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# JP and constable candidates highlighted at last MNP forum for 2018 Primary

By David Wilfong  
NDG Contributing Writer

With early voting already underway, and the presentation of candidates moving down-ballot, the crowd was smaller at the Monday Night Politics (MNP) forum hosted by the *Dallas Examiner* in the African American Museum at Fair Park. But there was a sense of optimism in the audience as before the event began, news of Democratic early voting numbers began making the rounds of conversation.

The evening began with Chris Spellmon, Democratic candidate for Texas Railroad Commissioner. Spellmon is running against Roman McAllen in the primary before facing off against Republican incumbent Christi Craddick or challenger Weston Martinez in the general election.

The Texas Railroad Commissioner is one of the statewide offices that doesn't get as much attention as most, but it is a powerful office in Texas. As Spellmon explained, part of the reason for is the antiquated name of the office itself. Today the office oversees the oil and gas industries, which in Texas is a cornerstone of the overall economy.

"The name is not relative to the



Chris Spellmon, statewide candidate for Texas Railroad Commissioner, was the first to greet the audience at Monday night's political forum at the African American Museum at Fair Park. (Photo: David Wilfong / NDG)

time," Spellmon said. "The name started over 100 years ago when they monitored the railroads."

Spellmon said one of the first things he will do is move to change the name of the office to "Texas Energy Commissioner" to reflect better what people are voting for, and part of what he said needs to be an improvement of "transparency" in the office. Along those lines, his biggest agenda item is to implement a recusal system for the "quasi-judicial" office, so that oil and gas executives are not able to influence the decisions which affect their finan-

cial interests. He also wants to see each county given authority over fracking activity in their jurisdictions.

### JP, Precinct 4 Place 1

In the race for Justice of the Peace (JP), Precinct 4 Place 1, incumbent Norris "Stretch" Rideaux is facing challenger Mike Jones in the Democratic primary.

Jones said he wants to increase accessibility for the public by improving the online access to the JP court with an online docket system

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**EARLY VOTING**  
Continues until March 2  
**ELECTION DAY**  
March 6



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Lerone Bennett, Jr.



Ashlie Alaman

**READERS SOUND OFF!!!**

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# Lerone Bennett, Jr.

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Contributor



Perhaps no other voice—or pen—captured the real life of Africans and African Americans like Lerone Bennett Jr., the former editor of EBONY and Jet magazines who died on Wednesday, February 14 at the age of 89.

Chicago Sun-Times reported that, Bennett suffered from vascular dementia.

Among his many hard-hitting and compelling works was the exposé, “Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America,” in which Bennett traces Black history from its origins in

western Africa, through the transatlantic journey and slavery, the Reconstruction period, the Jim Crow era, and the Civil Rights Movement.

The book was later re-issued five more times and ultimately included life in the

1990s.

Bennett would go on to pen at least 10 books, including the eye-opening, 2000 book titled “Forced into Glory: Abraham Lincoln’s White Dream,” which, for some, shattered centuries-old myths about America’s 16th president’s involvement in the freedom of slaves.

A description of the book on Amazon.com said: “Beginning with the argument that the Emancipation Proclamation did not actually free African American slaves, this dissenting view of Lincoln’s greatness surveys the president’s policies, speeches, and private utterances and concludes that he

had little real interest in abolition.”

Pointing to Lincoln’s support for the fugitive slave laws, his friendship with slave-owning Senator Henry Clay, and conversations in which he entertained the idea of deporting slaves in order to create an all-White nation, the book, concludes that the president was a racist at heart—and that the tragedies of Reconstruction and the Jim Crow era were the legacy of his shallow moral vision.

“Smart man and great author. His book [about Lincoln] changed my life,” said comedian Sinbad. “Before the Mayflower’ educated me about the need to research

our true history.”

Others too expressed their sadness and profound gratitude for Bennett.

“I am personally saddened by the death of Lerone Bennett Jr. We have lost another great journalist who will be sorely missed,” said Dorothy R. Leavell, the chairman of the NNPA and editor and publisher of the Crusader newspapers in Chicago, Illinois and Gary, Indiana. “We knew him as the conscience and voice of EBONY and Jet magazines and through the many books he published. The world is richer, because of his work here on earth and we are grateful for his many contributions.”

Bennett counted as an elegant scholar and freedom fighter who used the power of his pen to awaken millions of people to the true history of African people in America and throughout the world, said NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr.

“Bennett’s journalistic genius will be missed, but his contributions to documenting the struggles and triumphs of Black men, women and children will continue to be cherished by generations far into the future,” Chavis said. “The NNPA salutes the living legacy of Lerone Bennett Jr.

See BENNETT, Page 7

# Ashlie Alaman

Twelve dynamic leaders in the Dallas community have been recognized with the Community First Award: Sponsored by Parkland Foundation. The 2018 class is the first to be honored with the new award, created to shine a light on individuals who use their time and talent to help their neighbors in need.



“As the only public health system in Dallas County, the community is at the heart of everything we do at Parkland,” said David E. Krause, president and chief executive officer, Parkland Foundation. “It’s been our mission for

more than 120 years to provide care for anyone in need, making our community a healthier place to live. We are delighted to recognize these 12 impressive leaders who have made an impact on

countless others through their work in the community. They are truly making a difference.”

The 2018 Community First Award recipients include:

- Ashlie Alaman, counsel, Vistra Energy
- Jayda Batchelder, founding executive director, Education Open Doors, Inc.
- Lane Conner, founder and chief executive director, Fuzze
- Madhura Kulkarni, senior manager, global sustainability marketing, portfolio transformation, PepsiCo’s Frito-Lay division
- Loretta Landry, regional manager of child hunger out-

reach, Texas Hunger Initiative, Baylor University

- Michael Laussade, partner, Jackson Walker LLP
  - Emily Ledet, senior vice president, private client manager, U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management
  - Eric McConnell, principal, Sendero Consulting
  - Byron Sanders, president and chief executive officer, Big Thought
  - Jessica Smith, founder, Team Maddie
  - Staci Thetford, manager, Sendero Consulting
  - Jesse Trevino, senior business services coordinator, CBRE
- Throughout the year, re-

ipients will attend a series of events to gain a better understanding about Parkland’s place in Dallas history, its responsibility as the only public health system in the county, cutting-edge discoveries developed at Parkland that transform healthcare around the globe, and how affordable, accessible preventive care is being delivered in every corner of the community.

“Parkland touches everyone, from the most vulnerable in our community to those with complicated illnesses and injuries,” explains Katie H. Robbins, chair, Parkland Foundation Board of Directors. “As the Com-

munity First Award recipients learn more about Parkland, they will play an important role in educating their peers about the quality, compassionate care we provide to keep our community healthy.”

Ashlie Alaman is Counsel, for Vistra Energy. Ashlie strives to help those less fortunate by helping indigent Dallasites access legal services and representing immigrants seeking refuge and citizenship. She is committed to helping those who are struggling, defenseless, helpless and voiceless through her work with the Dallas Volun-

See ALAMAN, Page 16

## NDG Readers Sound Off...

### Homegoing celebration services for Apostle Lobias Murray

I have really enjoyed listening to Apostle Murray. strong man of God the world need the word of true. got to live holy thank God for your parents many of us was not raised by our parents and went through so many trials and tribulations of the devil hands. But God. God Bless you and your family please keep giving us the word of God.

-- Norma Miller

### Guest Op-ed: Do Dallas Residents Need Community Water Fluoridation? Yes, and Here’s Why

Artificial fluoridation needs end NOW. Minorities need to rise up they are killing us

-- Rusty S

### Political forum offers glimpse of Dem divide in upcoming primaries

It’s one thing to be Republicans versus Democrats but when a Democrat sues her Democratic opponent of opposite race it takes it to a different level...

Current situation in Irving TX JP race.

-- Campaign supporter

“Following the forum, reports appeared on Facebook claiming Tapscott had addressed the primarily African-American audience as ‘you people.’ However, these reports are false.”

This is true I was there I heard it and the owner of the paper heard it as well. If you are going to report facts report facts.

I give you credit for catching "Wilson" now you need to do the right thing here.

But you know what he is getting a pass, because we

realized what he said was out of place. I got my information from a reliable source.

-- Camile White

(NDG Response: Following the receipt of this comment, both the reporter and the editor went back and reviewed Tapscott’s comments again. Tapscott never addressed the audience as “you people.” The comment he actually made was, “what else do y’all want?” The social media reports of his comments were not accurate.)

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# To my brilliant Black daughters, nobody can take away your history

By ShaRhonda Knott-Dawson

To my beautiful, brilliant Black daughters:

I have so many hopes and dreams for you, that if I tried to say them all, they would run longer than the entire Harry Potter series!

My hopes for you, my two beautiful Black girls, are so simple and yet also entirely grandiose. My dreams for you, beautiful Black girls, are that you are free to be whoever you want to be.

