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TARRUS RILEY **BOOKED FOR GROOVIN IN THE** PARK JUNE 2023 **By Anthony Turner**





Apollo Creed's Rocky IV Death Had Doctors **Convinced Carl Weathers Was Actually Hurt**



Bruno Mars is not dead alive and well.



Bruno Mars death hoax spreads on Facebook.

City to sue Kia, **Hyundai** after TikTok challenge spikes thefts



Most of the thefts occurred in the Bronx and northern Manhattan.

The two South Korean automakers must be held accountable for failing to equip certain models with standard anti-theft measures, Adams said.

"We are not going to sit idly by while automakers turn a blind eye to safety and make it easy for criminals to prey on New Yorkers," Adams said in a statement. "We have the right to expect that those cars have standard anti-theft measures."

New York intends to file a lawsuit against the automakers, following numerous cities, including Seattle, Cleveland and Milwaukee. City officials said they would join multidistrict litigation being consolidated in California.

The cases operate on two tracks: one for a consumer class action and one for a overnmental entity case The latter alleges public nui-sance and, in some cases, negligence against the two

SCAN & READ ME

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THE CONNECTING NEWSPAPER began its debut in January 2012. we are a free biweekly newspaper and pride ourselves in publicizing information about Health, News, Education, Politic, Entertainment, other varying Artistry, and also high light the challenges, opportunities and successes of our patrons. The Connecting Newspaper's represents our unique cultural Networking interest and concerns regarding relevant issues affecting our communities. Our goal is to provide advertisers with a vehicle that would allow them to effectively and efficiently reach their targeted audiences. If you advertise locally, regionally, or across the globe, we can create packages that suit your marketing goals and budget. We are not biased to any political or religious entity. We will do our up most to be a reliable means that allow the expression of all views and opinions as permitted under the US constitution.

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PUBLISHER / EDITOR IN CHIEF Action Smith

Michael Bloomberg, Jim Simons are New York City's richest billionaires

BY ACTION SMITH

Jim Simons, founder of Renaissance Technologies, is another New York name on the list. Simons' net worth of \$28.1 billion put him at No. 49, down one slot from last year. He's the second wealthiest hedge fund manager on the list.

Stephen Schwarzman, CEO of Blackstone Group, sits just behind Simons with a net worth of \$27.8 billion—a \$7 billion drop from last year.

That's followed by Leonard Lauder of Estee Lauder at No. 77 with \$21 billion and Ray Dalio of Bridgewater Associates at No. 83 with \$19.1 billion.

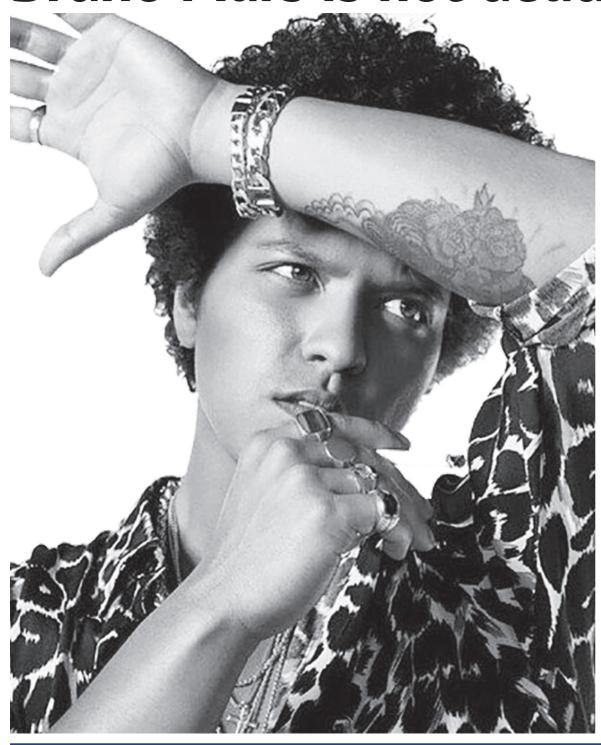
In the sports world, Mets owner Steve Cohen clocked in at No. 94 with \$17.5 billion, while Yankees owners Hal Steinbrenner, Jennifer Steinbrenner Swindal and Jessica Steinbrenner each have a net worth of \$1.3 billion, making them tied in the No. 2,133 slot. Jets owner Robert "Woody" Johnson ranked No. 852 with \$3.2 billion.

The Rupert Murdoch family managed to stay within top 100—albeit with just one spot to give—despite a net worth drop of \$3.7 billion over the last year.

Not surprisingly, Sam Bankman-Fried was nowhere to be seen on this year's list. He ranked No. 60 last year before FTX Trading Ltd collapsed in November.

On the other end, fashion designer Tom Ford is among the fresh faces on the list after selling his namesake business to Estee Lauder in November.

Bruno Mars is not dead alive and well.



Is Still Alive and well: Everyone on the internet is searching for Is Bruno Mars Still Alive or Dead. Bruno Mars is an American singersongwriter, record producer, musician, dancer, and music video director. As we all know celebrities are always trapped by false or fake news about death, his fans believe that Bruno Mars might also be one of the victims of this fake news about his death.

"At about 11 a.m. ET on Friday (April 07, 2023), our beloved singer Bruno Mars passed away. Bruno Mars was born on October 8, 1985 in Honolulu. He will be missed but not forgotten. Please show your sympathy and condolences by commenting on and liking this page."

On Saturday (April 08) the singer's reps officially con-firmed that Bruno Mars is not dead. "He joins the long list of celebrities who have been victimized by this hoax. He's still alive and well, stop believing what you see on the Internet," they said.

Background

Peter Gene Hernandez, popularly known as Bruno Mars, is an American singer, songwriter, record producer, musician, and dancer. Mars was born and raised in a musical family in Honolulu,

Bruno Mars is not dead. Hawaii, and is one of six children. His father (who has roots in Puerto Rico, Hungary, and Ukraine) is a percussionist, while his late mother (a Filipina) was a hula dancer and singer. After performing in his family band called The Love Notes, and showcasing his persona "Little Elvis" in numerous on-stage appearances, Mars moved to Los Angeles in 2003 after finishing high school to pursue a career in entertainment on his own.

> Prior to becoming a successful musical artist, Mars was a music producer, writing songs for the likes of Adam Levine, Sean Kingston, and Flo Rida. In 2010, Mars collaborated with artist Travie McCoy on a song called 'Billionaire,' which was a huge hit at the time giving him the push he needed in Hollywood. After the release of this song, Mars debuted his single 'Just The Way You Are' off his first studio album "Doo-Wops & Hooligans." In 2013, following the success of his first and second studio albums, Mars received top billing at the Super Bowl XLVIII halftime show as the lead performer — a huge accomplishment for the talented singer.

> In 2016, Mars released his highly anticipated third album "24K Magic," which peaked at number four in the U.S.

