would be burdensome to the city, local communities [and] businesses in the

vicinity and potentially exposes TxDOT to an array of liabilities," the statement said. "TxDOT has consistently been responsive to and respectful of FHWA's terms and conditions regarding the NHHIP 'pause' and demo of this property is not in conflict with those terms, neither in rule nor spirit."

The Houston Permitting Department put an administrative hold on the project and permit following the concerns and questions.

"City officials would pay dearly if they did not respond to the community concerns," Ramirez said.

TxDOT district engineer Eliza Paul explained in a June 24 Houston-Galveston Area Council meeting that TxDOT acquired the whole property not just one building because the other two buildings would be damaged from demolition to the first building.

"We don't have the capability or ability to secure the building and try to do something else with the building," Paul said.

While the project is under local and federal review, activists like Ramirez keep TxDOT on watch. They are on a relentless pursuit to make the community's voice heard at the monthly Texas Transportation Commission and Houston-Galveston Area Council meetings, to call for an end of the current proposal altogether.



Maestro Andres Orozco-Estrada conducting. Courtesy: Werner Kmetitsch.



Maestro Andres Orozco-Estrada conducting. Courtesy: Marco Hernandez

Maestro Andres Orozco-Estrada leaves distance-proof legacy

BY INDIRA ZALDIVAR

After first leading the Houston Symphony 10 years ago, distinguished violinist and conductor Andres Orozco-Estrada said “hasta luego” in May to the space city ensemble, leaving behind an artistically stretched and audience-centered orchestra and a distance-proof influence on fans.

A native of Colombia, Orozco-Estrada moved to Vienna, Austria in 1997 to train at the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst.

His notable international profile includes conducting many prominent European and American orchestras and acclaimed concert and opera performances at the Glyndebourne and Salzburg Festivals.

Before joining the Houston Symphony, he had already worked with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, Vienna Symphony Orchestra, and Orquesta Sinfónica de Euskadi.

Despite his international demand, Orozco-Estrada has remained close to his roots. Mar-

co Hernandez, a fellow Colombian professional violinist, has played under Orozco-Estrada’s direction while a student for the Filarmonica Joven de Colombia.

He toured with the praised conductor as a violinist for the Colombian youth philharmonic three times: in 2012 in Brazil, 2017 in Texas, and 2018 in Germany and Austria.

“The energy and passion that he transmits to the orchestra are amazing,” Hernandez said. “Every single rehearsal and concert which he conducted... has been very well pre-

pared...in a no human way.

It is incredible how he communicates with the musicians of the orchestra and brings out the best sound of every instrumentalist.”

In addition, Hernandez is proud of seeing a fellow compatriot achieve great things and become “the most significant musical hero for a whole generation of Colombian young musicians.”

At Hernandez’s parent’s house in Colombia, his bedroom wall displays a poster of maestro Orozco-Estrada conducting.

The discipline and passion for music of the beloved Orozco-Estrada inspires him in his pursuit of a master’s degree in music performance at Sam Houston State University. He aspires to play many concerts around the world and to become a violin professor at a university.

“Maestro Andres Orozco-Estrada is a big inspiration for a whole musical generation of Colombian musicians around the world,” Hernandez said. “Every single friend I have who decided to study music as a professional career knows who is Andres.”

Houston is sure to remember the legacy of the most successful and recognizable Colombian conductor.

Some of the successes under the Orozco-Estrada tenure include the Houston Symphony’s 2018 Europe tour (their first in Europe in 20 years), several album recordings, collaborations with contemporary artists, and increased audience reception.

The audience at Houston Symphony concerts now expect the conductors to discuss performances from the stage. Orozco-Estrada told Houstonia

Magazine he started this habit out of his desire to engage Houston’s diverse communities with the orchestra.

“Thank you for letting me express my musical ideas alongside an exemplary orchestra with a marvelous public that supported us,” Orozco-Estrada told Houstonia Magazine.

The beloved music conductor’s cycle with the Houston Symphony closed, but his artistry is sure to transcend the new distance. The sought-after maestro currently lives with his wife and daughter in Vienna, Austria.



Marco Hernandez (left) Andres Orozco-Estrada (right) on tour in Brazil with the Filarmonica Joven de Colombia in 2012. Courtesy: Marco Hernandez



Marco Hernandez is a graduate student of music performance at Sam Houston State University. Courtesy: Marco Hernandez

'Thor Love and Thunder' SUCKS, no really, it was horrible



Courtesy: Marvel Studios

BY EDWARD SAENZ

"Thor Love and Thunder" sucked. It may be the worst film

Marvel Studios has produced.