If you only get one lesson from me, your mother, let it be this: Your history didn't start with slavery, and White people's history didn't start in the United States of America.

As your Black parents, your father and I are teaching you our viewpoint. Our Black culture begins with the beginning of humans.

In fact, the first humans lived in Africa. The first civilizations were in Africa. Our Christianity began in Africa. Africa is our homeland and everything about Africa should bring you pride. Wear your African-ness, your Blackness with pride!

Your history, the history of the continent of civilization in Africa, starts in modern day Sudan, around 6000 B.C. In fact, the first "empire" of two great nations happened between modern-day Egypt and modern-day Sudan. We will be sure you know those modern names are European names. We will teach you their deep-rooted African names: KMT and Meroe.

We are teaching you the history of Ancient Kemet, Meroe and Nubia.

You will learn of the African civilizations, the use of iron and tools in Africa, the resource riches of the African continent and the complicated, fascinating history of over 10,000 years of human civilization. Africa had kings and queens and warriors, slaves,

artists, scientists, mathematicians, farmers, sailors, inventors and musicians. You come from a beautifully talented Black culture.

As your mother, I have told you repeatedly that you are already free to be whoever you want to be. But as you approach adolescence and spend more time in schools than you do with your parents, you may begin to doubt that I told you the truth.

See, the books that you will read and the lessons you learn, will not validate your potential exactly as you are, beautiful, brilliant Black girls, from a legacy of beautiful, brilliant Black women.

remember, more than facts are at stake. In those classrooms, you are seeing only their viewpoint. You can take a broader perspective.

**Our Blackness Is Beautiful, Brilliant And Resilient**

The United States of America was founded in 1776. On July 4, 2018, the U.S. will be 243 years old. Europeans landed in the Americas in 1492 and have been interacting with indigenous land of the First Americans, for almost 550 years.

Understand this, my beautiful, brilliant Black daughters. Your history is over 10,000 years old. The enslavement of Black peo-

ple to do that.

Talking about Ancient Egypt being African can get you in trouble. Having a name that "sounds Black" can lose you a job. In fact, much of life will be devoted to protecting yourself from White people's false views about who Black people are and what they have and can do.

But I promise you, with all that I am, I will tell you the truth. Just as my mother told me the truth. Your ancestors who came to the Americas 500 years ago not only survived attempted physical and cultural genocide, they kept our Black African story, culture and beauty alive.

Remember 550 years is nothing compared to over 10,000 years. Our last 550 years is not our whole story.

In fact, it is just a tiny piece of the story. No matter what White people think, or try to tell you about who you are as a Black person, we have a very different perspective.

As your parent, I swear on the lives of all our ancestors over our 10,000-year history, I will never let you forget how beautiful and brilliant you are, my Black daughters. Nor will I let you forget our beautiful, brilliant Black culture.

You are part of a beautiful, brilliant, Black people that has a history and presence throughout the world. 500 years? Ha! You are in but a minute of your 10,000-year story. Our Black is brilliant, beautiful and most importantly, resilient.

*This piece originally appeared on EducationPost.org.*

*ShaRhonda Knott-Dawson is the mother of two free-spirited, strong-willed girls and has a husband who should be appointed a saint for co-existing in the madness that is their life. She writes on politics, education, current events and social justice.*

***"Your history didn't start with slavery, and White people's history didn't start in the United States of America."***

**You Must Learn Their History. But You Can Take A Broader Perspective.**

In formal school education, you will be exposed to a different viewpoint. Most school curricula in the United States are completely uninterested in young, brilliant Black girls like you learning about your culture, discovering multiple viewpoints or forming your own opinions.

In school, you will likely be inundated with stories of Europe: Ancient Greece, Roman Empire, the Medieval Period, Dark Ages, Industrial Revolution and the British Empire. Then you will be told all about the greatness of the United States of America that comes from the rich history of Europe.

You will be forced to memorize, learn and admire the brilliance and beauty of Europe and White people.

This is something I cannot protect you from. You must learn their history. But

ple by White people, is at best, only 550 years of your history.

That is a mere 5.5 percent of your totality. Sure, the enslavement of Black people by White people, and our subsequent struggles to become totally free, are important to know and learn. But they are a very, very small part of who you really are and who you, and we, as Black people, can be.

What makes you, and other beautiful, brilliant, Black children, different from many White children, is you know that their history isn't just fact-it is a viewpoint. And, that you, as a Black American, as a Black African, have completely different interpretations of history, of heroes, of scholars and who is "important."

As your parent, I wish you were free, my beautiful, brilliant Black children to speak openly, honestly and without fear about who you are and your Black history. But it is not always safe for



# Collin College's Health and Safety Fair is open to all

Explore a world of healthy choices at Collin College's annual Health and Safety Fair, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Friday, March 9 at the Central Park Campus Conference Center, 2400 Community Drive in McKinney. The fair is free and open to the public.

"The 13th Annual Health and Safety Fair is the largest Collin College has ever had, offering more screenings, activities and prizes," said Dr. Linda Muysson, professor and wellness coordinator at Collin College. "Come to the fair and take advantage of some of the

many health and safety resources available in Collin County. There is something for everyone."

Get free health screenings including glucose, spinal, blood pressure, hearing, body fat checks and HIV testing. Educate yourself on healthy eating, exercise op-

tions and other wellness activities at the fair. Representatives from dozens of local health care providers, wellness facilities and Collin College health sciences programs will be on hand to answer questions and provide services.

Flu shots will be given by

Hope Clinic of McKinney. Blood donations will be taken on site by Carter Blood Care. Healthy baking demonstrations will be offered by Collin College's Institute of Hospitality and Culinary Arts. Safety demonstrations, including the proper use of a fire ex-

tinguisher, car seat installation and the chance to wear "drunk goggles," will be offered. Local emergency service vehicles will be positioned for viewing by the public and visitors will have the opportunity to tour Collin College's Cary A. Israel Health Sciences Center.

## Vegetarian and Mediterranean diet may be equally effective in preventing heart disease

A lacto-ovo-vegetarian diet, which includes eggs and dairy but excludes meat and fish, and a Mediterranean diet are likely equally effective in reducing the risk of heart disease and stroke, according to new research in the American Heart Association's journal *Circulation*.

Previous separate studies have shown that a Mediterranean diet reduces certain risk factors for cardiovascular disease, as does a vegetarian diet; however, this was the first study to compare effects of the two distinct eating patterns.

Current study authors said they wanted to evaluate whether switching to a lacto-ovo-vegetarian diet would also be heart-healthy in people who were used to eating both meat and fish. "To best evaluate this issue, we decided to compare a lacto-ovo-vegetarian diet with a Mediterranean diet in the same group of people," said Francesco Sofi, M.D., Ph.D., lead study author and professor of clinical nutrition at the University of Florence and Careggi University Hospital in Italy.

The study included 107 healthy but overweight participants, ages 18-75, who were randomly assigned to follow for three months either a low-calorie vegetarian diet, which included dairy and eggs, or a low-calorie Mediterranean diet for three months. The Mediterranean diet included poultry, fish and some red meat as well as fruits, veg-



American Heart Association

etables, beans and whole grains. After three months, the participants switched diets. Most participants were able to stay on both diets.

Researchers found participants on either diet:

- lost about 3 pounds of body fat;
- lost about 4 pounds of weight overall; and
- experienced about the same change in body mass index, a measure of weight in relationship to height.

Authors said they did find two differences between the diets that may be noteworthy. The vegetarian diet was more effective at reducing LDL (the "bad") cholesterol, while the Mediterranean diet resulted greater reductions in triglycerides, high levels of which increase the risk for heart attack and stroke.

Still, "the take-home message of our study is that a low-calorie lacto-ovo-vegetarian diet can help patients reduce cardiovascular risk about the same as a

low-calorie Mediterranean diet," Sofi said. "People have more than one choice for a heart-healthy diet."

In an editorial accompanying the study, Cheryl A. M. Anderson, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.S., an associate professor of preventive medicine at the University of California, San Diego, in California, wrote that there were similarities between the two diets that may explain the results. Both follow "a healthy dietary pattern rich in fruits and vegetables, legumes [beans], whole grains and nuts; focusing on diet variety, nutrient density and appropriate amount of food; and limiting energy intake from saturated fats."

Anderson, who was not involved in the study, added that promoting both diets by healthcare professionals "offer a possible solution to the ongoing challenges to prevent and manage obesity and cardiovascular diseases."

Study limitations include

the fact that participants were at "relatively low" risk of cardiovascular disease. Anderson said future research should compare the diets in patients at higher risk for heart disease and should also explore "whether or not healthful versions of traditional diets around the world that emphasize fresh foods and limit sugars, saturated fats, and sodium can prevent and manage obesity and cardiovascular diseases."