Apollo Creed's Rocky IV Death Had Doctors Convinced Carl Weathers

"Creed III" may have implemented anime tropes and ideas like the fights in the void and the anime rivalry better and more directly, but decades before Adonis and Damian went from friends to enemies and back again, Rocky and Apollo had the best relationship in the "Rocky"

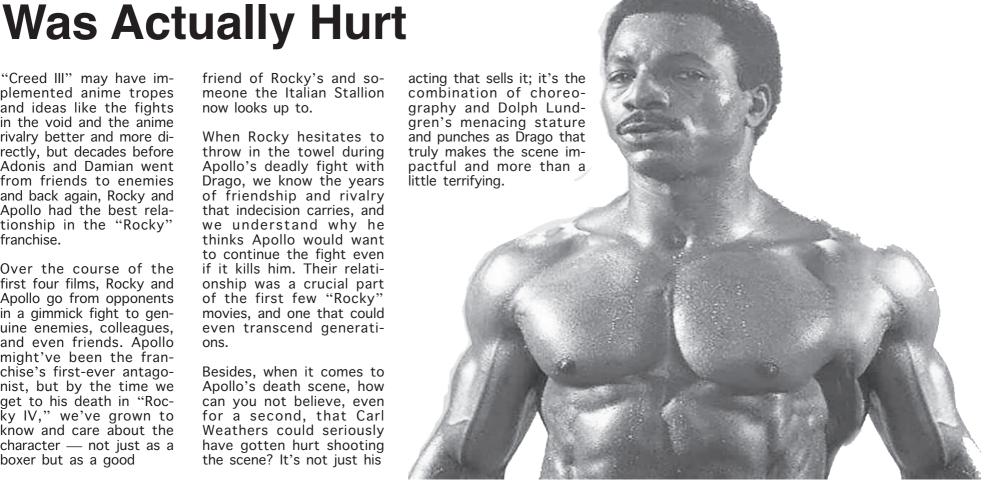
franchise.

Over the course of the first four films, Rocky and Apollo go from opponents in a gimmick fight to genuine enemies, colleagues, and even friends. Apollo might've been the franchise's first-ever antagonist, but by the time we get to his death in "Rocky IV," we've grown to know and care about the character — not just as a boxer but as a good

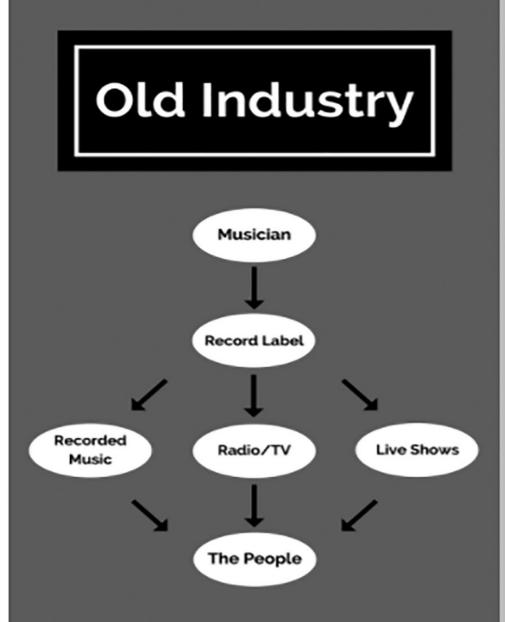
friend of Rocky's and someone the Italian Stallion now looks up to.

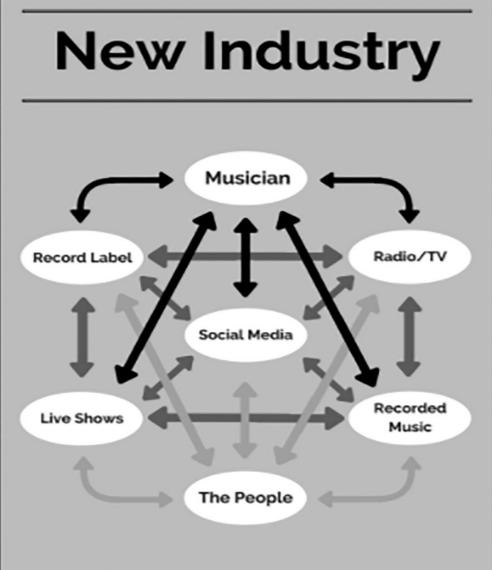
When Rocky hesitates to throw in the towel during Apollo's deadly fight with Drago, we know the years of friendship and rivalry that indecision carries, and we understand why he thinks Apollo would want to continue the fight even if it kills him. Their relationship was a crucial part of the first few "Rocky" movies, and one that could even transcend generati-

Besides, when it comes to Apollo's death scene, how can you not believe, even for a second, that Carl Weathers could seriously have gotten hurt shooting the scene? It's not just his



Music Industry Leaders Turn To Creed Media For Effective Social Media Marketing Strategies





As the music industry continues to evolve, so do the marketing strategies used by industry leaders to promote their artists and connect with their audiences. One company that has been making waves in the industry is Creed Media, which has become a go-to resource for music industry leaders looking to develop effective social media marketing strategies.

With a team of experts who understand the industry's nuances and are well-versed in the latest trends and technologies, Creed Media has been able to help many of the biggest names in the music industry achieve success online. Their strategies have proven effective and impactful, whether it's through building a cohesive narrative, identifying topperforming content, or optimizing influencer and community activity.

A Team of Skilled Experts

Creed Media is a company that specializes in building tailored marketing solutions for global brands and record labels. They engage new generations of consumers through popular platforms such as TikTok, Snapchat, and Instagram. Their campaigns focus on viral youth

culture, leading to a diverse range of clients, including Warner Music Group, Sony Music, Universal Music, Red Bull, KFC, and H&M.

Creed Media has experienced significant growth since its inception in 2018. The company has grown from a small, three-person operation to a 40-strong team with employees located in Sweden, Canada, and the United States. The founders, Timothy Collins and Hugo Leprince, are both under 30 and were recently recognized on the Forbes 30 under 30 Europe list in recognition of their company's rapid rise.

Mastery Of The Gen Z Lanquage

According to a survey by Morning Consult, a majority of Gen Zers (54%) use social media for four or more hours a day, which is almost double the rate of all U.S. adults (28%). Apart from this extensive usage of social media platforms, it is also noteworthy that most young people – 67% of them – believe that social media platforms like Tik-Tok and YouTube are the main places they discover new music.

The current generation has been heavily influenced

by digital technology, making them easily accessible through digital channels. Capturing their attention can be difficult and requires a quick response. To successfully reach them, it is vital to not only align with their values but also be adaptable to changing trends and perspectives to reach them successfully. This is where Creed Media's expertise kicks in.

Gen Zs are not a particularly easy demographic to predict. They are a unique audience with distinct cha racteristics such as being sharp, socially savvy, and having diverse consumption habits. Creed Media is wellequipped to engage with this audience, allowing new brands to have a wider reach.

Creed Media excels at marketing, specifically targeting the Gen Z audience with precision and focus. They provide guidance to reach untapped demographics, translate current trends, and help brands achieve their key performance indicators. Led by driven young executives, Creed Media creates noteworthy moments and starts conversations that all brands should aspire to be a part of.

Why Industry Leaders Are Turning To Creed Media

Among the many industry leaders who have partnered with Creed is Aser Ventures, an investment platform specializing in sports, media, and entertainment. Its Founder shares, "Timothy and Hugo have created something special in Creed Media. They have a deep understanding of the platforms and culture that excite young audiences, and they have built a business with the potential to continue to grow rapidly. At Aser Ventures, we want to help them by sharing our experience and our network with the Creed Media team

for synergy with the wider Aser group."