"Thor Love and Thunder" is the sixth film in the Marvel

Studios Phase 4 of its Cinematic Universe. The film picks up four years after "Avengers Endgame."

Following the sub-par responses of the first two Thor films, Taika Waititi was hired to direct the third Thor film, "Thor Ragnarok."

In an attempt to break away from the dark and serious tones of the previous two, Waititi went with a more light-hearted, yet still serious, feel for his Thor film. The result was the most box office sales for a Thor film.

Waititi kept this same formula in "Thor Love and Thunder," and it failed drastically.

The movie relies heavily on over the top

humor and very immature jokes, to the point that even when attempting to be serious it fails.

The film opens with Gorr (Christian Bale) being introduced as the film's villain. The opening is dramatic, sad and captivating. It sets the stage for what could have been an amazing addition to Marvel's already exceptional movie catalog.

Bale is one very few positive points in the film, and Gorr may be one of the most well written villains in the MCU.

The movie falls off hard afterwards though. The next several scenes have a very robotic feel to the dialogue, everything feels forced and

overly comical. In stark contrast, Dr. Jane Foster's (Natalie Portman) cancer scene is dark and serious, with a little humor thrown in, and it plays well on screen.

Bale's entrance as Gorr and first meeting with Thor (Chris Hemsworth) is spectacular. The scene is tense, suspenseful and all around creepy. It is the last scene that plays well.

The film slowly falls apart from here. The movie attempts to be funny and serious at the same time. A fine line to follow, and it fails at it. Thor 4 lacked a concise idea and had multiple plot points that could have been good if they were focused on, but

having too many caused them all to fail.

The movie has very few positive things going for it. As previously mentioned Bale is incredible and should have gotten more screen time. Hemsworth is great as always despite the poor writing. Tessa Thompson as Valkyrie and Portman as Dr. Jane Foster do their characters justice.

Thor the God of Thunder vs Gorr the God Butcherer could have been an amazing action film, instead Waititi gave us a crappy rom-com with good, but not great, action scenes.

'Obi-Wan Kenobi' bridges gap between 'Star Wars' trilogies

BY DALILA JUAREZ

It has been 17 years since the "Star Wars" prequel series concluded in cinemas, and Disney has released a small series into their streaming service.

The new Obi-Wan Kenobi mini-series takes place ten years after "Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith." The storyline gives audiences Obi-Wan's journey after The Empire took over and left the Jedi fight for survival.

The first episode provides a refresher for those who have not seen the prequel movies, but fans would better understand if they were to watch "The Phantom Menace," "Attack of the Clones," "Revenge of the Sith," and even the animated show "The Clone Wars."

New and returning characters in the following episodes leave fans satisfied. Moses Ingram "Queen's Gambit", Sung Kang "Fast and the Furious", O'Shea Jackson "Godzilla King



Courtesy: Lucas Films

of Monsters", and many more are introduced to the franchise. The most anticipated return was of both Ewan McGregor as Obi-Wan Kenobi and Hayden Christensen as Anakin Skywalker and Darth Vader.

As the first season ended, fans are left wanting more to see Obi-Wan's adventure through the years leading to "Star Wars

Episode IV: A New Hope."

A "Star Wars" fanatic, Kim Purvis, said the show gave her closure.

"I'm sure Obi-Wan was not mentally stable after the events of "Revenge of the Sith," Purvis said. "I really hope to see more of Hayden, especially in the (upcoming) Ahsoka series."

'Atlanta' shines light on abuse of Houston child for political gain

BY YOLAND MATHIS

Creative genius Donald Glover, known by his stage name Childish Gambino, has delivered a new masterpiece, "Atlanta."

This hit comedy-drama television series will not only have you laughing at its dry humor, but you will find yourself in deep thought as some episodes turn from the storyline to focus and shine light on social issues known and forgotten.

The long-anticipated season 3 started in such fashion with the first episode titled "Three Slaps." Though it starts off comical, the episode was in reference to the tragic and extremely sad murder-suicide of Devonte Hart and five other adopted siblings. A Houston native, Hart and his three siblings were placed in foster care due to his mother's battle with drug addiction. Just like in the

episode, he was adopted in 2009 by a white lesbian couple Jennifer and Sarah Hart, from Washington.

What may have been seen as comical or even cringy at times in the episode, those conditions in which the children lived were true.