Co-authors are Monica Dinu, MSc.; Giuditta Pagliai, MSc.; Francesca Cesari, MSc., Ph.D.; Anna Maria Gori, MSc.; Alice Sereni, MSc.; Matteo Becatti, MSc., Ph.D.; Claudia Fiorillo, MSc., Ph.D.; Rossella Marcucci, M.D., Ph.D.; and Alessandro

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# South Dallas Club hosts 64th Founders' Day celebration

By Gwendolyn H. Daniels

The historic South Dallas Business and Professional Women's Club held its 64th Annual Founders' Day celebration on Saturday, February 17 at the Magnuson Grand Hotel in DeSoto, Texas.

Members gathered dressed in their signature red attire and the ballroom was filled by 11:00 AM when Mistress of Ceremony and new Club Member Deloros Raivzee-Bell opened the program. President Gwendolyn H. Daniels, National 1st Vice President Dr. Lavern J. Holyfield and South Central District Governor Patricia B. Maples each brought brief greetings to the morning audience. An occasion reflecting the rich history of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. and the local South Dallas Club was delivered by Life Member Charla White Walters.

The organization's official flower is the Yellow Tea



Patricia B. Maples (center) Sojourner Truth Awardee (Courtesy photo)

Rose. Following the occasion, members held a Yellow Rose Candle Lighting Ceremony narrated by Club Member Lynnetta Williams. New members Sherilyn Medlock and Carla Dennis conducted the lighting of candles while President Daniels, the Past Presidents and the entire membership at-large each placed a Yellow Tea Rose in an enormous vase located at the front of the

beautifully decorated ballroom.

Founders' Day Chair Marion Hill-Hubbard presented a video displaying an historical pictorial of all national and local founders prior to Club Chaplain Monique Murchison delivering the blessing of the food. During lunch, guests were thoroughly entertained by the renown Sieraleone and Company. Life Member and Vice Governor

of the District Terri O'Neal Ford was recognized as a Yellow Rose Recipient for her 20 consecutive years as a member of the South Dallas Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc.

The culmination of the cel-

ebration came with 1st Vice President Dr. Lindy Perkins introducing three distinguished women who received some of the organization's most prestigious awards. President Daniels presented Ms. Viola Black,

who worked a record-breaking 56 years as a nurse at Parkland Hospital their 2018 Professional Woman Award. Mrs. Barbara Record, owner of the near half-century

See CLUB, Page 6

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# Dallas ISD School Board discuss security measures after Parkland

By Jazlyn Mercer  
NDG Contributing Writer

The Dallas ISD School (Dallas ISD) board met Feb. 22 in their first meeting in the wake of the Feb. 14 Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in Parkland, Florida. The issue of school safety and security was a primary concern addressed by parents, Dallas ISD staff and the board.

“Our hearts are heavy with our brethren in Broward County, Florida,” said Dallas ISD Superintendent Michael Hinojosa.



“Our hearts go out to them.”

Gail Perry, a librarian at Thomas Jefferson High School, speaking on behalf of The National Education Association (NEA) of Dallas addressed the issue of school security during the public forum.

“Columbine changed education in America forever,” Perry said. “There had been school shootings

before including here in Dallas, but never had there been a mass shooting in a school before that horrible day.”

Perry asked the board to take security measures to the next level after this recent school shooting asking the board and the Dallas Police Department to work together to ensure each school has the best safety plan.

Superintendent Hinojosa provided an overview of the current and upcoming plans for protecting students and staff. There are no plans to arm Dallas ISD teachers.

Arming teachers is a suggestion floated by President Donald Trump following a listening session with students and parents who have lost friends and loved ones in school shootings going back to Columbine and including the recent Parkland tragedy.

Hinojosa addressed the existing security plans for students, applauding the Dallas Police Department (Dallas PD). The Dallas PD provides with 100 sworn peace officers to protect the students of Dallas ISD and to patrol the campuses.

Building security has increased in Dallas ISD since the Sandy Hook campus shooting. There are camera systems everywhere, and any visitors to the schools must go through the Raptor check-in system.

“Despite all those safety measures, we cannot legislate behavior,” said Hinojosa. “We need to be vigilant, we need to do everything in our power, and I’m very proud of the people and our principals who share information with us and with each other on these matters.”

Plans include reviewing the campus security plan individually to address their specific security needs, and to look at teacher training for emergency situations. They also want to make sure the campus metal detectors are in good working condition and ensure someone is consistently monitoring them.

“It’s a difficult problem, we can’t make schools perfectly safe, but we’ve got to try to make them safer,” said Dallas ISD Trustee and Board President Dan Micicche.



The historic South Dallas Business and Professional Women’s Club held its 64th Annual Founders’ Day celebration in DeSoto. (Courtesy photo)

## Skyline senior takes All-State Mixed Choir award



Timothy Johnson, a senior at Skyline High School, was awarded 1st Chair – Tenor 1 – in the Texas All-State Mixed Choir, the which is the highest achievement a student in music can be awarded in the State of Texas. From the 14,000 students who started the audition process in September, he was among the 224 voices selected to the Texas All-State Mixed Choir. In the Dallas area, he was only one of three Tenor 1’s selected. He is the first student in 30 years to represent Skyline High School at the All-State Choir.

## NFL Announced as Presenting Sponsor for the 2018 HBCU Battle of the Brain ‘hackathon’

AUSTIN -- The HBCU Battle of the Brains, LLC in partnership with the National Black MBA Association – Austin Chapter is pleased to announce the National Football League (NFL) as its presenting sponsor for the 2nd annual HBCU Battle of the Brains (HBCUBOTBrains) competition to be held Friday,

March 9 – Saturday, March 10, 2018.

Several dozen teams of the top STEM and Business students of Historically Black University and Colleges (HBCUs) will come to Austin to spar for college scholarships and bragging rights in the hackathon-style event. These teams will take a business case and in 24-

hours, provide a panel of industry leaders comprehensive strategies, go-to-market plans and technology solutions.

The NFL sponsorship helps with college scholarship awards, travel stipends for several teams and provides partnering in the competition business case development and judging.

## CLUB, continued from Page 5

Record’s Barbecue received the group’s 2018 Mabel Meshach White Business Woman Award. National 1st Vice President Dr. Lavern J. Holyfield presented the Association’s highest award, the Sojourner Truth Award to Mrs. Patricia B. Maples. Mrs. Maples is the Association’s current governor of the South Central District.

The celebration ended with remarks from Founders’ Day

Chair Marion Hill-Hubbard who acknowledged Co-Chairs Faye Collins and Ollie Gilstrap, and Founders’ Day Committee Members Merle Carmouche, Patricia Carroll, Winstona Chadwick, Cora Ford, Jacqueline Harrison, Gwendolyn Hunt, Frances Langston, Linda Lydia, Brenda King Murphy, and Yvonne Upton. President Daniels recognized the Club’s Ombudsmen, the

Youth Club and all guests and club members in attendance before calling for Assistant Chaplain Sharon Martin to deliver the closing prayer.

For more information on the South Dallas Business and Professional Women’s Club, Inc., please visit its website at: southdallasbpwc.org; Facebook page: southdallas1954; Instagram: SouthDallas1954; or email the club at: southdallas1954@yahoo.com. Gwendolyn H. Daniels is the SDBPWC President.

A.D. Jenkins founded B.I.G. D.O.G.S. Youth Organization and is serving his second term as Irving ISD School Board Trustee to build unity in our community

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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# Walk-On's to break ground on 1st DFW restaurant

Irving will soon be home to a new family-friendly restaurant that's co-owned by NFL star Drew Brees and features a taste of Louisiana served up in a game-day atmosphere.

Baton Rouge-based Walk-On's Bistreaux & Bar is hosting a special groundbreaking ceremony for its first Dallas-Fort Worth restaurant in Irving on Tuesday, March 6. Representatives of Walk-On's will join Franchisees Johnny Qubty and Joshua Allen in hosting a ceremony to mark this momentous occasion at 3165 Regent Blvd. The celebration will begin at 11 a.m. with a reception featuring some fan favorites from



Walk-On's signature menu to follow.

"We are thrilled not just to bring this incredible restaurant to Irving, but to have the honor of opening the first

Walk-On's in the DFW Metroplex," said Allen. "Walk-On's is perfect for the area. Everything about it is superior to the typical sports bar, from the incredible food

and wide array of cocktails and craft beers, to the family-friendly sports atmosphere and commitment to outstanding customer service."

The 8,500-square-foot restaurant is projected to open in October, adding roughly 150 new jobs to the local economy.

"Texas has been a priority expansion market ever since we started franchising, and bringing our brand to DFW is huge, so we share Johnny and Joshua's excitement about introducing Walk-On's to everyone in and around the Irving area," said Brandon Landry, co-founder of Walk-On's Bistreaux & Bar. "We

feel very fortunate to have this duo lead the way into Irving and have no doubt that the community will love Walk-On's game day atmosphere with a taste of Louisiana."