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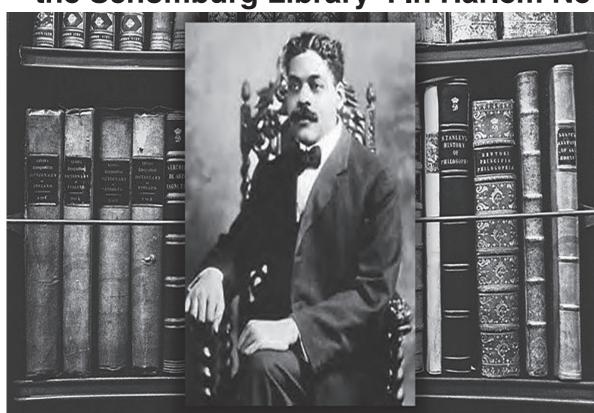
Creed Media's lead executives, Collins and LePrince, have found that partnerships with prominent players in the music industry have opened up relevant opportunities for the company. These strategic partnerships provide access to the vast experience of the teams at the partnering companies, propelling Creed Media's growth in exciting new directions.

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Meet Arturo Alfonso Schomburg, the man who built "the Schomburg Library": In Harlem New York City.



Arturo Alfonso Schomburg: A Guide to the Historian's Life

by MasterClass

Arturo Alfonso Schomburg was a noted historian, bibliophile, academic, and chronicler of the Black experience. He made it his life's mission to seek out artifacts, historical records, and information about the history of Black people both on the African continent and throughout the African diaspora. Along the way, he championed social justice causes and independence movements.

Who Was Arturo Alfonso Schomburg?

Arturo Alfonso Schomburg was an Afro-Puerto Rican historian, writer, and curator. Born in Puerto Rico on January 24, 1874, he came to the mainland United States to participate in the Harlem Renaissance and spread awareness about Black history. Schomburg's collection of slave narratives, historical records, and artifacts is accessible at the Harlem branch of the New York Public Library to this day. He died in Brooklyn on June 10, 1938.

During his lifetime (as well as after), Schomburg's name sometimes appeared anglicized in publications as Arthur Alfonso Schom-

Key Events in Schomburg's Early Life

Schomburg spent much of his early life both looking to the past for inspiration and hoping to create a better future. Here are three key events from his first few decades in Puerto Rico and New York:

- 1. Encountering racism: Arturo Alfonso Schomburg's German and Puerto Rican father (Carlos Federico Schomburg) and Black mother (Mary Joseph) welco-med his birth in Santurce, Puerto Rico. Schomburg attended school in the territory's capital of San Juan. While there, a teacher told him Black people had no history of their own. This lit a fire under Schomburg, who made it his life's mission to uncover his own heritage and the history of all Black people.
- 2. Heading to New York City: After attending St. Thomas College in the Danish Virgin Islands of the Caribbean, Schomburg set off to Harlem in New York City. While there, he began to focus specifically on Black history and started building his collection of records and artifacts. While in the United States, he never forgot his home island—he routinely advocated for both Puerto Rico and Cuba's independence from Spain at the time. He even founded a club called Las Dos Antillas (The Two Antilles) to raise awareness about their plight.
- 3. Starting a family: Schomburg married three times and had eight children total. He met his first wife, Elizabeth Hatcher, after she migrated northward in search of greater opportunity and equality. After she passed away, he married Elizabeth Morrow Taylor. His second marriage was also cut short by his wife's passing, and the two-time widower married a third

time to Elizabeth Green.

4 of Schomburg's Notable Achievements

Schomburg made his mark on history by helping Black people remember the history of their forebears. Consider these four key ways he kept Puerto Rican history and the Black experience of days past alive:

- 1. He amassed a landmark Black history collection. Over the course of his life, Schomburg curated a then unrivaled collection of historical artifacts and documents about life on the African continent and throughout the African diaspora. The Carnegie Corporation supplied funds to the New York Public Library (or NYPL) branch on 135th Street in Harlem to eventually purchase the collection. What was once the library's Division of Negro Literature, History, and Prints is now the Arthur Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.
- 2. He contributed to the Harlem Renaissance. For most of his life, Schomburg made his home in Harlem. New York City. While there, one of the world's foremost he read widely and contributed to different publications, like Carter G. Woodson's Journal of Negro History. "The Negro Digs Up His Past," published in Survey Graphic, is perhaps Schomburg's most famous article. His wide-ranging historical collection served as a constant source of inspiration to other writers and artists both during and after the Harlem Renaissance
- 3. He supported Puerto Rican independence. Schomburg had a strong connection to his Black and Latinx heritage, and he remained a

staunch supporter of both the Puerto Rican and Cuban independence movements for most of his life. He thought the domination of his homeland by first the Spanish and then the United States was unjust and unsustainable, and he worked and wrote tirelessly to persuade others of this, too. Placido, a Cuban Martyr—a pamphlet about the freedom fighter Gabriel de la Concepción Valdes is one of his most famous contributions to the political literature surrounding these issues.

4. He was a prominent educator. As an insatiable curator, reader, and writer, Schomburg was also a natural educator. He helped build a collection for Fisk University, a prominent HBCU (historically black college or university). Alongside John Edward Bruce, Schomburg founded and helped provide resources and guidance to the Negro Society for Historical Research. He also served as the final president of the American Negro Academythe first academic institution in the United States to provide Black citizens with a liberal arts education from 1920-1928.

From 1929 to 1932 Schomburg worked as a curator at Fisk University's library and was instrumental in expanding its collection from 100 to 4,600 items. Back in New York, he was appointed curator of The New York Public Library's Harlem Division. He held the position until his death on June 10, 1938 in Brooklyn. He was 64. In his honor, the Division was renamed the Schomburg Collection of Negro Literature, History and Prints in 1940. Arturo Schomburg's enduring legacy was further acknowledged when the Collection became the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture of The New York Public Library in 1972. With over 11 million items, it is research centers on Africa and the African Diaspora.



City to sue Kia, Hyundai after TikTok challenge spikes thefts

manufacturers.

Hyundai, which operates separately from Kia in the U.S. but owns a large stake in the company, is distributing free steering-wheel locks across the country and upgrades to its antitheft software on 4 million vehicles after the recent spate of car thefts.

Last week Adams and Keechant Sewell, the police commissioner, held a news conference to warn New Yorkers about an uptick in car thefts involving Kia and Hyundai. The officials pointed to the 10 to 12 Kias and Hyundais that were stolen in September; by December that number was up to about 100, they said.

"A public safety crisis is growing in our communities because of the irresponsible business practices of Kia and Hyundai," the city's Corporation Counsel Sylvia Hinds-Radix said in a statement. "Criminals are becoming more intuitive and are now capable of stealing cars by using USB cables. As attorneys for the city, we too must be just as intuitive to prevent these crimes.'