Not only were they mistreated but they were often used as political gain for social media posts over the years. A viral moment was caught between a crying-Hart and a Portland police officer hugging.

Investigative journalist Zaron Burnett III said mothers "used" Devonte and his siblings as "performing monkeys for traffic potential."

"They were accessories to a lifestyle Jen and Sarah wanted to portray on social media and the likes were dopamine," Burnett said.

At the end of the episode, Devonte and



Courtesy: FX

his siblings are seen escaping right before the van goes over the cliff but sadly this was not the case in real life. They were all tragically killed that night when Jennifer and Sarah Hart decided to drive off a 100-foot cliff near Mendocino, California in 2018.

This was a sad and forgotten story of six innocent children who are all gone too soon. Hart's story should always be remembered. With media culture the audience continues to allow creators like Glover to be themselves and break boundaries.

'Crimes of the Future' depicts disturbing, painful future

BY JAMES JUREWICZ

Filmmaker David Cronenberg, known as the King of Venereal Horror, lives up to the title in his new movie "Crimes of the Future," which portrays a twisted, apocalyptic future causing many to walk out of the theatre in disgust.

An apocalyptic future has forced dramatic changes in human evolution. People have evolved from pain and infection, some able to grow undiscovered internal organs.

The film stars Viggo Mortensen as Saul Tenser, Kristen Stewart, Lea Seydoux, Scott Speedman, and Don McKellar.

A strange cult of "Evolutionists" led by Lang (Scott Speedman) has replaced their own internal organs in order to be able to ingest and digest plastics. The cult manufactures strange purple candy bars of

plastic toxic waste, nourishment for the cult but noxious to a normal person.

Mortensen plays Tenser, a well-known performance artist who has "Accelerated Evolution Syndrome." Tenser can grow new and exciting internal organs which are tattooed and removed by his partner Caprice (Lea Seydoux).

Surgeons utilize a rare and intricate autopsy machine known as the Sarc 500, short for Sarcophagus. The surgeries are performed in a public exhibition attracting the attention of Timlin (Kristen Stewart) an agent with the National Organ Registry Government officials, whom Tenser calls "bureaucrats," with the intention of labeling and cataloging each new organ grown.

"Crimes of the Future" can easily be described as an Art-House film. This film

has no appeal to a large and varied audience, as the theater was empty.

Legendary Director David Cronenberg has made significant contributions to the horror genre for over five decades. He is most known for Body Horror, his films featuring macabre bodily transformations.

"The Fly" ('86) was a remake by Cronenberg starring Jeff Goldblum. In the film, a scientist accidentally merges his DNA with a fly, his repulsive mutations are graphically depicted on screen. The film won the Best Makeup Oscar that year.

Cronenberg is selling a picture of his kidney stones as an NFT, his way of personally connecting with "Crimes of the Future." Cronenberg's daughter was the brainchild of the horrific photograph which is available to see online.

As for Mortensen,

he previously worked with Cronenberg starring in "A History of Violence" ('05), "Eastern Promises" ('07), and "A Dangerous Method" ('11). "Crimes of the Future" will be the actor's fourth time working with the director.

Featuring graphic scenes of steampunk surgery, this film is pure Cronenberg, bizarre and visionary. The plot is so strange that even serious scenes can be laugh-out-loud hilarious.

In one scene, Mortensen and others are shown painstakingly eating what looks like green and orange baby food in a strange type of chair. The chair rocks side to side and is made of what looks like skeletal remains.

Although there were multiple walkouts at the initial screening at Cannes Film Festival as well as other screenings, there was a seven-minute standing



