

Apple's 'Glowtime' event 'raises the bar' for iPhones

Tech giant unveils iPhone 16 series with its artificial intelligence software. In Money

Don Lemon invites readers to question their own faith

In new memoir "I Once Was Lost," former CNN host examines religion in politics. In Life



NFL Week 1: Players and teams make statement

Bears' Caleb Williams becomes first QB drafted No. 1 overall to win his NFL debut in 22 years. More Week 1 takeaways, In Sports

USA TODAY

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ELECTION 2024 PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

Harris, Trump look to seize moment

Faceoff is unlikely to upend race, but it could give it a push

Michael Collins USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — When the history of the 2024 presidential election is written, the one and only debate between Joe Biden and Donald Trump will be remembered as the event that truly changed the course of the race.

A few weeks after Biden's disastrous performance, he dropped out, and Kamala Harris stepped in as the Democratic nominee.

This week, the second debate of the



Trump



Harris

presidential contest will take place, this time between Harris and Trump. The stakes are high for both candidates; polls show a close race with just two months left until Election Day.

For Harris, Tuesday's debate in Philadelphia will provide a chance to show she can stand up to Trump and introduce herself to voters who feel they know little about her. For Trump, the debate is an opportunity to define Harris on his terms and try to regain some of the momentum he lost to her after the Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

In a race this close, a strong debate performance could give either candidate an edge going into the final weeks

See DEBATE, Page 3A

How to watch

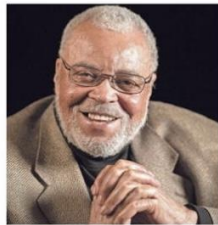
The debate is set to begin at 9 p.m. ET Tuesday and will air on ABC and multiple channels.

"World News Tonight" anchor and managing editor David Muir and ABC News Live "Prime" anchor Linsey Davis will serve as the moderators.

Full coverage, analysis

Follow the debate and its aftermath at usatoday.com.

JAMES EARL JONES 1931-2024



James Earl Jones had an extensive career in film and on Broadway. ROBERT DEUTSCH/USA TODAY

'Star Wars,' film icon Jones is dead at 93

Actor: 'It was great fun' to voice Darth Vader

Brian Truitt USA TODAY

James Earl Jones, whose acting career was every bit as rich and resonant as the iconic bass voice that gave sinister malevolence to Darth Vader in the "Star Wars" films, died Monday. He was 93.

Jones' representative Barry McPherson confirmed the actor's death in a statement to USA TODAY. A cause of death was not disclosed.

"He passed this morning surrounded by his loved ones," McPherson said. "He was a great man."

Jones was an acclaimed star of stage and screen, winning Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony awards, though later his unmistakable voice became as famous as his usually smiling face. He invited generations of TV viewers with the signature "This is CNN" line for the cable news channel, had parental gravitas as the brave Mufasa in Disney's classic 1994 animated "The Lion King" and its 2019 remake, but was most famous for his signature lines ("I am your father") as Vader.

"I've done a King Lear, too! Do the kids know that? No, they have the Darth Vader poster to sign. But it's OK," Jones said in a 2010 Broadway.com

See JONES, Page 4A

Former agent 'can add some fidelity' to immigration policy

From Border Patrol to aiding migrants



Lauren Villagran USA TODAY

EL PASO, Texas — The night's sleeping mats neatly folded to one side, shelter director Michael DeBruhl bowed his head in prayer with the few migrant families who had stayed over.

There were eggs and black beans for breakfast, oatmeal and steaming coffee. DeBruhl greeted them using the Spanish he'd perfected in 26 years as a U.S. Border Patrol agent.

If migration at the U.S.-Mexico border has been one of the most divisive issues in

Michael DeBruhl worked for U.S. Customs and Border Protection before becoming a migrant shelter director.

OMAR ORNELAS/ USA TODAY NETWORK

America, DeBruhl has straddled both sides. He has handcuffed migrants and deported them. He has fed migrants and sheltered them. He has survived, in his own heart and mind, a debate that has divided the nation's politics, and its families.

"Immigration is extremely complex," he told USA TODAY. "When I was a field agent, that's what I understood: I understood enforcement and the intelligence of how people come across the border. But as you rise in the organization, the higher you go, the better the picture is on the larger issues."

See MIGRANT AID, Page 4A

As CEO got rich, chain of hospitals imploded

Those hit hard ask where regulatory guardrails are

Ken Alltucker USA TODAY

Donna Gittens felt drained as she struggled to form words. Dinner plans with her husband and friends would have to wait. She worried she was in the middle of a stroke.