To Place Your Ad: Call 877 **-** 255**-** 2839 By Anthony Turner

NY: It is now official! Award winning reggae crooner Tarrus 'Singy Singy' Tarrus Riley, one of the most accomplished of the second generation of Jamaica roots reggae singers is the first artist confirmed for Groovin' In The Park, North America's premier reggae and R&B concert slated for Sunday, June 25, 2023 at Roy Wilkins Park in Queens,

"Tarrus has an impressive catalogue of hit songs. He has delivered many exhilarating performances at big festivals around the globe. In 2017, he along with Freddie McGregor, Ken Boothe and Leroy Sibbles accompanied by Lloyd Parks & We The People Band and a symphony orchestra gave a memorable performance that fans have not stopped talking about. His popularity has never waned since that memorable afternoon. He is one of the top five reggae performers requested by Groovin fans which is why we are eager to showcase

him again at Groovin In The Park" Chris Roberts, founder and CEO of Groovin Inc

"In the next few weeks we will be announcing more acts and a number of exciting changes to enhance the overall Groovin experience for our 10th staging. The event not only provides quality entertainment for thousands of patrons but the economic impact in the Jamaican/Caribbean American community here in Queens is significant" Roberts shared.

Riley in his career has amassed a catalog of love gems including She's Royal which former Prime Minister Edward Seaga said was one of the definitive reggae songs of all times. Other popular hits include Contagious, Soul Mate, Groovy Little Thing, Stay With You, Cry No More and Antique Loving, Start Anew, Good Girl Gone Bad featuring Konshens; Robin Thicke's Superman; Shaka Zulu

Pickney, Come Ova and Never leave I. Among his accolades are Best Singer, Male Vocalist of the year, Cultural Artiste and Song of the Year at the the Youth View Awards, The Star People's Choice Awards, the EME Awards, and the IRAWMA.

APRIL 18 - May 16, 2023

After a three year hiatus due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Groovin' In The Park will return for what promises to be a mammoth celebration. The festival has featured a number of A list reggae and R&B performers over the past nine staging including reggae legend Jimmy Cliff, Beres Hammond, Tessanne Chin, Jr Gong Marley, Beenie Man, Michael Bolton, Billy Ocean, Gladys Knight, Boyz 11 Men, Morgan Heritage, Coco Tea, Luciano, Stitchie, Sanchez, Barrington Levy, Marcia Griffiths, Freddy Mc-Gregor, Capleton, Leroy Sibbles, David Rodigan, Barry G among others.



Photo by: Winston Rodney

Ricky Trooper Shares Wanted Poster of Daughter's Killer



Seeking retribution for the HIS WAY YOUR SIDE. OPEN recently heart-shattering revelation that his daughter Bri Bri was murdered, Dancehall selector Ricky Trooper pleads with the public to bring his daughter's killer to justice.

Trying to get as much support as he can, Trooper shared a wanted poster of the man reported to be responsible for his daughter's murder, 40-year-old Derrick Francis, who is said to fre-Francis, with the caption, "MY FLORIDA FAMILY THIS KILLER WAS SEEN MAKING

YOUR EYES MY FANS. Bri Bri, 23 years old, was found dead inside her Bridgeport, Connecticut apartment on Thursday, April 6 sometime after 11 AM when police responded to a citizen complaint. The young woman was pronounced dead at the scene, the cause of death being a gunshot wound.

quent the Bridgeport, Connecticut and Bronx, New York areas is on the run

and currently wanted for murder by the Bridgeport police. If anyone has any information on the where abouts of the man in the circulating poster, they are asked to contact the police at emergency number 911 or speak directly to the officer in charge of the case, Detective Keith Hanson, at the number 203 581-5243.

The suspect is considered to be armed and dange-

Kathy Griffin spends Easter getting MRI after lung cancer battle



Kathy Griffin is continuing to focus on her health after her battle with lung cancer.

The comedian shared a photo of herself wrapped in a blanket in a hospital and revealed she was undergoing imaging.

"Happy Easter???" she captioned the Instagram post Sunday. "Getting an MRI."

Griffin, 62, did not give a reason for her scan, but she did receive plenty of well-wishes from her friends and followers.

"SENDING YOU SO MUCH LOVE KG," BRIEF "REAL HOUSEWIVES OF NEW YORK CITY" REBOOT CAST MEM-BER LIZZY SAVETSKY AD-

Griffin announced in August 2021 that she had been diagnosed with stage 1 lung cancer despite never having smoked.

"I'm about to go into surgery to have half of my left lung removed," she began a letter on social media. "Yes, I have lung cancer even though I've never smoked! The doctors are very optimistic as it is stage one and contained to my left lung."

DAYS LATER, THE "MY LIFE ON THE D-LIST" ALUM TOLD HER FANS THE SURGERY HAD GONE "WELL" BUT ADMITTED IT WAS "MORE THAN" SHE HAD ANTICIPATED.

"TONIGHT WILL BE MY FIRST NIGHT WITHOUT ANY NARCO-TIC PAIN KILLERS. HELLO TY-LENOL, MY NEW BEST FRIEND!" SHE WROTE ON SOCIAL MEDIA AT THE TIME.

GRIFFIN — WHO FACED DEATH THREATS AFTER INFAMOUSLY SHARING A PHOTO OF HERSELF HOLDING FORMER PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP'S DECAPITA-TED HEAD IN 2017 — DIS-CLOSED HER CANCER BATTLE AROUND THE SAME TIME SHE REVEALED SHE HAD SECRETLY ATTEMPTED SUICIDE AMID A CRIPPLING PILL ADDICTION.

"THE IRONY IS NOT LOST ON ME THAT, A LITTLE OVER A YEAR AGO, ALL I WANTED TO DO WAS DIE," SHE SAID AT THE TIME. "AND NOW, ALL I WANNA DO IS LIVE."

Former Donda Academy Teachers Have Sued Kanye West



Two former teachers at Kanye West's Donda Academy are suing the school, alleging labor violations in addition to restrictive and unusual school rules for teachers and students.

Among other allegations, the lawsuit claims the kids were only allowed to eat sushi, the school had no janitorial services, and West wouldn't allow the teachers or students to wear any jewelry. The teachers also allege the school did not meet Department of Education requirements or follow state regulations, and teachers were not required to have Basic Life Support certification or mandatory reporting training.

The lawsuit was filed Thursday by third-grade teacher Cecilia Hailey and fifth-grade teacher Chekarey Byers, who both worked at Donda Academy from January to March 2023. On March 3, 2023, Hailey and Byers were fired from Donda Academy without a reason given to them, according to the lawsuit, which is claiming a violation of the state's labor code. They believe they were fired in retaliation for complaining to the school's administra-

Both teachers say they complained about health and safety violations, including a lack of disciplinary systems. They allege in the lawsuit that their complaints weren't taken seriously and that Donda Academy's principal Moira Love called two of them "aggressive.

Hailey and Byers were the only Black teachers at the school, according to the lawsuit. "I'm just tired of the rhetoric being that Black women who are competent are seen as aggressive," Hailey said in a press release.

a lawyer for West, did not immediately return Buzz-Feed News' request for comment.