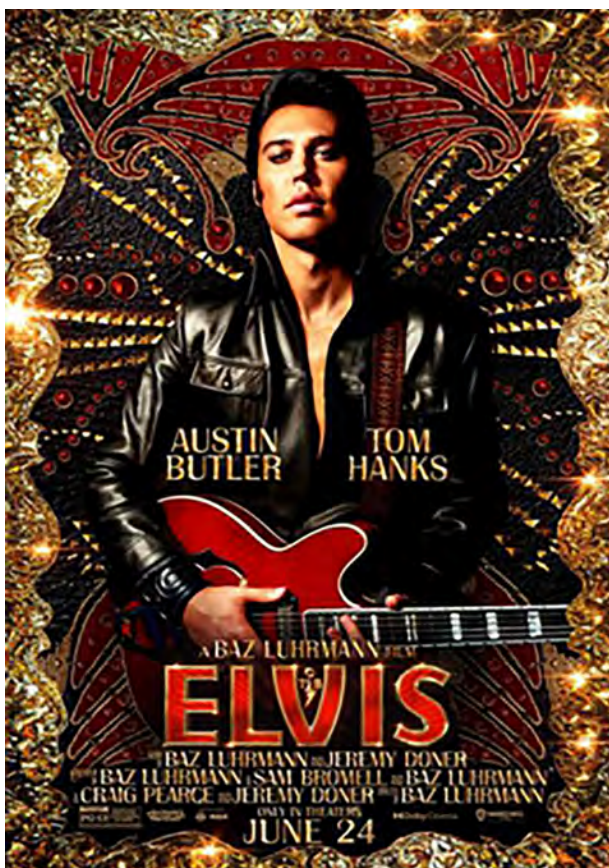
Courtesy: Serendipity Point Films

ovation at Cannes. Actor Scott Speedman admitted he did not want his own mother to see the film.

The film was very well done however it is impossible to

recommend in good conscience depending on the person. The aura surrounding the walkouts and standing ovation does make the film an intriguing watch.

'Elvis' gives detailed account into the life, death of legendary popstar



Courtesy: Warner Bros.

BY JAMES JUREWICZ

"Elvis" is a dramatic biographical musical film starring Austin

Butler in the titular role. The movie was directed by Australian filmmaker Baz Luhrmann, who also co-wrote the story

and the screenplay. The film also stars Tom Hanks, Olivia DeJonge, and Richard Roxburgh.

The film is narrated by Elvis' sleazy manager Col. Tom Parker (Tom Hanks), a former Dutch circus ringleader. In the film, Parker only has his own best interest at heart.

"Elvis" follows the singer's ascent to worldwide adoration and recognition. Presley is shown developing his signature style, his dance like wiggling onstage.

The singer was raised in a Black area in Memphis where he appropriated much of the area's musical culture as his own. In the film his vocal style is described as a mix of White country and Black rhythm and blues.

Elvis and his

rocketing success are met with harsh criticism by politicians who believe his style to be inappropriate, mainly due to racism. Parker tries his best to control the performer's actions onstage, stifling his creativity.

Butler's rebellious portrayal of the King of Rock and Roll is fantastic. The actor's unmistakable resemblance to the iconic Elvis is undeniable. Butler's black pompadour appears perfect, coiffed, and shows off his ability to mimic the singer's charming creamy baritone in an uncanny fashion.

As for Tom Hanks, he expectedly performs professionally as Parker, his face was transformed by prosthetic make up to better resemble the infamous manager, requiring five

daily hours in a makeup chair. Hanks portrays the nasally sounding Parker, his high voice a constant annoying prater., Hanks must have enjoyed finally playing the villain for a change.

Director Baz Luhrmann is best known for the film Moulin Rouge! ('01). "Elvis" is also a musical featuring not only the most iconic Elvis's songs but also popular songs from the era from artists B.B. King and Little Richard, among others.

The colorful costumes in the film are detailed and accurate. Elvis' taste and flair are expressed, and the changing decades in other characters' clothes too.

The lengthy 159-minute runtime for "Elvis" is well utilized, beginning with the sing-

er's blossoming career. By the end of the movie, the audience will have a sense of the long-road tours as well as the effect Elvis had on his fans.

The purpose of this film was not to highlight the king's drug abuse, but his relentless touring and excessive lifestyle, which tragically led to his death at the age of 42.

"Elvis" is an entertaining and emotional journey through the life of a timeless, American icon. The final moments of the film incorporate emotional footage of Elvis' last public performance. The movie is well worth the admission price and is now showing in cinemas.

Overtaken Roe marks new era of policing female bodies

BY ANITA GOOLCHARAN

The Supreme Court of the United States has officially overturned the landmark case *Roe v. Wade*, removing the constitutional right to an abortion.

The decision was overturned by *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, a case banning all abortions after 15 weeks. The case had no exceptions for rape or incest, but there were exceptions for health concerns.

In South Dakota, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Wisconsin, West Virginia, and Alabama, bans are already in effect.

While these laws vary, many have no exception for rape or incest. In Texas, the ban on abortions has been temporarily blocked, allowing some clinics to perform an abortion until six weeks into the pregnancy. The temporary restraining order is set to expire July 12.

According to the Guttmacher Institute, a research and policy organization committed to the advancement of sexual and reproductive health and rights, abortion rates have declined from 16.3% in 1973, when *Roe* was decided, to 14.4% in 2020.