Gittens was rushed to Carney Hospital, minutes from her home in Boston's Dorchester neighborhood. Last summer's emergency spanned two facilities as physicians unraveled a med-

ical mystery. The underlying issue was a brain infection, but she credits her neighborhood hospital's doctors and nurses with saving her life.

She now worries others in her area won't have access to the same emergency care.

Carney is one of two Massachusetts hospitals that closed last week following recent chaotic developments at Steward Health Care. The embattled for-profit hospital chain filed for bankruptcy on May 6 and has been mired in crises involving patients and creditors across several states.

The chain is led by a former heart surgeon who collected more than \$100 mil-

"How many of these hospitals are being loaded up with debt in order to make a handful of executives and private equity firms even wealthier?"

Sen. Bernie Sanders Vermont independent

lion in compensation and bought a \$40 million yacht while employees at Steward hospitals complained about a lack of basic supplies, according to a Senate committee. More than 2,200 employees now expect to be laid off in Massachusetts and Ohio, according to

See HOSPITALS, Page 6A



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The documentary, premiering next month on Hulu, explores life on and off stage. Page 2D

The actress walks the red carpet at the Toronto Film Festival for her new film. Page 4D

LIFELINE



JAMIE SQUIRE/GETTY IMAGES

CAUGHT IN THE ACT
TAYLOR AND TRAVIS

Taylor Swift is in her tennis era. The pop superstar made an appearance with her boyfriend Travis Kelce on Sunday at the US Open men's final match between American Taylor Fritz and Italian Jannik Sinner in New York. Swift wore a red and white gingham dress with caramel pumps while Kelce sported a red, brown and green Gucci bucket hat and a stripe-trimmed white cardigan over a matching polo shirt and shorts. Kelce's Kansas City Chiefs teammate Patrick Mahomes and his wife, Brittany, joined the couple in the tennis suite.



IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY
WHO'S CELEBRATING TODAY

Ryan Phillippe is 50. Big Daddy Kane is 56. Colin Firth is 64.

HOROSCOPE | SANCTUARY
More: www.sanctuaryworld.co

Aries (March 21-April 19). Existential crisis? Something feels "off," but you can't put a finger on what. **Taurus** (April 20-May 20). Your mood is icy. Friends don't know how to reach you!

Gemini (May 21-June 21). Oof. Attempting to handle a partnership dispute "professionally" backfires. They have a right to be offended!

Cancer (June 22-July 22). Feel like you're not making progress fast enough? You can't rush this process.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). Forced to put fun on the back burner? More pressing responsibilities require your attention.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Running away from relationship drama? You're unable to bury your head in the sand. **Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Dwelling on the negatives? A need to nitpick coupled with low energy has you feeling down.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Financial struggles? You feel the crunch. Try not to stress if you're coming up short.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Family drama dragging you down? Pull yourself together.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Clamming up? Communication difficulties flare. You just want to be left alone!

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Struggling with delays? You're hoping to move things along. No such luck.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20). Low self-confidence? The moon's clash with taskmaster Saturn makes a situation seem worse than it is.

BOOKS



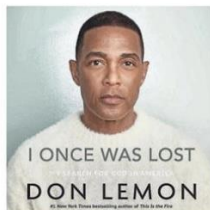
Don Lemon, shown in New York City 2022, shares details of his career and spiritual journey in his latest memoir, "I Once Was Lost."

MIKE COPPOLA/GETTY IMAGES

Lemon tackles religion and other big issues in 'Lost'

David Oliver USA TODAY

Don Lemon is looking for answers. But is he going to find them? • The former CNN host tangles with many questions in his latest memoir, "I Once Was Lost" (Little, Brown and Co., 222 pp), out Tuesday. The book centers on religion and Lemon asks readers to go on a spiritual journey with him. He peppers the pages with anecdotes from his church-going childhood, his decadeslong run on CNN and the aftermath of his firing from the network. It also includes thoughtful commentary on scripture, gun control and Elon Musk, whom Lemon has since sued following the cancellation of a planned partnership deal with X, the social platform formerly known as Twitter that Musk bought in 2022. • "It's about politics, it's about religion, it's about life," Lemon, 58, says about the book over a Zoom call from Chicago, where he's just waking up ahead of a day covering the Democratic National Convention for "The Don Lemon Show," his millennial and Gen Z-staffed digital upstart. "There's racism in there, there's homophobia in there, there's hypocrisy in there, there's white nationalism in there." • Lemon invites readers to question their own faith — something he believes could counteract the echo chambers many Americans can't seem to escape.