Byers also claims in the lawsuit she never received her first paycheck and

that her and Hailey's paychecks would often be short \$1,800 to \$2,700

per pay period. "Kanye West is clearly as bad at running a school as he is at managing his own personal and professional life, enabling an unsafe and illegal school environment for students that also discriminated against the plaintiffs based on their race," the plaintiffs' attorney, Ron Zambrano, said in a press release. "These egregious violations at Donda Academy are just another example of West's unusual behavior, and our clients just won't stand for it, no matter his celebrity status. Kanye needs to realize his genius is in creating music, not in school administra-

West, who legally changed his name to Ye in 2021, first opened Donda Academy in 2022 and now serves as its CEO, secretary, and CFO. Donda Academy is an unaccredited private Christian school for students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade.

The lawsuit also alleges a number of strict and unusual rules at the academy. No crossword puzzles or coloring sheets were allowed, the lawsuit claims. There were allegedly no classes on the second floor because West was afraid of stairs. Students weren't allowed to use forks, and all cups and bowls were required to be gray. No color or artwork was allegedly allowed in the classrooms, and students were required to wear black head-to-toe West-designed apparel. Brands like Nike and Adidas were prohibited, according to the lawsuit.

West also didn't allow any chairs in the school, the lawsuit claims, and kids had to sit on foam cushions or stand while teachers had to stand or use a stool. Students allegedly had to eat their lunch on the floor because there weren't any tables, and recess was indoors because students weren't allowed to go out-

"I'm extremely sad about all of this," Byers said in a news release. "It was such a huge honor and privilege to work at Donda Academy for Kanye West. I'm a Donda Academy, as well as huge Kanye fan. His first album was the first I ever purchased. I still enjoy his music, and I'll never deny his talent, but while his vision for the school sounds great on paper, it's just pure chaos and mutiny. It's like a mental hospital being run by the patients."

Lance Reddick's Attorney Disputes Cause Of Death Report



Actor Lance Reddick's cause of death was reportedly declared earlier this week, but now his attorney is disputing how he died.

The Wire star's death certificate, first made public by TMZ early Thursday, listed his immediate cause of death as ischemic heart disease and atherosclerotic coronary artery disease.

Actor's Attorney Says Cause Of Death Is "Wholly Inconsistent With His Lifestyle"

However, Reddick's attorney James Hornstein issued a statement to PEOPLE just hours after TMZ released the report. He claims no autopsy was performed and "no medical exam of Lance during his lifetime ever indicated such conditions."

"I have represented Lance Reddick for many years and continue to represent his wife Stephanie. The coroner statement on the death certificate is not a result of an autopsy. No autopsy was performed on Lance. To my knowledge, no medical examination of Lance during his lifetime ever indicated such conditions," read the state-

Hornstein called Lance "the most physically fit person I've ever known" and added, "The information on his death certificate is wholly inconsistent with his lifestyle.'

"Lance was the most physically fit person I've ever known," Hornstein continued. "He exercised daily at his home gym, including extensive cardio work, and the availability

of gym facilities was a contractual require-ment for his work away from home. He ate as if a dietician was monitoring his every meal. The information appearing on the death certificate is wholly inconsistent with his lifestyle."

Lance Reddick's Wife Also Disputes Actor's Certificate

The statement concluded:

"ON BEHALF OF STEPHANIE REDDICK, THE DEATH CERTIFICATE INFORMATION IS NOT CORROBORATED AND IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE FACTS KNOWN TO THE FAMI-

"LANCE WAS BEST KNOWN FOR HIS ROLES IN THE WIRE, BOSCH, NETFLIX'S RE-SIDENT EVIL AND THE JOHN WICK FILMS," THE STATEMENT CONTINUED.

THE STATEMENT SAID THAT "HE IS SURVI-VED BY HIS WIFE STEPHANIE REDDICK AND CHILDREN YVONNE NICOLE REDDICK AND CHRISTOPHER REDDICK. ADDING, "LANCE WILL BE GREATLY MISSED. PLEASE RESPECT HIS FAMILY'S PRIVACY AT THIS TIME."

AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH, REDDICK PLANNED TO APPEAR IN SEVERAL PRO-JECTS, INCLUDING THE WHITE MEN CAN'T JUMP REBOOT, THE ROLE OF ZEUS IN 2024'S PERCY JACKSON AND THE LIGHT-NING THIEF, AND THE JOHN WICK SPIN-OFF BALLERINA.

Lady Du Drops Gospel-Infused Single 'Oyini' Featuring Siyakha Khita & Reekado Banks

Amapiano star Lady Du's latest single 'Oyini' features renowned Gospel star, Siyakha Khita and Nigerian singer and songwriter, Reekado Banks.

'Oyini' is a spiritual outcry to God, pleading for him to hear their prayers as they try their best to survive in our world; however, it seems to become more complex with all the various challenges they face on a day-to-day basis. But through prayer they gain strength.

The single is from Lady Du's forthcoming 20-track debut album 'Song Is Queen' which is set to drop on the 28 of April. It's the second single from the project, after 'Wishy Wishy', featuring Okmalum-koolkat, which was released last month.



Marley Natural and Marley One Brands Launched at Bob Marley's House In Kingston. – World A Reggae A Reggae Entertainment

The Marley family welcomed VIP guests this week to the official opening of the new Marley Natural Herb House and launch of the Marley One global mushroom brand. The event took place at the reggae legend's former home at 56 Hope Road, now known as the Bob Marley Museum, which is also host to the new flagship Marley Natural Dispensary and smoking lounge.

The 'rootsy' elegant evening of music, food, and information on the new Marley brands, which took place on Tuesday, March 28, 6pm-10pm, was attended by a mix of Marley family members, ministers, CEOs, musicians, and influencers. The highlight of the event was an intimate acoustic performance by Stephen Marley on the deck of the Herb house, where Marley Natural is expected

to begin hosting a new musical series, Live at Bob's.

"I think my father would be pleased to see that an Herb house is opening at the Bob Marley Museum. When I think of how far the world has progressed surrounding its attitudes toward cannabis and to finally recognize its many positive qualities - this is exactly what my father and the Rastafarian Community has been saying for over 40 years. He has done so much to foster a positive understanding, it's just right that we do this for him and his legacy,' said Stephen Marley.

Marley Natural, the world's first global cannabis brand was born of a collaboration between the Marley family and Docklight Brands, Inc., and Marley One, the first global functional and psychedelic mushroom brand is a joint venture with Silo

Wellness.

"This is a significant milestone for our company as we will introduce the world to Marley One functional mushrooms, psychedelics products and wellness retreats. The brand offers top quality products in these fast-growing categories, instant name recognition and global visibility honoring Bob Marley's legacy and connection to nature and plant-based wellbeing," said NM Wellness CEO Douglas K. Gordon. "We are committed to building a leading global functional and psychedelic mushroom brand, guided by our vision to help people achieve healthier, more fulfilling lives and become the best versions of themselves."

Cedella Marley, CEO of Bob Marley Group of Companies, shared, "As a family,



we seek to use our platform to inspire positive change, and the launch of the Marley Natural and Marley One brand allows us to do just that. It's our wish that these products will empower people to experience oneness with nature and the universe at large and ultimately, achieve greater self-actualization."