In the post-*Roe* era, pregnancy will become criminalized, and unsafe

abortions will arise.

"You cannot make abortion go away by criminalizing it. All you do is make it unsafe. You put women at risk. Poor women, women of color. Women who don't have the advantages of wealthy, middle class women to travel somewhere and get an abortion," stated Alexander Sanger, former president of Planned Parenthood of New York, in an interview.

The overturn of *Roe* also marks a new era of policing the female bodies.

Anyone who can become pregnant will now face the possibility that their bodily autonomy has been severely

compromised. Pregnant people will now face the reality that they will need to endure pregnancy and 18 years of caregiving at their own expense.

Banning abortions can also endanger many people who want to carry through with their pregnancy but cannot continue their pregnancy due to medical reasons.

Texas is currently ranked among the most dangerous states to undergo pregnancy due to the high mortality rate for pregnant persons.

The Lone Star State has also refused to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, which has left thousands

displaced from health-care, namely those in rural areas or those who are uninsured.

The State Senate has also voted against the expansion of postpartum coverage of Medicare to 12 months. Pregnant people in Texas are only covered for six months.

The pandemic has magnified the childcare problem in the U.S. Nearly 10% of childcare professionals have left the field.

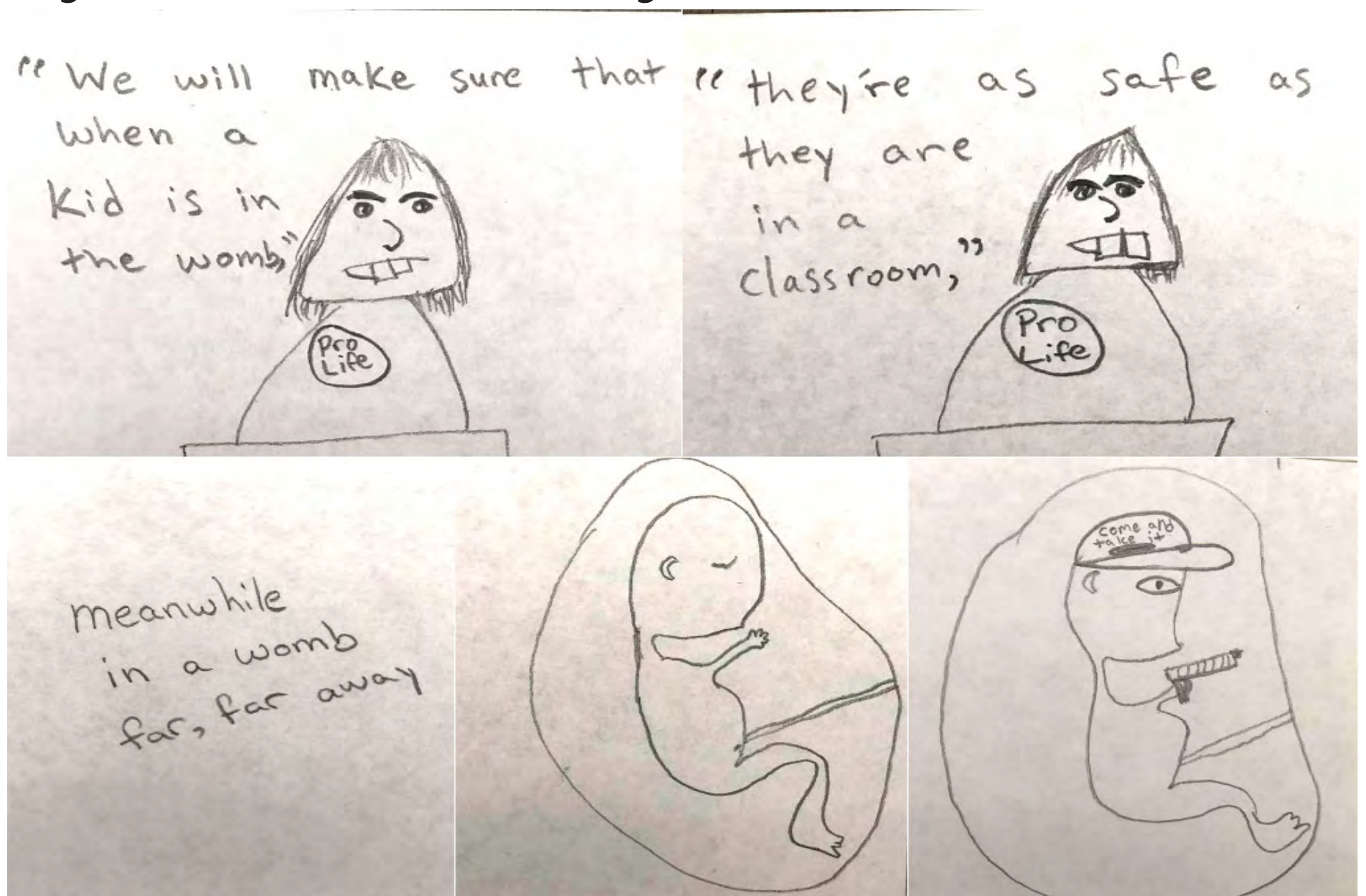
The exodus has left much of the nation without stable childcare. Historically, the U.S. has not proportionally invested in childhood care respective to the gross domestic prod-