Walk-On's is renowned for its signature Louisiana-style menu served up in a game-day atmosphere by an All-American Team.

Walk-On's now has 17 locations: four in Baton Rouge, two in New Orleans and one each in Lafayette, Houma, Shreveport, Lake Charles, Covington, Broussard, Alexandria and Bossier City, La., and Lubbock, San Antonio and Tyler, Texas. Other locations are coming soon in

Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Texas, with several additional markets across the Southern U.S. likewise on the drawing board.

New Orleans Saints superstar Drew Brees and his wife, Brittany, bought in as co-owners in May 2015. Drew pointed out that Walk-On's is "a great place to bring my family, teammates and business colleagues" and that they were excited to help "expand the brand across the nation."

To inquire about franchising opportunities, qualified applicants may contact Kelly Parker at [franchise@walk-ons.com](mailto:franchise@walk-ons.com).

# Hopping a ride is easy with Plano's Bike Share

A bicycle comes in handy when you need to get to work, you're running late or want to change your exercise routine.

Plano recently became a hot spot for bicycle rental companies, which prompted City Council to approve Plano's first Bicycle Ordinance, also called the Bike Share pilot program.

Bike Share provides a framework for how bicycle rental companies operate in



our city. Rental companies must apply for a \$500 permit

and provide \$5,000, which establishes an escrow fund to

allow the City to pay for removal or damage. A permit is revoked if the company doesn't meet certain performance standards. The standards address: bicycles, bicycle parking, communication with the City and customers, operations and maintenance, levels of service and reporting.

The bikes are initially staged for rental in "home zones" with a limit of three bikes per company. Locations for home zones are de-

termined by the Engineering department. Bikes are allowed on public rights of way, the City's paved trail system and Oak Point Park and Nature Preserve (other parks are off limits - for now). Bike companies must rebalance their bikes weekly and must educate customers on how to properly park bikes. The City plans to re-evaluate the pilot program at the end of 2018.

If you want a ride, the rate

is \$1 per hour paid through an app. The app shows you where to find the closest bike. Charges begin when you use the app to unlock the bike and charges stop when you lock the bike.

Currently, three Bike Share companies operate in Plano:

OFO (yellow bikes) 844-289-9747

Vbike (silver-above) 214-800-9875

LimeBike (green and yellow) 888-546-3345

## BENNETT, continued from Page 2

with a commitment to pick up his pen and put it into the hands of today's freedom fighting publishers, editors and journalists."

Bennett worked for EBONY for nearly 50 years, after starting at Jet in 1951 and then moving to the sister publication in 1953. By 1958, he was the executive editor.

"Lerone worked side by side with my father in establishing EBONY's voice," EBONY CEO Linda Johnson Rice told the Chicago Sun-Times. "He was the guiding light for the editorial vision of EBONY. Lerone was not just essential in the formation of EBONY's historic trajectory, he was a pillar in the Black community."

The Griot reported: "In addition to being remem-

bered as an editor for these two magazines, Bennett, a graduate of Morehouse College, is known for his books, many of which cover the Black experience in America and the civil rights movement."

Bennett's footprints are cemented at the International Civil Rights Walk of Fame in Atlanta and he once served on President Bill Clinton's Committee on the Arts and Humanities. The veteran journalist and historian also served as an early adviser to the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture.

In a tweet, the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Jr., praised Bennett's work.

"A classmate & biographer of Dr. King, during the

turbulent 60's, his was a pen that mattered. As historian, author of 'Before the Mayflower', editor of *Ebony* magazine, the most read voice of the freedom struggle, his impact will long be felt and remembered," Jackson tweeted.

From its official Twitter account, the NMAAHC tweeted, "it is with great sadness and profound sense of loss that we share the news of the death of Lerone Bennett Jr., a gifted historian and journalist."

On Twitter, Bernice A. King called Bennett a beloved and brilliant man.

"If you haven't read his books, I encourage you to. Even if you have, I encourage you to. Truly one of a kind historian & scholar," King tweeted. "Grateful for what he's meant to my family."



**Allen**

The **Allen Police and Fire Departments Hockey Game** is March 3 when they will battle it out on the ice in this pre-game match up. This will be the ninth year of the battle, with a portion of the proceeds goes towards the Allen Public Safety Recovery fund.

**Carrollton**

Saturday, March 10 the Crosby Recreation Center would like to invite the community to join them for a **scavenger hunt** to find everything Crosby Recreation Center has to offer on their St. Patrick's Day Open House. Many fun activities will be on hand for kids and

adults alike. There will be crafts, complimentary lunch for the first 300 guests, drawings for free prizes, face painting, and more.

**Dallas**

March 3rd and March 10th the Dallas MLK Center will host the **MLK Dallas Dream Forward Program**, a free, two-day workshop teaching necessary business skills to succeed in the workplace. Registration is open now.

For more information, please email [info@dallasmkcenter.com](mailto:info@dallasmkcenter.com)

Monday, March 5 Local artist **Kyle Steed's "The Art of the Chalice"** mural will

be unveiled from 6:00 – 9:00 PM.

The event is titled "City of Hosts" which was inspired by his hometown of Dallas and the iconic Stella Artois Chalice. Stella Artois has also teamed up with local chef Scott Gottlich, and glass artists David Gappa and Spencer Grouch from to help celebrate the city.

In the month of March, the **Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program (DVAP)**, a joint initiative of the Dallas Bar Association and Legal Aid of North West Texas, will hold 11 free Legal Clinics for Dallas County residents who meet certain financial guidelines.

**Frisco**

The **Frisco College Baseball Classic** is the best collegiate baseball tournament outside of the College World Series in Omaha. The Classic will feature four of the country's top teams spanning three days of play at Dr. Pepper Ballpark in Frisco, TX.

**Garland**

The Garland Civic Theatre puts on "**The Savannah Sipping Society**" a laugh-a-minute comedy, about four unique Southern women, all needing to escape the sameness of their day-to-day routines, drawn together by an impromptu happy hour, and decide it's high time to reclaim the enthusiasm for life

they've lost through the years. Tickets: \$17 at [GarlandArtsBoxOffice.com](http://GarlandArtsBoxOffice.com), 972-205-2790 or in-person at the Granville Arts Center Box Office.

Garland has once again joined the **It's Time Texas Community Challenge**, and the community is encouraged to help! Communities can earn points by participating in a variety of activities such as posting "healthy selfies," taking healthy pledges and tracking physical activity. The community with the most points earned by March 4 will win the Healthiest City prize for their population size category. Garland won the large city category in 2016

and 2017.

**Irving**

Saturday, March 3, Family Promise of Irving will host **Night of Promise**. The vintage circus-themed event will feature a fabulous full-course meal and dancing to live music by the one and only Doc Gibbs Band. There will be a raffle drawing and silent auction.

Night of Promise has grown to host hundreds of civic-minded, area residents who have a big heart for homeless families with children. Family Promise of Irving provides food, shelter and support for homeless families with children. tumor research, patient programs and support services.

## New Moody Hall signage illuminated in special ceremony

Moody Performance Hall's LED neon-esque sign was officially illuminated for the first time Monday night in a ceremony outside the building on Flora Street in the Dallas Arts District. The event featured remarks from Mayor Mike Rawlings and Matrice Ellis-Kirk, chair of the AT&T Performing Arts Center board, and Francie Moody-Dahlberg, chair and executive director of the Moody Foundation.

"On behalf of the Moody Foundation, my brother Ross and I are so proud to be part of the city of Dallas' vibrant and diverse arts community," said Ms. Moody-Dahlberg. "We are incredibly honored to have our name alongside this amazing group of benefactors that made the Arts District possible."

Also at the event, Mayor Rawlings announced that the Moody Foundation accelerated the payments on their gift establishing a \$10 million endowment, the newly created Moody Fund for the Arts (MFA) to support small Dallas arts organizations. Originally, the endowment was to be funded at \$1 million a year over ten years, awarding about \$100,000 in the first few years. The acceleration means the MFA will likely



Stevan Koye / ATPAC

be funding about \$400,000 a year by 2020, years ahead of schedule.

"This is like a shot in the arm for these small arts organizations," said Mayor Rawlings. "They are innovating and creating incredible work, all on a shoestring. I think getting more of these funds awarded even sooner is going to have an incredible impact on the works and performances we see in the years to come."

This gift made last May, was part of \$80 million in grants awarded across Texas by the Moody Foundation in 2017.

"The Moody Foundation understands the importance of the arts to our state," said Ross Moody, trustee of the Moody Foundation and CEO of National Western Life Group. "The arts sector has a powerful economic

impact in every community, but even more important, it feeds the creative and cultural identity that makes our state so unique."