The newly constructed Marley Natural Herb House has been approved by Jamaica's Cannabis Licensing Authority, which permits both locals and tourists to consume cannabis for medical and therapeutic purposes. The outlet exclusively offers

Marley Natural cannabis grown locally in St. Ann, Jamaica, the parish where Bob Marley was born. Its opening allows qualified consumers to enjoy authentic cannabis in eighths, prerolls, and vape cartridges inside the historic space. In addition to cannabis, the retail location will sell a full line of Marley Natural accessories including grinders, cases, holders, trays, bubblers, and other Marley branded products including Marley One.

Future locations are planned at Tuff Gong Studio in Kingston and elsewhere on

Members of the rap community are defending Michael B. Jordan and Jonathan Majors' intimate photo shoot after rapper Cam'ron suggested he didn't watch 'Creed III' because of it.



Cam'ron; Jonathan Majors and Michael B. Jordan. Getty/Johnny Nunez; Getty/Michael Buckner

The rap community is defending Michael B. Jordan and Jonathan Majors' intimate photo shoot in The New York Times.

It comes after rapper Cam'ron suggested he didn't see "Creed III" because of the shoot.

"How come men cant have healthy relationships with other men without masculinity or sexuality being questioned?" wrote Skillz.masculinity or sexuality being questioned?" wrote Skillz.

Members of the rap community have jumped to the defense of Michael B. Jordan and Jonathan Majors after rapper Cam'ron suggested an intimate photo shoot featuring the actors was the reason he didn't see "Creed III."

On Saturday, Cam'ron uploaded to Instagram two photos of the "Creed III" stars from a photo shoot accompanying their recent feature in The New York

The first photo shows Majors hugging Jordan from behind as they both look forward into the camera. In the second image, the actors are resting their heads on each other.

"The reason I didn't go see creed," the "Hey Ma" rapper captioned his post.

While Cam'ron did not elaborate, his caption appeared to be a criticism of the intimate nature of Jordan and Majors' photo

Award-winning songwriter and rapper Skillz was among those to hit back at Cam'ron's line of thinking.

"We are our own worst enemies smh. I tell all my homies I love em...Why? Cuz I do! Sometimes it throws em off but lon care, Ima keep saying that ish. Tomorrow aint promised. We all getting older man & death is definitley certain. Its already hard enough out here for black men as it is bro," Skillz wrote in his own Instagram post.

lationships with other men without masculinity or sexuality being questioned?"

Rapper Masta Ace commented on Skillz's post: "Well said Skillz....!!!! I'm sharing this absolutely!"

Jarobi White, a founding member of the hip-hop group A Tribe Called Quest, commented: "I think being afraid to show love to brothers because of being seen as gay is well.... Gay.

DJ Paul of Three 6 Mafia wrote: "My brother missing out cause its an Amazing movie! I've watched it five

times and I'm not just saying that because we had the theme song in the trai-

Released on March 3, "Creed III" earned \$58.7 million in its opening weekend in North America and a further \$41.8 million overseas, according to Vibe.

As well as starring as the movie's lead character, Adonis Creed, Jordan also directed the movie.

Speaking about his directional debut in an interview Skillz added: "How come with IndieWire, Jordan said men cant have healthy re- the plot of the movie was inspired by anime series like "Naruto" and "Dragon Ball

> "I love the thought process of anime, the internal dialog, and seeing the world through how [characters] think. They just achieve a level of action that live action just sometimes doesn't give you," he said.

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Hugh Jackman reveals new cancer scare, urges people to stop tanning – National



Even Wolverine needs to wear sunscreen.

Actor Hugh Jackman took to social media on Tuesday to warn people about the dangers of sun tanning and skin cancer.

In a short video posted to Instagram, Jackman, 54, revealed he is undergoing skin cancer testing to determine if abnormalities spotted during a recent medical checkup are signs of basal cell carcinoma, a common form of skin cancer.

Read more:

Hugh Jackman, Laura Dern talk 'The Son' and the importance of mental health

Jackman, who appeared with a bandage on his nose, said he had two biopsies done this week. He is still awaiting test results from his doctor.

Story continues below advertisement

"Just to remind you, basal cell, in the world of skin cancers, is the least dangerous of them all," Jackman cautioned his followers. "However, if I can just take this opportunity to remind you, summer is coming."

He urged his followers to "please wear sunscreen."

"It's just not worth it, no matter how much you want to tan. Trust me, trust me, trust me," he said. "Put some sunscreen on. You'll still have an incredible time out there." Even Wolverine needs to wear sunscreen. Actor Hugh Jackman took to social media on Tuesday to warn people about the dangers of sun tanning and skin cancer.

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"It's just not worth it, no matter how much you want to tan. Trust me, trust me, trust me," he said. "Put some sunscreen on. You'll still have an incredible time out there."

On Wednesday, Jackman shared the results of his biopsies, both of which were negative.

"Thank you ALL for the love. I feel it!" Jackman

Again, he encouraged his followers to wear suns

creen, no matter the sea-

Story continues below advertisement

Jackman has been treated for basal cell carcinoma several times in the past. He was first diagnosed in 2013 and revealed at the time that he had a cancerous growth removed from his nose. The BBC reported The Greatest Showman actor has received at least six treatments for skin cancer in his lifetime.

Read more:

'American Idol' contestant quits show weeks after Katy Perry 'mom-shaming' comment

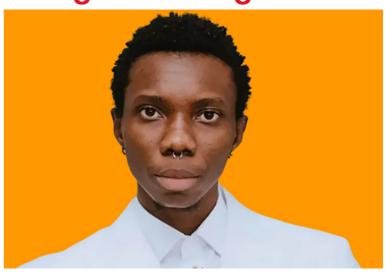
Basal cell carcinoma, widely considered the most common of all skin cancer types, often appears as a slightly transparent bump on the skin. Basal cell carcinoma is believed to be caused by long-term exposure to ultraviolet radiation from sunlight.

carcinoma to spread to another part of the body, though it is possible to have more than one appearance of basal cell carcinoma at a time. In fact, having one basal cell carcinoma increases your risk of getting another.

Story continues below advertisement

In Canada, one in every eight people will develop basal cell carcinoma in their lifetime.

"Yahoo Artists"-Blaqbonez slams artists using streaming farms »



"one day these platforms would catch you"- Blaqbonez shades artists using streaming farms

Blagbonez has criticised his fellow Nigerian artists for employing streaming farms to increase the popularity of their tracks on digital stores.

This was declared by the rapper in a statement on Twitter.

Recall that in the past, Blagbonez had criticised musicians who used streaming farms, claiming that they were hurting the industry.

Monday, April 10, the rapper called these musicians "Yahoo artists" and expressed hope that eventually, streaming services will discover them.

"one day these platforms would catch you streaming farm guys, and then everyone would know the yahoo artists from the real ones. continue"

"one day these platforms would catch you" - Blagbonez shades artists using streaming farms

Yahoo Artists - Blaqbonez Calls Out Colleagues Using Streaming Farms.

"Yahoo Artists" - Blagbonez slams artists using streaming farms "Yahoo Artists" - Blagbonez slams artists using streaming farms Blagbonez has criticised his fellow Nigerian artists for employing streaming farms to increase the popularity of their tracks on digital stores. This was declared by the rapper in a statement on Twitter.