uct of other developed countries, which has led to a system where parents rely on public education systems to provide schooling.

The average family with a child under five years will need to spend almost 13% of their annual income on daycare even though the Department of Treasury has noted this is unaffordable for most families.

Anti-abortionist crusades have disregarded the lives of pregnant people and instead focus on the rights of an embryo that will not have any help after it leaves the womb.

Classrooms and wombs "the safest places" for children, says former Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders



Plan for a recession as inflation capsizes markets globally

BY JESSE FITZGERALD
RODRIGUEZ SR.

The International Monetary Fund, the largest financial institution Conglomerate in the world, conducted an Asia-Pacific Regional Seminar titled “Asia and Pacific Economic Outlook” in May. Top experts forecast instability regarding the world’s economic growth.

The mentality is that a recession may be inevitable. According to Bloomberg, 2Q Inflation estimates across the globe increased: France 5.7%, Canada 7%, Italy 7%, United States 8.1%, Germany 8.2%, United Kingdom 9.1%, and Spain 10% as central bankers hike interest rates to reduce consumer spending and demand.

Shanaka Jayanath is the Philippines Resident Representative for IMF who specializes in economics. She mentioned that the war in Ukraine is causing commodities to surge, world trade disruptions, and supply chain issues as financial conditions tighten across the world.

To entice consumers to spend during the pandemic, the Fed dropped rates from 0% to 0.25% in March 2020. All this was to boost economic growth, which is the Fed’s core mission.

Jayanath projects that interest rates will need to climb higher to control and calm the world’s markets. As a result, the IMF has downgraded its growth projections and upgraded its inflation forecast.

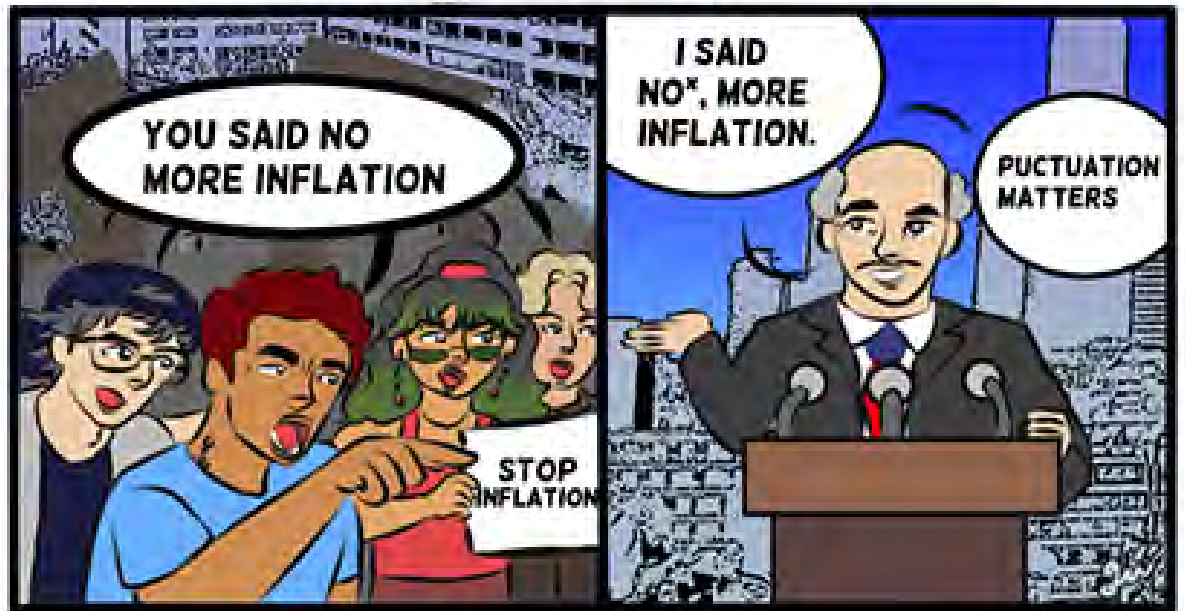
Without surprise, in early June, the Fed Chairman, Jerome Powell, made a statement for the Federal Open Market Committee, which decided to raise interest rates again by .75%, the largest increase since 2000.