Don Lemon's latest book "I Once Was Lost" is out now. PROVIDED BY LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY

"If you don't (question), then your beliefs are so concrete and strident," Lemon says. "You become so strident that there's no room for anybody else's beliefs but your own."

Lemon talks about Democrats, Republicans and religion

If you haven't read the Bible before, Lemon recommends starting with an open mind and at the very beginning. "The Bible isn't really a book more so than a library of parables and insights on how you live your life," he says. And don't trust

See LEMON, Page 4D

BOOKS

Sánchez hopes to inspire big dreams

Laura Trujillo USA TODAY

Can you write a story about Lauren Sánchez without mentioning her very famous billionaire mogul of a fiancé?

Sánchez is an Emmy-winning journalist, a pilot, the owner of an aviation company, a mom of three, a philanthropist, and now a debut children's author. Her new book, "The Fly Who Flew to Space" (32 pp, The Collective Book Studio) is out Sept. 10.

After her name, there is frequently only a comma and the description: the fiancée of Jeff Bezos, founder of Amazon. While Sánchez was on TV in some way — either as a sports reporter, morning show host or journalist for more than two decades — it was this relationship that recently pushed her into the national spotlight.

Now she is often portrayed as a glamour girl — at the Met Gala in an Oscar de la Renta strapless gown, at the White House for a state dinner in an off-the-shoulder corset dress, or on what is likely the world's largest yacht in a white crochet bikini. Sometimes the person portraying her this way is herself — on Instagram.

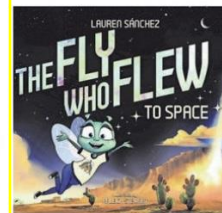
"As women, we can wear a lot of hats," Sánchez, 54, says. "We don't have to be put in a box."

Her Instagram feed also is filled with photos of her flying helicopters, on a stage at the Aspen Ideas: Climate conference (in a black turtle-neck event), and celebrating graduations and birthdays with her children.

People see a very narrow view of you, she says in a call from Los Angeles, where she typically spends two weeks with her two youngest children, and then two in Miami when they are with their dad. She is about to start a book tour for "The Fly," a charming read with playful illustrations and a message every parent hopes their children receive: Anything is possible. Stay curious. Dream big.

"If you look at people with an open heart, and really believe that people are multifaceted and can be anything they want, I think it changes the world," she says. "Because we really are more than one thing or what the world wants to define us as."

So what people think of her feels less important, but also "hopefully this is a chance for people to get to know me on a different level than just what they see in a magazine."



"The Fly Who Flew to Space" is a new children's book for ages 4-8. PROVIDED BY THE COLLECTIVE BOOK STUDIO

Sánchez's story takes flight with a tiny bug in an airplane

Almost eight years ago, Sánchez was flying a plane with her children when they noticed a fly inside the cockpit.

"We all started imagining what kind of adventure that tiny little fly was on ... flying way above the sky away from its family. It sparked this thought about how even the smallest creatures can embark on incredible journeys if they dare to explore. I didn't really write it, I kind of imagined it," she says, laughing. "It happened to me."

The simple, unexpected moment made her think it could be a good children's book. She toyed with the idea, typing notes into her phone with a fly named Flynn. And then she sort of let

See SÁNCHEZ, Page 4D

TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Lopez is inspired by real-life 'Unstoppable' story

Brian Truitt
USA TODAY

TORONTO — Jennifer Lopez has played real-life figures before, from the iconic Latina singer of "Selena" to Puchi in "El Cantante." Judy Robles happens to be the only one the A-lister has ever Zoomed with.

"We were just almost the same person in a weird way, even though we were so different and we had such different lives. At the core and the heart of who we were, at first, we were moms and beyond that we had had similar struggles," Lopez said of the mother of champion wrestler Anthony Robles, the subject of Lopez's new biopic "Unstoppable." "The story being a Latino story, being so inspiring, it was just something that kind of grabbed me."

It was a big night for Lopez, whose "Unstoppable" premiered Friday at the Toronto International Film Festival. In her first public appearance since filing for divorce from Ben Affleck last month, she was stunning on the festival red carpet in a silver Tamara Ralph dress held together by black velvet bows and took selfies with fans. (Alek, a producer on the movie, didn't attend, though Lopez did pose for pictures with her ex's bestie, Matt Damon.)