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"Yahoo artists" and expressed hope that eventually, streaming services will discover them.

"one day these platforms would catch you streaming farm guys, and then everyone would know the yahoo artists from the real ones. continue"

This won't be the first time the "back in Uni" crooner would be calling out the use of Streaming farms.

In a fresh tweet posted on Last year during the infamous online clash between BNXN and Ruger, the issue of streaming farms came

> BNXN revealed during the Twitter argument that there are currently "streaming farms" in Nigeria where record label executives pay money to get their artists' songs placed on the music charts, giving them a competitive advantage over artists who rely only on organic streams.

> In response to these allegations, Blagbonez tweeted:

> "All of you using streaming farms would be exposed soon. Awon hushpuppi."

> Yemi Alade quote-tweeted BlagBonez' tweet and added:

"Never saw a 'realler' tweet! Somebody pls frame this tweet for me. I want to hang it on my wall.'

BlagBonez wrote in another

"It's actually so painful say u go hustle, push your shit, some niggas go just use money buy the charts. same men go come out

Inside the Ku Klux Klan's Plan to Conquer America

By Brooke Leigh Howard

My high-school history teacher was infamous for repeating information that she wanted her classes to remember. Anything worth knowing was generally said at least three times, which was her indication that we needed to take notes.

"Reconstruction: 1865 to 1877," Ms. Thomas would chant.

It was the beginning of my tenth-grade year and the first time I had ever even heard about the political timeline just after the Civil War. During Reconstruction, the federal government put laws in place in attempts to help African Americans adjust after enslavement. Black people were running for political office, getting advanced degrees, and broadening their professional and social endeavors en masse.

The Klan Was the Original 'Election Police'

However, that sense of Black liberation scared white supremacists, who formed vigilante groups to try and stifle Black people back into systemic boxes of subordination.

One of those organizations, the Ku Klux Klan was born in Tennessee. Though the homegrown terrorists did manage to slaughter thousands of Black Americans during their early existence, the Klan was unable to grow and prosper due to Reconstruction-era laws and the occasional righteous political leaders who enforced them. But the eventual relaxation of those laws allowed a resurrection of the Klan in the early 20th century, and the organization's spidery legs of hate were spread throughout multiple avenues of politics, religious communities, and social movements.

Timothy Egan's A Fever in the Heartland: The Ku Klux Klan's Plot to Take Over America, and the Woman Who Stopped Them (Viking) picks up on the second and more notorious and harrowing—coming of the Ku Klux Klan when white sheets became the costume norm and burning crosses became regular scare tactics. Released April 4, the work of nonfiction reads like a thriller novel, as if it's laying the groundwork for a movie script rather than providing the textbook template of historical accounts. The book follows the true story of Grand Dragon D.C. "Steve" Stephenson and his rise as a white supremacist leader. The heart of

the Klan no longer resided below the Mason-Dixon Line. Instead, it swept in massive waves across the Midwest, with Indiana as the ultimate zone of racist-religious-antiimmigrant terror.

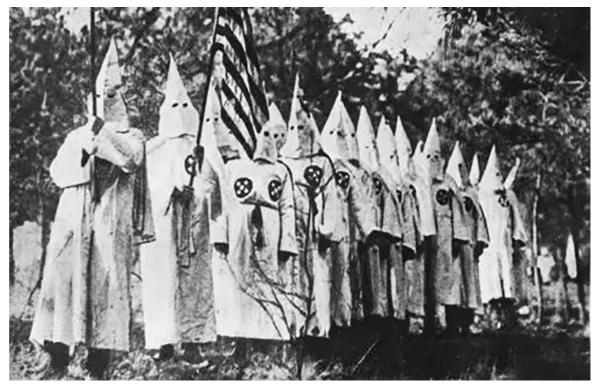
Stephenson's responsibility, Egan quoted a 1924 article from the Indianapolis Star, was "to go forth and spread 'the principles of pure Patriotism Honor, Klanishness and White Supremacy."

The Invisible Empire, as the Klan is commonly known, was revived after a Baptist minister in 1905 North Carolina had a tantrum over the portrayal of the South in a staged version of Uncle Tom's Cabin. The minister wrote his own book, The Clansman: A Historical Romance of the Ku Klux Klan, to counter the anti-slavery sentiments of Uncle Tom's Cabin. The book was adapted into the film The Birth of a Nation (1915) by director D.W. Griffith, who happened to be homies with the creators of the early Academy of Motion Pictures and Sciences. (The same organization that hosts the Oscars and has been rattled with racist allegations for its lack of diversity.)

The Birth of a Nation set the technical and artistic standards for the upand-coming movie industry and became propaganda for Klan recruitment as it hailed Black people as sexual predators, political deviants, idiots, and wastes of space when not in positions of servitude. (Ms. Thomas used to say that it was one of the hardest films she ever watched, advised her students never to do so, and said she had to split the three-hour silent film into separate segments to be able to emotionally digest the hateful content.)

Stephenson worked as an idolized recruiter of the Klan, treating the organization like a pyramid scheme with the commission he would make off of each new member—man, woman, or child. (Yes, Ku Klux Kiddies were a thing.) The Klan prided itself on being a group of do-gooder all-Americans who wanted to keep the white race pure. Meanwhile, Stephenson, one of its leaders responsible for 40 percent of its membership and who had eyes on becoming president of the United States, was guilty of everything his prized Invisible Empire condemned: divorce, adultery, illegal drinking during Prohibition, physical abuse, and sexual assault.

Stephenson, simply put,



was a menace. He abandoned his pregnant wife in Oklahoma to basically become a white supremacy con-artist of the Midwest. He moved throughout Ohio and Indiana, marrying, illegally marrying, and making broken promises to wed women he allegedly raped to keep them quiet about his crimes.

Nonetheless, with Stephenson's level of power, he considered himself the law.

A Fever in the Heartland illustrates the fascist orchestration the Ku Klux Klan set in place to infiltrate the country.

"If the Klan is dead, then America is dead," Imperial Wizard Hiram Evans said in 1925.

Membership in the Klan was a necessity for employment with certain companies. Pastors, judges, mayors, senators, governors were either members or turned blind eyes to its oppressive—and brutal—forces. Laws were passed that were practically kissed by the Klan, including an immigration act that prevented Anne Frank's family from relocating to the U.S. before the European Jewish Holocaust. Presidents disregarded the Klan's reign of terror. Nazis were inspired.

The ultimate demise of the Klan's leaders weren't outside forces or opponents of their so-called racial purity. Typically, it was a Klansman's ego that prompted his downfall. In Stephenson's case, it had been a replica of his predatory behavior finally catching up to him.

Madge Oberholtzer, a working woman who was educated at Butler College, managed to stop Stephenson in his tracks. Afraid that she was going to lose her state government job due

to budget cuts, she socialized with the Grand Dragon in an effort to stop the inevitable from happening. However, Stephenson misread their relationshipor frankly, he didn't care. The Klan leader kidnapped Oberholtzer, forced her to drink alcohol, raped the young woman, and mangled her body in a gruesome sexual act. Realizing the level of power Stephenson had and seeing no other means of escape, Oberholtzer opted to ingest a fatal amount of mercury chloride she managed to obtain. With that unintended matter of self-sacrifice, Oberholtzer got Stephenson on the bad side of the law, which eventually landed him in trial for her murder and his eventual imprison-

A Fever in the Heartland is white supremacy's form of poetic justice. An organization birthed on patriotism and unity was spurred from hate, and it thrived on that bigotry to the point where its members were blind of their own shortcomings.