Powell also testified before the Senate Banking Committee.

“The Fed’s monetary policy actions are guided by our mandate to promote maximum employment and stable prices for the American people,” Powell proclaimed.

Powell insists that the Fed is committed, and its overarching focus is bringing back inflation to its 2% average target. This is highly unlikely to happen anytime soon.

The Fed intends to raise interest rates 3% to 4% within the next two years to control supply and demand, according to Powell. However, JPMorgan Chase Chairman and CEO Jamie Dimon believes we have an inflation and a national security problem.



Courtesy: Giselle Oviedo

Dimon insisted that America needs to invest in secure energy, rare earths, wheat, oil, and all the other commodities.

“America needs better domestic policy that makes the Fed’s job easier” said Dimon in an interview with Bloomberg.

Dimon insisted that the strict rules, policies, regulations, and the disapproval of innovative projects by this Biden administration must improve before inflation and the supply and demand issue will settle domestically and overseas.

“Demand for goods and commodities is high and supply is low,” said Powell, “and we [the Fed] believe raising interest rates, which is one of our tools—will

help tame inflation.”

More than likely, the Fed believes that demand for commodities will decline, assets will level out, exchange rates will go up, and the dollar strengthens. Restoring price stability to Americans is at the core of the Fed, according to Powell.

But how can the Fed slow down a speeding train without brakes, without collateral damage, without capsizing the American economy and its people? As mentioned, a recession is probable.

As a result, layoffs may be evident and unavoidable.

Unfortunately, this foreign and domestic inflation, supply and demand irregularities, American energy dependency on foreign

countries, and horrible policies and strict regulations on American soil, American companies, and American workers are a tsunami created by a weak presidential administration.

Resources from three major commodities like agriculture, energy, and metals are essential for global dominance, price stability, employment, innovation, and energy independence right now!

There is an immediate threat to America’s national security because of our lack of exploration and drilling of oil, among other commodities that we have here on American soil.

Yes, we need to transition to cleaner energy and sustainable

nuclear power. This will help our environment. And an immediate shift in electric vehicles, electrical homes, solar powered neighborhoods is not feasible, affordable, or accessible to every American, especially during an inflationary period.

But in 30 years, if technology and research continue at such a rapid pace, renewable energy, among other forms of power, will propel our electrical and power-driven grids in big cities, states, and throughout the country to push the next generation further into the future.

But right now, the Fed alone—cannot tame inflation.

Parents speak about fears of gun violence at schools

BY NOHELY MARTINEZ

A gunman killed 19 children and two adults and injured 16 in a shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, on May 24, making this the deadliest school shooting in the past 10 years since the Sandy Hook school shooting.

Gun violence has

been a nationwide problem that has sparked fear among parents, teachers, and students. The civilians of this nation have waited patiently for a change to occur in order to protect the next generation.

“For ten years I have seen no change to stop these school shootings; on the contrary, it has gotten much worse,”

Wafa Jazairy.

So far, the only change that has occurred has been superficial, like metal detectors and having students use translucent backpacks.

These new implementations have turned a once bright school into a prison. It is no wonder there has been a surge in homeschooling. Parents are scared to drop off

their kids and never see them again.

“After the shooting occurred in that small town I didn’t wanna take my two girls to school. But I was forced to since it was testing days,” Britney Rodriguez.

The agony of wondering eats parents for eight hours.

“As a parent you

never feel that it will happen to you. Until it does. You feel vulnerable and insecure. A wave of uncertainty comes if you’ll ever see your kid again,” Olga Arevalo.

I asked several people what could be done differently, and many agreed that even with tighter gun restrictions, shootings would

still occur because this is a personal problem. Kids who perform these atrocious acts have mental problems that require professional support that sometimes a parent can’t help. As a parent, we must be attentive to our kids and look for key clues that scream “Help!”. Perhaps this can be the first step to aiding our children.