Lopez also was able to share the evening with the family that inspired "Unstoppable." She embraced Anthony Robles at their seats as the credits rolled,

then shared a moment with Judy Robles backstage right before a post-screening Q&A.

"She hugged me and she said, 'Is this real?' " Lopez said, "I said, 'It's real. We're here. You did this.'"

Lopez called "Unstoppable" "one of the most beautiful, most inspiring stories I think I've ever seen on screen." The sports drama stars Jharrel Jerome as Anthony, who works through the challenges of being born with one leg to become a national champion, while Lopez's Judy faces financial hardships at home and is a victim of domestic violence, beaten by her prison-guard husband (Bobby Cannavale).

Judy Robles told Lopez on stage that "you were me with a sass but also with the sadness and the pain."

Anthony Robles, who was on the set with Jerome and trained him to be in mat shape, said his biggest fear with the movie "was having my story told to the world and not knowing how that was going to be told. (But) I couldn't be any happier tonight."

Judy Robles said the two had "several conversations" about the movie and "being vulnerable" while opening up their lives to cast and filmmakers. "It's been messy. I made a lot of mistakes and I owned up to my mistakes that I've made in life. But I am proud of the fact that I've raised a son that has grown up to inspire so many people, and who has accepted the challenges that life has given him."



Jennifer Lopez attends the premiere of her new film "Unstoppable" on Friday at the Toronto International Film Festival. EMMA MCINTYRE/GETTY IMAGES

Lemon

Continued from Page 1D

those who say they "fully understand it."

"Anyone who claims that they do, I think you should bust out a grain of salt and ask yourself about their agenda if they claim to think that they understand everything about the Bible. No. No," he says.

Lemon, who does not claim affiliation with either major political party, compared what he saw regarding religion at the Republican National Convention and Democratic National Convention.

At the Democratic convention, "they offered a different relationship from God, very different from the judgment and self-righteous stance of the RNC, where God was used as this sort of giant inflatable stage prop, and I found last night that it was just more inclusive, that God was used in a way to make people bigger and more forgiving and more open and less judgmental."

He doesn't understand the Christian nationalism of it all. "It's an odd thing for me, this whole idea that the Bible and the Constitution and our country and who we are, and patriotism. There's this sort of odd connection and ownership that they feel that they have of that. It's disturbing."

Lemon also hopes people consider what religious freedom actually means. If you're trying to put the Ten Commandments in U.S. schools for example, "what would you do if people wanted to put tenants from let's say the Bhagavad Gita, the Torah, or any other religious doctrine in schools plastered on the wall? Would you be comfortable with that?"

He reveals 'life changes'

Lemon has written on racism and religion, but would he also write about being gay, another part of his identity? "I've been thinking about a lot about all of that, and about a lot of the criticism for me and how people view me is often rooted" through the lenses of being Black or gay.

"I've been thinking about all that, and why people have certain preconceived notions about me, or write what they write about me, or think what they think about me," he adds, noting he's "been sort of vulnerable, not in a bad way lately, but just sort of assessing life."

Losing a prolific job after controversial on-air comments about politician Nikki Haley, getting married and starting a company — a bunch of life's highs and lows all at once — would do that to anyone.

"Life changes," he says. "And I think people think that they always have to be in sort of an upward swing, and not realizing that there's a rhythm and a flow to life."

He says 'I'll always carry that with me'

Lemon has previously discussed being sexually abused as a child, and al-



Tim Malone and Don Lemon, who are now married, attend the 30th Annual GLAAD Media Awards New York at the New York Hilton Midtown in 2019, in New York City. DIMITRIOS KAMBOURIS/GETTY IMAGES

ludes to this in "I Once Was Lost." The pain is ever-present. "I think that that always affects you, but you cannot let it make you immobile, and you cannot let it stifle you," he says. "So I think I'll always carry that with me, with sometimes being an isolationist, sometimes wanting to retreat, not from my career, but just retreat from people."

You might not think of him as a loner, "but I'm very much a loner, and I think that stems from that." Therapy and faith helped him through. "Either you move on, or you get stuck in it, and I'm not going to allow it to let me get stuck."