Monday night's event, which was also attended by City Councilmembers and members of the Cultural Affairs Commission, was an opportunity for the community to thank the Moody Foundation for their many gifts to Dallas and to see the new illuminated sign stretching across the front windows of the theatre.

Each letter is 43 inches high and the total length of the sign is 72 feet. The sign is designed to look like neon lights, but uses LED for easier maintenance and less energy use. It was designed by 2 x 4 which also designed the signage for the Winspear Opera House,

See MOODY Page 11

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# Opinion: Was Erik Killmonger the real MVP?

By Lynette Monroe  
NNPA Guest Columnist

This commentary contains major spoilers.

Marvel's big screen adaptation of "Black Panther" has surpassed all initial expectations of its debut and topped \$700 million after its second weekend.

"In terms of raw dollars, it is the second-biggest second weekend gross of all time between Universal/Comcast Corp.'s Jurassic World (\$106.5m) and Lucasfilm's The Force Awakens (\$149m)," Forbes.com reported. "It has now earned \$400m in ten days of release, which makes it the third-fastest grosser of all time (for now) behind only Jurassic World (\$404m) and The Force Awakens (\$540m)."

If anything, the success of "Black Panther" and "Girl's Trip," last year, has proven to the world that representation and inclusion is profitable.

When I went to see Black Panther during the opening weekend, the excitement from the crowd radiated throughout the theater's lobby. The joy I inhaled while standing in line to enter the theater took me higher than a preacher's Sunday sermon.

The drums and opening verse to Kendrick Lamar's "Black Panther" echoed in my head:

*King of my city, king of my country, king of my homeland*

*King of the filthy, king of the fallen, we livin' again*

*King of the shooters, looters, boosters, and ghet-tos poppin'*

*King of the past, present, future, my ancestors watchin*

I loved the film, but all of us should remember that Wakanda is a figment of imagination. More accu-



Lynette Monroe says that Killmonger's interpretation of justice is relatable and his passionate pursuit of freedom echoes the aspirations and frustrations of a generation. (Image: Marvel Studios)

ately, Wakanda is a creation of White imagination. Killmonger is "our" reality.

A fictional Wakanda is convenient for the consciousness of the colonizer. A fictional, technologically advanced, African utopia lightens the weight of oppression by using the singular case of Black excellence, embodied in Wakanda, as the benchmark instead of a beautiful, aspirational anomaly. It then places the responsibility of reconciliation on the backs of the oppressed.

Champions of truth must not only embrace the triumphs of our history, but also the painful, complicated facts of our past.

Erik Killmonger represents an uncomfortable truth. He is the Black Panther's kryptonite. The pain of Killmonger's conflicted reality disrupts T'Challa's idealistic, progressive world. The ultimate victory of Black Panther is only secured through a cinematic miracle. Even then, the Black Panther cannot find it in himself to end the life of Killmonger; it is Killmonger himself who chooses his own end after his final battle with T'Challa.

"Bury me in the ocean with my ancestors who jumped from ships, because they knew death was better than bondage," Killmonger said in his final scene as he watched the sunset on Wakanda.

Centuries of resilience isn't some kind of honor; it is simply survival.

Although we would all like for Wakanda to exist, today, it doesn't. The painful truth is that Black people were forcefully dispersed throughout the globe; isolated from our culture, countries and families. The painful truth is that the campaign of carnage that White people have lead across the globe cannot be reconciled through broad aid and well-intentioned community centers.

Partnership and collaboration, two of the many underlying themes of the film, prove elusive for Killmonger. The love between Okoye and W'Kabi ended civil war. The connection between the spiritual world and technology is the life-line of the nation. The cooperation of M'Baku and Ramonda brought hope back to life. And, the love between Nakia and the T'Challa is slated to save the world.

Killmonger was not bestowed the privilege of partnership.

My knowledge of comic book adaptations is limited to Superman and the X-Men; in both movie franchises, characters faced deep moral decisions. These decisions are most often a test of character or weight of priority. These films, set in city centers, often display massive property damaged

and presumed loss of innocent life. However, the central internal conflict in Black Panther centered upon killing the radical pursuit of freedom.

Killmonger is a villain of White culture; the worst nightmare of the ruling class. Killmonger is the rage of a millions of people who were displaced, disregarded, and discarded. "The Black Panther" is a fictional depiction of the moral consciousness of Black people; the hope for both the oppressed and the oppressor. He is the grace of God to a people undeserving.

Mainstream dialogue on race relations in the United States naively suggests that White people simply refuse to acknowledge that the crimes of American slavery and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade continue to fuel significant disparities across the planet. I would argue that they are fully aware of their crimes, but interpret them through a filtered lens of conquest. I would argue that White people's conscious relegation of persons of color is reduced to collateral damage necessary to maintain power, wealth, and leadership.

As Killmonger fell, I longed for a Black Panther/Killmonger partnership. The partnership of rage and compassion, of power and responsibility, of justice and reconciliation deserves exploration. Resolving the conflict between the Black Panther and Killmonger is the precarious tight rope that Black folks must walk to freedom.

Killmonger's death is also a figment of White people's imagination; his conflicted fight for freedom lives on in the hearts of Black people across the globe.

## Frieda Porter for the Office of Justice of the Peace

**(Tarrant County, Precinct 7) - Number 1 on the Ballot.**

The Justice of the Peace Office governs over Landlord and Tenant Disputes, Evictions, Small Claims, Truancy, and some minor traffic tickets.

As a State Licensed Realtor of over 17 years and a Landlord, I've worked diligently to help build Homeownership. I've worked hands on with the eviction process in the Justice of the Peace Courts to successfully resolve various Landlord and Tenant issues.

I've volunteered my service for the Arlington NAACP using my experience and education of Fair Housing, Real Estate Law, Deceptive Trade Practices Act and Multi Family Property Management to bring positive resolution to citizens with Landlord complaints. Service is a great way to give back to my community.

Precinct 7 is my home My children grew up here. As JP, I will use my office as a support to everyone and help truants move into a positive direction. Remember, I'm #1 on the Ballot and the ONLY Woman in this category.

Cast your vote for Frieda Porter for Justice of the Peace, Pct. 7 on March 6, 2018.

Note:  
Precinct 7 includes Tarrant, Grand Prairie, South Arlington, Mansfield, Kennedale, Dalworthington Gardens, and Rendon

## Enter to Win! Ticket Giveaway

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# Novel explores misconduct in Brooklyn's legal system

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Contributor

In January 2014, Kenneth Thompson made history by becoming the first African American district attorney of the New York City borough of Brooklyn.

As Brooklyn's district attorney, Thompson "ordered his office not to prosecute low-level marijuana arrests, in part to devote more resources to fight gun crimes, rape and domestic violence. He said he also wanted to spare younger New Yorkers from 'the burden of a criminal record,'" according to the New York Daily News. "He also moved to vacate or supported the dismissal of



convictions of 21 people wrongly convicted of murder and other offenses...and presided over the prosecution against Police Officer Peter Liang in the accidental shooting death of Akai Gurley at the Pink Houses."

In October 2016, Thompson died from cancer, but

his career has been immortalized in a novel by Frederic Block, a senior United States District Court Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

In an interview with Above The Law (ATL), a website that provides news and insights about the legal

system, Block said that "Race to Judgment" is based in part on Thompson's life.

Block told ATL that when he presented a signed copy of the book Thompson's widow, Lu-Shawn she told him that the book was a wonderful way of perpetuating Thompson's legacy.

Block said that early in his career, Thompson tried one of his first cases in front of the judge as a federal prosecutor.

"I was impressed with his ability and immediately knew he was going places," said Block.

Block continued: "Since then, I followed his career with great interest as he rose

to the pinnacle of the New York legal world. 'Race to Judgment,' my new reality fiction novel, which explores themes of corruption and misconduct in the Brooklyn criminal justice system, is loosely based on Ken's career. It is dedicated to his memory."

Block's book draws from his more than two decades on the federal bench and tackles such cases as the 1991 Crown Heights riot that pitted African American and Orthodox Jewish residents against each other during an especially tense time in Brooklyn.

According to a description of "Race to Judgment" on Amazon.com, the reality-

fiction novel, "tracks the rise of the fictional African-American civil rights protagonist Ken Williams ... from his days as an Assistant United States Attorney through his meteoric rise to unseat the long-term, corrupt Brooklyn [District Attorney, because of a spate of phony convictions against Black defendants, including another one of the judge's real cases (JoJo Jones in the book) for the murder of a Hasidic rabbi."

Thompson's legacy lives on as the inspiration for the main character in "Race to Judgment," and readers will recognize the close professional relationship between Thompson and Block.