Pokemon Go relaunches live events amid world-wide record breaking temperatures, community backlash ensues

BY EDWARD SAENZ

After over two years, in-person events have returned to Pokémon Go.

In May, Niantic announced that the monthly Community Day events would start having in-person gatherings in parks at select cities across the world.

The first live event kicked off on April 23 for Stuffal Community Day. For Houstonians, the live event was held at Discovery Green.

Many concessions stand workers commented that they “had never seen the park so full before.” The live events across the world were considered a resounding success.

Niantic announced more live events would be happening throughout the summer, with Geodude having his own event on May 21. While the event had a large global turnout, Houstonians found the event hard to play with the record-breaking



Courtesy: Giselle Oviedo

summer heat waves.

“With Niantic being so sustainability-focused you would think they’d have the weather parts down.” Said Chris Kemp, A UHD alumni and Pokémon Go player. “We can’t have events in Texas at noon during the summertime, it’s just too hot.”

On June 4 and 5, Niantic hosted Pokémon Go’s biggest event, Pokémon Go Fest. The

event is a global celebration of the anniversary of Pokémon Go. In previous years, the event was held in select cities across the world, however, since 2020, the event has had a much larger online component for everyone.

Costing \$15, the event was negatively received for the overall lack of features and rewards. Day one of the events was spent catching Pokémon that

rotated hourly on a themed basis, however, the day was plagued by a series of glitches that made Pokémon appear that were not actually there causing frustration for many players.

Day two of the event kicked off with several surprises for the players. Several new events that were not originally announced kicked off the day, an idea that is not new for Niantic.

However, with all the added events and tasks to do in-game the day felt very cluttered and disorganized. There was too much going on for the players to do everything in the given 12 hours of day two.

In the days following Go Fest, the game’s global player base was very vocal about the event and demanded Niantic make a statement. Just two days

after Go Fest was over, Niantic announced Deino Community Day would happen on June 25. Deino is a long sought-after and a fan favorite of the Pokémon Go community.

“Niantic saw the negative criticism of Go Fest and instead of making a statement or apologizing, they pulled the Deino lever.” Nicholas Oyzen, a popular Pokémon Go youtuber said in a video about the controversy.

Deino Community Day was well received by the global community given the circumstances surrounding the event.

The event had the largest turnout for a Community Day since Gible Community Day, which was held on June 6, 2021. Once again however, trainers in the southern United States struggled to play during the 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. time slot with the triple digit weather.

Qatar to host 2022 World Cup amid international backlash

BY SHAHERYAR KHAN

Qatar will host the 2022 FIFA World Cup this winter, amid backlash from fans’ world-wide concerns over the Gulf nation’s controversial actions.

The World Cup is a global spectacle held every four years, consisting of the best soccer players representing their respective nations.

There will be four matches each day during the group stage, which will last 12 days, and the winners and runners-up will advance to the round of 16. It will be a single-elimination tournament, which will lead the last two nations to compete to lift the iconic trophy.

Unlike the EURO 2020, the two losing teams from the semi-finals will have to play a play-off match to determine the third-place medal.

According to Stadium Talk, the quadrennial tournament is the world’s second most-viewed sporting event, with the 2018 FIFA World Cup having a 3.57 billion TV viewership. The first is the Summer Olympics, with a TV viewership of 3.6 billion for the 2012 London games and the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Games.

The tournament usually takes place in the summer. However, due to the extreme climate of the host nation,

Qatar, FIFA feared the conditions might be unplayable. Temperatures can reach up to 122 degrees Fahrenheit. The tournament will take place in the winter from Nov. 21 to Dec. 18.

Qatar was announced as the host of the 2022 FIFA World Cup in 2010. Former FIFA President Sepp Blatter endorsed the idea at that time.

“The Arabic world deserves a World Cup. They have 22 countries and have not had any opportunity to organize the tournament.” Blatter said.

Apart from the extreme climate they are known for, other controversies have built up to the World Cup

concerning Qatar’s role as the host nation.

Qatar’s bid for the 2022 FIFA World Cup was frowned upon by the Arab League as a “malicious campaign,” condemning the claims that Qatar has bribed FIFA officials to secure their spot to host the

prestigious tournament.

The years-long corruption case resulted in the termination of Blatter as president and several other officials.

Qatar has long denied allegations of functioning dishonestly despite facing many accusations since it started

bidding on the World Cup host spot.

The opening ceremony will commence on Nov. 21 with the first match being Senegal versus Netherlands of group A.



Courtesy: Sarah Ramirez