However, while reading, I couldn't help but point to

the political parallels from a century ago that seem to echo today. Laws are being introduced in multiple states to diminish the rights of transgender people. Florida's lawmakers are fighting tooth and nail to prevent historical accuracy from being taught in schools. Books are barred that are deemed too controversial to an antic—and false—American dream.

Voter suppression is an ongoing issue during elections. Neo-Nazis marched with torches at the University of Virginia (my alma mater), trumpeting white power seemingly in homage to those turn-of-the-century lynch mobs and cross burnings. And we're still enduring the aftermath of a former president who wanted to build a wall to keep out Latinos he deemed were "killers" and other immigrants from "shithole countries."

Though the Ku Klux Klan may not officially be feared as a collective organization as it once was, remnants of its social, political, and psychological power still fester in the soil.



Dalai Lama apologizes after video shows him kissing boy, asking him to 'suck my tongue'



By Michelle De Pacina

The Dalai Lama, the foremost spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhism, has apologized after a video of him kissing a young boy and asking him to "suck my tongue" has gone viral on social media.

The young boy approached the Dalai Lama during a public event in late February at the Dalai Lama's temple in Dharamshala, India.

More than 120 young students who had just graduated from the Indian M3M Foundation reportedly attended the event, during which one of the students spoke into a microphone to ask the Dalai Lama for a hug.

Tenzin Gyatso, the 87-year-old spiritual leader, then told the boy to come up to the platform and motioned to his cheek, where the child then kissed him.

More from NextShark: South Korean video ad criticized for 'sexually objectifying' garlic

"I think here also," the Dalai Lama said, referring to his lips.

In the viral video, the spiritual leader is seen planting a kiss on the child's lips before laughing and asking him to "suck my tongue."

While the audience laughs, the boy reportedly sticks his tongue out and moves away while the Dalai Lama he Dalai Lama then advised the boy to follow those who create "peace and happiness" and not to follow "human beings who always kill other people" before giving him another hug.

The footage has garnered millions of views across social media, with many users condemning the Dalai Lama's "inappropriate" and "disgusting" behavior.

On Monday, the backlash prompted the office of the Dalai Lama to apologize for the act that they categorized as "innocent and play-

Don't use public phone charging stations: FBI



by Stephen Neukam

The FBI is warning people to not use public phone charging stations, which have become increasingly popular in places like airports and shopping malls.

The problem is that hackers have found a way to introduce malware and other software onto devices through the public stations, the FBI said.

"Avoid using free charging stations in airports, hotels or shopping centers," the FBI's Denver Twitter account said. "Bad actors have figured out ways to use public USB ports to introduce malware and monitoring software onto devices. Carry your own charger and USB cord and use an electrical outlet instead."

The warning on social media mirrors guidance the bureau offers on its website.

The FBI's Denver office told The Hill nothing prompted the warning on its social media and that it was simply a public service announcement. The FBI is not alone in its warning to avoid the USB charging stations The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) also warns against their use on its website, saying hackers are able to load malware onto the USB ports, giving them the ability to "maliciously" access devices. The agency calls it "juice jacking."

"If your battery is running low, be aware that juicing up your electronic device at free USB port charging stations, such as those found near airport gates, in hotels and other travel-friendly locations, could have unfortunate consequences," the FCC said. "You could become a victim of 'juice jacking,' a new cyber-theft tactic."

The FCC warns that such malware can give criminals access to personal data and passwords, which they can use personally or sell to other actors.

Instead of using the public USB charging stations, the FCC suggests people use a portable charger, use an AC power outlet or buy a charging-only cable, which does not allow the transfer of information while being used.

Iran installs cameras in public places to identify and penalise unveiled women



Iranian authorities are to use cameras in public places to identify women who violate the country's hijab law, state media reported.

Women in Iran risk arrest for not covering their hair. Many have been defying the mandatory dress code as part of the widespread protests that followed the death of a young woman in custody for allegedly violating hijab rules.

Authorities, though, show no sign of backing down on the issue. "In an innovative measure and in order to prevent tension and conflicts in implementing the hijab law, Iranian police will use smart cameras in public places to identify people who break the norms," the state-aligned Tasnim

news agency quoted police as saying.

After the women have been identified, they would be sent warning messages which detail the specific time and place they had "violated" the law, according to Tasnim.

"In the context of preserving values, protecting family privacy and maintaining the mental health and peace of mind of the community, any kind of individual or collective behavior against the law, will not be tolerated," Tasnim reported.

A viral video earlier this month showed a man throwing yogurt on two women for not wearing the hijab.

Both were later arrested for breaking Iran's dress code.

'JUICE JACKING'



What is Port Harcourt turning into?

Can't believe this, So much Tears in My Eyes. Port Harcourt needs prayers!

The girl you see in the Picture below is blessing okorie, a Final year student at Uni Port.

Yesterday, she left the house and was going for a Youth Program at her Church at about 3pm, she took a Taxi...

(The man you see in the picture), was the Taxi man, whose name we got as Izuchukwu Amadi.

On their way to the church the Taxi man took a different road, blessing asked why? He said he was running away from the police.

Blessing started feeling Uncomfortable but kept quiet in was just praying knowing the world we are living in is filled with evil! The man continued and took a different road she begged him to drop her, he increased the speed instead.

The man headed for a near by bush, dropped her, pretended he was urinating and then dropped a 1000naira note.

He then told blessing she dropped her money, she said no it wasn't hers. But he insisted and started forcing blessing to take the money.

Blessing cried out! A Man who was in the near by bush heard, hurried to the Scene, beat the man up, and was forcing him to take the Money.

And behold, that was when my Television went off cos FIAM NEPA took light so I could not finish the Film.

The Bishop's Confession

A story is told of a delegate of priests headed by a bishop. In the aircraft in which they were travelling were other diverse people.

Suddenly there was a problem: one of the aircraft's engine stopped working. Every body was gripped with fear. No body wants to die. After a while another announcement was that the second engine has stopped working too, that all should prepare for anything.

Instantly, there was a long queue of people confessing their sins. The priests and the bishop also confessed to each other. Third announcement was that all is well again: the engines are working now.

The bishop quickly and quietly went to the priest whom he heared his confession and said to him: "I did not mean all that i told you, i was only joking"

The Idiot

There were three guys stuck on an island, the first guy was a African, the second was a German, and the third one was a redneck.

While swimming at the beach the African found a magical lamp and rubbed it. A jenie came out and told them three that he would grant them all one wish.

The African went first and wished to go back to Africa with his family. Then the German went second and wished to go back to germany with his family. Finally it was the rednecks turn so the jenie asked him, "What is your wish."

The redneck paused and started looking around and said, "Now that I'm alone can you bring the other two guys back."

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