## Kids soar to new heights this Spring Break at the Frontiers of Flight Museum

Spring Break blasts off at the Frontiers of Flight Museum, 6911 Lemmon Ave, with an array of exciting, interactive STEM activities Monday, March 12 through Thursday, March 15 from

10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m., concluding with Space STEM Live on Friday, March 16. Space STEM Live caps off the week by exploring NASA's three big questions with engaging learning sta-

tions, shows, and presentations, supported by NASA's Universe of Learning, in partnership with Smithsonian Affiliations. The event is free with paid museum admission and free for museum mem-

bers.

Since school is out for many Dallas-area students for Spring Break, it's a perfect time to visit the Museum and explore aviation and space themed family activi-

ties. Visit: <https://www.frontiersofflightmuseum.com/spring-break/>.

"This special community event makes learning fun while promoting the importance of STEM education," says Cheryl Sutterfield-

Jones, Chief Executive Officer, Frontiers of Flight Museum. "We hope to inspire and motivate students to pursue engineering careers to

See SOAR, Page 11

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## Leading Chambers of Commerce highlight top Texas issues in primary poll

Leading Chambers of Commerce in Texas unveiled a poll this week of its members, finding that most say the state's economy is headed in the right direction but more must be done to shore up education, transportation, infrastructure and workforce development.

The joint survey also showed that most of the

chambers' members believe the debate over a transgender bathroom bill has hurt Texas' efforts to attract and keep talent. And, many say, Washington's inability to resolve immigration is negatively affecting their businesses.

The survey – by chambers in Arlington, Austin, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Fort Worth and San Antonio – provides a

timely outlook on business trends in Texas. Its release comes as primary voters begin deciding local, legislative, statewide and congressional races.

“The statewide results of this survey validate what we hear from our business leaders in Dallas,” said Dale Petroskey, president and CEO of the Dallas Regional Cham-

ber. “They want low taxes and reasonable regulations, and they also want investment in our children's education, and in infrastructure to keep pace with our strong, growing economy.”

“Infrastructure, education and workforce development have long been priorities on our legislative agendas,” said Bill Thornton, president and

CEO of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce. “These findings confirm that those are still well-founded and give us data to help shape our federal and state policy recommendations for addressing these issues.”

“As the survey supported, our members are committed to championing economic and community prosperity,”

stated Michael Jacobson, president and CEO of the Arlington Chamber. “Arlington manufacturing, entertainment and health sciences companies have a consistent voice that a world-class education, infrastructure and business environment is required for maintaining our position of

See POLL, Page 14

## SOAR, continued from Page 10

support a diverse and vigorous engineering workforce for tomorrow.”

During Spring Break, guests at the Frontiers of Flight Museum will enjoy full days of family activities:

- Monday - The Moon Explore our largest natural satellite with our “Earth-Moon Surface Comparison” and SPOC Planetarium Shows Land on the Moon and explore moons orbiting other planets in our 45 min show “Fly Me to the Moon,” \$5/person, 10:30am, 11:30am

- Tuesday-Aviation Become an aviator for a day and explore aerodynamics with different types of paper aircraft, Try your hand at piloting a plane with our Flight Simulators, \$5/person 10:00am-12:00pm, Build and Test a Frontier Shuttle in our professional model shop, \$5/person 10:00am-12:00pm

- Wednesday-The Solar System Test your knowledge on our planetary neighbors and design a “wind-powered” rocket, explore the surface of the planets on EarthX's Omniglobe, and SPOC Planetarium Shows Fly through the solar system and beyond the Milky Way in our 45 min show “Trip Through the Solar System,” \$5/person, 10:30am, 11:30am

- Thursday-Weather Learn about the diverse weather in our solar system and create a rain cloud, track weather patterns such as Hurricane Harvey on EarthX's Omniglobe, and SPOC Planetarium Shows From sunspots to the great red spot, witness some wild weather in our 45 min show “Spot Weather in Space,” \$5/person, 10:30am, 11:30am

During Space STEM Live, guests at the Frontiers of

Flight Museum will enjoy a full day of family activities:

- Learning Stations answering NASA's 3 Big Questions

- How did we get here? Learn how astronomers look back in time with telescopes and discover the size of our Universe as we know it by studying the Hubble Deep Field image

- How does the Universe work? Dive in to the electromagnetic spectrum with NASA's missions to see through galaxies and explore the effects of gravity from things we can see (planets, stars, etc.) and things we cannot see (dark matter)

- Are we alone? Detect worlds orbiting other stars with NASA's Eyes on Exoplanets and identify Earth-like planets that may be fostering life

- Additional hands-on activities

- Micro Observatory Capture a real picture with NASA's own network of tel-

escopes to print out and take home with you

- Build your own Comet and Galaxy Slime Take home your own out-of-this-world creations

- Visions of the Universe Brand new-to-the-museum poster exhibit unveiled for the first time

- SPOC Planetarium Show Answering NASA's 3

Big Questions, Free to the public

- Presentations from Leading Scientists Learn from local astrophysicists Dr. Lindsay King and Dr. Kat Barger on how they are answering NASA's three big questions, free with paid regular admission, limited number of tickets

- “This event is supported by NASA's Universe of Learning, in partnership with Smithsonian Affiliations.”

For more information on how you can participate in Spring Break and Space STEM Live at the Frontiers of Flight Museum in March visit: [www.flight-museum.com](http://www.flight-museum.com).

## MOODY, continued from Page 7

Wyly Theatre and Nasher Sculpture Center. McCarthy Construction, who built Moody Performance Hall, is the general contractor of the sign. Good Fulton Farrell is the architect of record. The sign was manufactured by ASI, with electrical work by JMEG. Another smaller sign will be installed later this year on the Ross Avenue side of the building.

Formerly Dallas City Performance Hall, the Dallas City Council voted in May to officially change the name to Moody Performance Hall in recognition of a generous \$22 million gift to the arts in Dallas from The Moody Foundation. It is one of the largest gifts the

Galveston-based foundation has made in the city of Dallas.

In addition to the \$10 million endowment to establish the MFA, the Moody Foundation also made a \$12 million gift to support the AT&T Performing Arts Center's Fulfilling the Vision capital campaign. The Moody Foundation accelerated that gift as well, fulfilling the \$12 million.

“The generosity of the Moody Foundation and Moody family to the Center, the arts community, to Dallas and to Texas is just astounding,” said Ms. Ellis-Kirk. “We are so thrilled to have the Moody name on this wonderful hall in the Dallas Arts District.”

The former Dallas City Performance Hall opened in September 2012. It was the most recent performance venue to be built in the Dallas Arts District and was created to ensure performance space was available in the district for emerging and midsize performing arts groups. The 750-seat venue with its strong acoustics and intimate feel is used for dance, music, film, lectures, theatre and more. The spacious lobby can be used for performances or receptions. It also includes a small art exhibition space and a fused glass public art display in the lobby created by Dallas artist Octavio Medellin. The City's Office of Cultural Affairs operates, programs and maintains the venue.

learn more >

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# ESSA

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# Texas Democrats show up big during first week of early voting

By Jazlyn Mercer  
NDG Contributing Writer



Texas Democrats showed up Tuesday for the first day of early voting, and the surge continued throughout the first week. More Democrats have voted in the early voting stage of 2018 than Republicans. Fifty-four percent of the 51,249 votes cast on Tuesday were in the Democratic primary, according to the Texas Tribune. Carol Donovan, chairwoman of the

Dallas County Democratic Party believes President Donald Trump is what is motivating voters for the huge surge of Texas Democrats.

"After just one year, Trump has the lowest ap-

proval rating of any modern president. Between his trips to Mar-a-Lago, all of the scandals within his Cabinet, and his attacks on women and immigrants and now even teenage survivors of a mass shooting, it is evident that the voters of this country are angry and want change," said Carol Donovan.

In Dallas County on Tuesday, Feb. 20 4,023 votes were cast in the Democratic primary compared to the 2014 Democratic primary's

2,587 votes. 1,957 votes cast in the Republican primaries compared to the 2014 primary's 2,412 votes.

The number is concerning to Texas Governor Greg Abbott and Washington appears to be watching as well. President Trump on Tuesday asking "all of my many Texas friends" to vote for Gov. Greg Abbott, Sen. Ted Cruz, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, and Attorney General Ken Paxton. Later in the day, he issued a supportive tweet for Texas

Land Commissioner George P. Bush as well.

"We've seen a surge of liberal enthusiasm in deep red states like Georgia, Alabama, and Oklahoma, Abbott said in a recently published report. "We always hoped the liberal wave would never hit Texas, but these early voting returns aren't encouraging so far."

The total number of in-person voters in Dallas County continued to rise through the six days of early

voting with 19,829 voters as opposed to 2014's 12,907.

"Trump truly is the catalyst for the "Blue Wave," and we've been working hard to capture that energy and translate it into a high voter turn out in Dallas County. We are pleased to see it is working," said Donovan.