He adds, in a strange way, it's helped him in his career. "I would rather that have not happened to me as a child, but it did, and it made me, it's part of who I am, and I think it's made me more open, more candid. I think it's given me more autonomy and it's given me an authority on certain subjects that many people don't have experience with. And I think that's helped to make me a better journalist and a better person."

He is 'not going anywhere'

Yes, Lemon is reporting again even though he "could have done nothing. I could have just sat and not worked for the rest of my life. But I just wanted to have a voice in this election."

And don't expect him to stop speaking up.

"I'm not going anywhere, and if I do, I'll choose to do it. I don't want to retreat. I still have many chapters left in me."

Sánchez

Continued from Page 1D

it go.

In 2021, she was stumped while writing goals for the upcoming year. That's when her second oldest son, Evan, reminded her: "You've been talking about this children's book forever, why don't you write that?"

There is a little bit of Sánchez in the book. Or maybe a lot.

"Writing for me never came easy — even a children's short story — it just wasn't. I thought about it, pondered it, went back and forth. Is this right?" she says.

As a girl growing up in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Sánchez struggled in school. She had dyslexia. This part of her story isn't new. But now she is sharing something new: Her son Evan, 18, also is dyslexic.

"I felt really out of place in school. It was just difficult," she says.

Watching her son struggle was worse.

"He was in second grade and he didn't want to go to school. He was embarrassed. It was tough," she says.

Recently she asked him if it was OK for her to talk about his dyslexia "because I can talk about mine," she says. Instead, he told her, "I don't mind, I hope it helps other kids."

When talking about her children, Sánchez's voice often breaks, the way a mom's voice does when she talks about her children's struggles and her own pride in their courage. The love is always present.

She hopes her story — and Evan's — told through Flynn will help other kids. "I learned that embracing my curiosity and opening myself to new experiences, I could still achieve big things ... things are possible," she says.

When she wrote the book, she decided the fly should go higher than an airplane and go to space. She, of course, was more recently inspired by Bezos, who owns private space exploration company Blue Origin.

"Being around someone who is just so dedicated to pushing the boundaries in exploring the unknown is incredibly inspiring to all of us in the family," she says. "Our dinner conversations often revolve around space and innovation. He really just challenges us all to dream big. At the dinner table I was saying something and he said, 'No, dream bigger. Go bigger.' So it's not a surprise that some of that excitement found its way to Flynn's adventure."

She worked with illustrator Raleigh Stewart.

"Once Flynn was brought to life, it was a whole different story," she says.

If the flies on page 2 look familiar, it's because they are. Flynn's family also is hers. You'll notice a very glam fly and one who looks just like Bezos, if a fly could look like him.

The book and illustrations were "really personal, even having to pick all of the flies with Raleigh, the characters in Flynn's story are all inspired by my



Lauren Sánchez published her new children's book in English and Spanish. PROVIDED BY THE COLLECTIVE BOOK STUDIO

own family. Every single one of my kids is somehow represented in my book."

She asked her children, Nikko Gonzalez, 23, Evan Whitesell, 18, and Ella Whitesell, 16, to find themselves. "Some of them were happy about it," she says, and "some were like, are you kidding me mom, is that my fly?"

Curiosity leads Sánchez: 'Be curious, take chances'

Sánchez isn't committing to writing another book yet. She's focused on climate change, as the vice chair of the Bezos Earth Fund, which fights climate change.

If this was the year of her children's book. Next year, she says, is the year of learning Spanish.

Her book also is released in Spanish, something that was important to her. And there are a few tiny details that Latinos might notice, including the papel picado or paper banners at Flynn's home.

Publishing a book in Spanish and English "reflects the diverse multicultural world we live in today and the one I grew up in. ... Language can connect people," she says. "For me, a way to celebrate and honor my culture and make sure every child feels seen and included."

She also saw the Spanish version of the book as a way to be accessible to more families, or to help families learn a new language together.

Sánchez didn't learn Spanish as a child, but has picked up some along the years. When she does speak, her accent is perfect central Mexico. Her mother spoke to her in English and Spanish, but says, "she didn't want me to have an accent, she felt back then it was going to hurt me."

Now her kids all take Spanish. "And they speak better than me. They embrace it, they love it," she says.

She plans to work with a tutor and become fluent, especially as she spends more time in Miami.

"I want to inspire kids to believe in themselves and their dreams no matter how big or small they are, no matter how tough they think school is. It's really encouraging them to be curious, take chances and know they are amazing and adventures await you," she says.

Like Flynn, Sánchez remains curious and open to the next adventure.