Early voting continues through Friday, March 2, the polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Election day is Tuesday, March 6.

# ACLU of Texas calls for Harris County Judge to step aside

HOUSTON — The ACLU of Texas is calling on the Texas Commission on Judicial Conduct to open an investigation of Harris County District Judge Michael McSpadden following comments he made to the Houston Chronicle openly admitting racial bias against young Black male defendants who appear before his court. Pending the

outcome of the investigation, the ACLU of Texas is also calling for Judge McSpadden's recusal from any case involving a Black defendant until that investigation is concluded.

"If there remained any doubt that the deck is stacked against people of color in our criminal justice system, Michael McSpadden just dispelled it," said

Terri Burke, executive director of the ACLU of Texas. "When a sitting judge feels comfortable enough to admit openly and on the record that he uses bail orders to jail Black defendants on the assumption they can't be trusted, it's time to take action. This kind of flagrant racism has no place in our justice system. The Texas Commission on Judicial

Conduct needs to take the first step toward rooting it out, and Judge McSpadden should voluntarily step down."

In his comments to the Houston Chronicle, Judge McSpadden admitted that he instructed hearing officers to deny personal recognizance bonds to young Black male defendants because they are "tainted" and "not good

risks." He went on to say that Black defendants do not "[get] good advice from their parents," but rather bad advice from "rag-tag organizations like Black Lives Matter." Such an admission demonstrates that Judge McSpadden is in violation of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct and may constitute grounds for his removal from office.

"Judge McSpadden's remarks are inexcusable, but not at all surprising for those of us who know the justice system well," said Anthony Graves, smart justice initiatives manager for the ACLU of Texas and author of the recently released Infinite Hope: How Wrongful Conviction, Solitary Confinement, and 12 Years on Death Row Failed to Kill My Soul.

## LEGAL NOTICE

These Texas Lottery Commission scratch ticket games will be closing soon:

Game #	Game Name / Odds	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
1793	<b>Weekly Grand</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 3.95	\$2	3/26/18	9/22/18
1880	<b>The University of Texas</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 4.70	\$1	4/25/18	10/22/18
1881	<b>Texas A&amp;M University</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 4.70	\$1	4/25/18	10/22/18
2005	<b>Reindeer Riches</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 4.70	\$1	4/25/18	10/22/18
1840	<b>7</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 3.93	\$5	4/25/18	10/22/18
1846	<b>Fast Cash Multiplier</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 3.25	\$5	4/25/18	10/22/18

For detailed odds and game information, visit [texaslottery.com](http://texaslottery.com) or call 800-875-6886. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. The Texas Lottery supports Texas education and veterans. PLAY RESPONSIBLY. For help with a gambling problem, visit [www.gambling.org](http://www.gambling.org). © 2018 Texas Lottery Commission. All rights reserved.



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# Upcoming DFW area job fairs

## March 3 Omni Job Fair

Omni Hotels is looking for new talented team members in the DFW area. If you're seeking a position with an award-winning team, they want to see you this Saturday. Be sure to apply online before attending at [www.omnihotels.com/careers](http://www.omnihotels.com/careers).

The job fair is scheduled for Saturday, March 3 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Arts 4-7, Cedars at Omni. Please park in Omni Self-Park Garage, Pegasus Garage.

Hiring positions for housekeeping, room attendant, house-person, supervisor, and others. Restaurants on Lamar host, busperson, culinary, server, bartender, as well as front desk agent, bell-person, spa front desk agent part-time, valet driver both full time and on-call, dishwasher, on-call banquet server, banquet house-person, barista, and accounts payable coordinator.

## March 5 Military Hiring Event

A free hiring event for veterans, transitioning military personnel, National Guard members, reserve members and spouses is scheduled for March 5. The seminar kicks off at 10 a.m. "Ready, Aim, Hired:



How to Make Sure Your Civilian Job Search Hits the Target -- Using Technology to Get the Right Job Faster" and is presented by My-ComputerCareer. It will be held at AT&T Stadium located at One AT&T Way in Arlington.

This seminar is intended to show job seekers how to work smarter to secure interviews. Learn how to prepare a job search system that will create a list of target employers and how to connect with these employers to secure interviews.

Register separately for the seminar at [rmvets.com/mcc\\_dallas18](http://rmvets.com/mcc_dallas18).

## March 5 Business Job Fair

Job Fair of Dallas will be at Embassy Suites by Hilton- Dallas DFW Airport North. There will be positions in the following areas: sales, Customer Service, Call Center, Management, General Business, Marketing, Retail, Administrative, Insurance, Banking, Engineering, Accounting, Finance, Education, Law Enforcement, Government, Military, Hospitality, Human Resources, Techni-

cians, Telemarketing, Healthcare, IT, and more.

Be sure to pre-register at [www.catalystcareergroup.com](http://www.catalystcareergroup.com).

The job fair is scheduled for Monday, March 5 from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

## March 6 TI Job Fair

Texas Instruments Wafer Fabrication Job Fair will be held at Volk Workforce Solutions in Irving. Texas Instruments is currently hiring entry level wafer fabrication positions for both full-time as well as weekends. Looking for individuals that can work on their feet for long periods of time, great attentive skills, willing to work long hours, flexible with their schedule, and possess great listening skills.

## March 7 Career Workshop

Career Fair Ready Workshop: How to Present Yourself at North Lake College in Irving at 5001 N. MacArthur Blvd. Visit G402 to gain a better understanding of key skills such as communication, creative thinking, decision making, and more that can help you get the job!

## March 7 Sales & Management Career Fair

Dallas Professional Career Event - Sales & Man-

agement Specific will be hosted by HireLive on March 7 from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. This is an opportunity to interview face to face with 15+ Fortune 500 and Industry Leading companies seeking talented, experienced and enthusiastic sales, retail and management candidates.

The job fair will be held at Sheraton Dallas Hotel by the Galleria at 4801 Lyndon B Johnson Freeway in Dallas. Parking for 2-4 hours will cost \$5. Email Your Resume To: [17947-21-mh2006@apply.maxhire.net](mailto:17947-21-mh2006@apply.maxhire.net).

## March 8, 15, 22, 29 Custodial Fair

Diverse Facility Solutions is a janitorial service which provides staff with high profile clients. Applicants must be able to pass a Federal Background check. Receive a \$100 bonus after completing 100 days of employment. The job fairs are each Thursday in the month of March at 5005 W. Royal Lane, Suite 156 in Irving.

## March 20 and April 20 PetSmart Hiring Event

PetSmart is looking for pet lovers to work at their distribution center in Ennis. The positions are full-time direct hires, not temp posi-

tions.

Within the first six months you can earn up to \$17.94 and enjoy paid time off 90 days from hire, health, vision and dental as well 401k saving plan. After 100 days you receive a \$500 retention bonus; and eligible to receive \$500 for referring a friend for hire. They are located at 2880 S. Oak Grove Rd. in Ennis. Open interviews are held on the third Tuesday of each month from 8 a.m. – 10 a.m.

## March 21 Diversity Hiring Event

The 18th Annual Diversity Employment Day Career Fair features employers seeking a diverse and inclusive staff. This event is free and open to the public 18 years of age and older. Multicultural/Bilingual, People with Disabilities, Women, LGBT, Veterans and Mature candidates are encouraged to attend.

The positions available

run the gamut from entry to professional level for companies such as Union Pacific, LKCM Radio Group, Citibank, FedEx Ground, the FBI and more. Interested applicants can visit [facebook.com/CityCareer-Fair](http://facebook.com/CityCareer-Fair) to register for the event at the Holiday Inn Conference Center at 6055 LBJ Frwy. in Dallas from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## April 3 Health Workshops

SMU Health Professions Spring Swing will provide interested applicants an opportunity to gain medical experience with PhysAssist Scribes. With more than 300 facilities close to colleges across the country, they provide students access to real-world learning. They offer full- and part-time positions with flexible schedules, allowing students to achieve the work-school-life balance they need to excel. For more info visit [iamscribe.com](http://iamscribe.com).



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The North Dallas Gazette has an internship position available. The goal is to provide students and aspiring writers an opportunity to gain published clips, experience and professional feedback.



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*NOTICE: Pastor Woodson serves the community by providing "Professional Therapy and Counseling Services" on a "Sliding Fee" scale. To schedule an appointment call the Pastoral Counseling Center at 972-526-4525 or email the church at www.bethelbiblefellowship.org*

Discover Hope and Help for daily living; and, you don't have to be a member to come. The Connect-2-Reflect (C2R) meetings are held in comfortable and relaxed homes, one in Carrollton and one in Plano, refreshments are served. Call the church for details.

**March 4, 9:45 a.m.**  
You're invited to our "Prayer and Meditation" at 9:45 am. You will be blessed and inspired. You don't want to miss this as we celebrate service to God, our community and all mankind.

**March 7, 7 p.m.**  
Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Senior Pastor Woodson, Pastor Larry Gardner, Pastor Bernadette, and others conducting a study on the book of Ephesians with supporting chapters and verses. Spirituality

is God's desire for you; it's Time to Grow in the Word of God.

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**FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH IN ALLEN "THE SHIP"**

**March 4, 8 a.m.**  
Join us in our Sunday Morning Services as we praise and worship God in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall; followed by our Sunday Worship Services; and bring someone with you, you will be blessed.

**March 7**  
Join us in our Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day Live, Prayer and Bible Study and/or our Wednesday Night Live, Prayer and Bible Study at 7 p.m. to learn more about God's Word. Be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and His glory; and most of all; be prepared to grow.

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**INSPIRING BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH, Let's Go Fishing! MATTHEW 4:19**

**March 2, 7 p.m.**  
All men are invited to Men's Ministry meeting each Friday night at 7 p.m., (IBOC promotes proactive male leadership.)

**March 4, 10 a.m.**  
Ladies, it is women wear white day, and don't forget to join us at 3 p.m. for a fellowship meeting with Pastor Rush.

**March 5, 7 p.m.**  
Join us in Monday School as we grow in God's Word and learn what God has to say to us.

**March 7, 7:30 p.m.**  
Join Pastor Rush for IBOC's Leadership Training, the first Wednesday in each month.

Pastor Rickie Rush  
7701 S Westmoreland Road  
Dallas, TX 75237  
972-372-4262  
www.Ibocchurch.org

**MT. OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO (MOCOP) (Uniting the Body of Christ Among Nations)**

that would restrict bathroom use for transgender Texans in public facilities. Many of the state's most recognized companies and business groups opposed the measure.

On immigration, 44 percent of chamber members polled say that federal discussions and actions over immigration are negatively affecting their business. Almost half say it has had no impact and 8 percent say it has been positive.

The survey went beyond an assessment of top business issues, offering solutions by chamber members to keep Texas moving. Among the findings:

- Most support using the state's Rainy Day Fund to make up for budget shortfalls.

**March 4, 10 a.m.**  
Join us for Morning Worship Service as we praise and worship God for His Honor and His glory; and don't forget to comeback at 7 p.m. for our Brazilian Church.

**March 7, 7 p.m.**  
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study class; you will learn what God has to say to us. Come to be encouraged by God's plan for your spiritual growth and His glory.

Pastor Sam Fenceroy Senior Pastor and Pastor Gloria Fenceroy  
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**March 4, 7 a.m.**  
Join us for our Early Service or our Morning Worship Service as we praise and worship God, you will be blessed.

**March 7, 7 pm**  
Join us at our Wednesday's Intercessory as we pray to God for others. Call the church for details for details.

Dr. Tommy L. Brown, Ed. D. Senior Pastor  
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**March 4, 2018**  
You are invited to our morning worship at 10 a.m. Sunday School will begin at 8:30 a.m. We would love to have you at our services.

**March 7, 7 p.m. March 4**  
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study to learn more about God's Word. Come and be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and growth; it's all for His glory and His honor. We are, "Growing in Christ through the study of His Word."

Our church ministries offer opportunities for motivation and growth; join us and see. Be blessed of the Lord.

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**POLL**, continued from Page 11

economic leadership." Among other highlights, the poll of business leaders from across the state found that:

- Chamber members overwhelming say Texas' economy is on the right track but they have little confidence its public school students are well prepared for post-secondary education and the workforce after graduating high school.

- If budget demands were not a concern, chamber members say, the state should focus its spending on public education, higher education, transportation and workforce development.

- They also rate transportation/infrastructure as a leg-

islative priority and say the state should invest more in that to keep pace with Texas' growing population and transportation demands.

- More than three quarters say NAFTA has helped Texas businesses overall. And 43 percent say it has boosted their business specifically.

On the so-called bathroom bill, nearly two-thirds of chamber members say the state discussion about that issue has had a negative effect on perceptions of Texas' ability to attract or retain qualified employees for its businesses. Of those polled, 44 percent say it has had a very negative effect.

The Legislature last year debated but did not pass a bill



# Women's History Month



Send email to: [businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com](mailto:businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com) to sign up for Sister Tarpley's weekly electronic newsletter.

March is National Women's History Month. The 2018 Theme is **NEVERTHELESS SHE PERSISTED: Honoring Women Who Fight all Forms of Discrimination Against Women.**

Every year the National Women's History Project selects a unifying theme to be shared with all who want to promote women's history.

This year's theme presents the opportunity to weave women's stories – individually and collectively – into the essential fabric of our nation's history.

To celebrate strong women who have made, or who are making a difference, I will highlight facts about Black women and their contribution to mankind this month.

Throughout history, Black women have made contributions to our society. Unfortunately, most of the time, you will not find their stories in America's history books.

Accounts of the lives of individual Black women are critically important because they reveal exceptionally strong role models who

share a more expansive vision of what a woman can do.

The stories of Black women's lives, and the choices they made, encourage girls and young women to think larger and bolder, and give Black boys and men a fuller understanding of the female experience.

Knowing Black women's achievements challenges stereotypes and upends social assumptions about who they are and what they can accomplish today.

There is real power in hearing Black women's stories, both personally and in a larger context. Remembering and recounting tales of our ancestors' talents, sacrifices, and commitments inspires today's generations and opens the way to the future.

Delilah L. Beasley - Historian and Newspaper Columnist; at her memorial service, which was a testament to her life-long crusade for justice, all attending stood and made the following pledge — "Every life casts its shadow, my life plus others make power to move the world.

I, therefore pledge my life to the living work of brotherhood and material understanding between the races.

Beasley was the first Black woman to be regularly published in a major metropolitan newspaper and the first author to present the

history of Blacks in early California.

Growing up in Ohio, Beasley started writing social columns for Black and White newspapers while still a teenager.

After her parents' deaths, she sought a career path that would better support her younger siblings, working as a hairdresser, massage therapist, nurse, and maid for many years.

In 1910 she moved to

Oakland California where she immersed herself in the local Black community and again started writing articles in local newspapers.

In 1915 Beasley started writing a weekly column in the Oakland Tribune. Her articles protested the stereotypes contained in the movie "The Birth of a Nation." Through a column called "Activities among Negroes," she campaigned for Black dignity and rights.

She highlighted activities of local churches, women's clubs, literary societies, along with national politics, and achievements of Black men and women; her column aimed to give all readers a positive picture of the Black community and demonstrate the capabilities of Blacks.

Deeply interested in the history of Black Californians, Beasley trained herself in archival research and oral histories. In 1919 she self-published *The Negro Trail-Blazers of California*, this was a groundbreaking book chronicling the lives of hun-

dreds of Black Californians from the pioneer period through the early 20th century.

Her book included an unprecedented amount of Black women's history, focusing on the strong roles women played in their communities and featuring countless biographies of Black women leaders.

In the thirties, Beasley was the driving force behind the passage California's first anti-lynching bill. She continued her column and was active in the community until her death in 1934.



Delilah L. Beasley (1867-1934), Historian and Newspaper Columnist

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**NDGtv** North Dallas Gazette takes a moment to reflect on the past with **Historical Perspectives from Sister Tarpley**

Hear what it was like growing up in a very different Dallas when Booker T. Washington was a black school. Sister Tarpley graduated from there and went on to college and later became a city councilmember in Carrollton.

**Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com**

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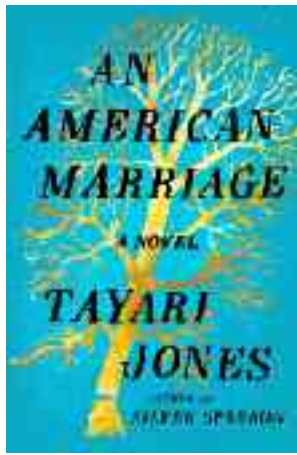
# NDG Book Review: *An American Marriage: A Novel*

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

He did it on one knee.

One knee, with a nervous grin on his face and a velvet box in his shaking hands, asking you the Question of a Lifetime. You'd talked about this day but it was still a surprise and now you have planning to do, just the two of you. Or, as in "An American Marriage" by Tayari Jones, three...

The last time Roy Othaniel Hamilton enjoyed a truly happy evening was about a year-and-a-half after he married his wife, Celestial, the only woman (after his Mama) that he ever really loved. It's true



that they'd been arguing that night – they argued and made up, argued and made up a lot then – but things were going well. They'd even talked about having a baby on that last happy

evening before the police broke down the door of their room at Piney Woods Motel and arrested Roy for a rape he didn't commit.

His life was supposed to be with Celestial. He believed that all along.

They'd met in college: his buddy, Andre, was her best friend and Dre introduced them but Roy and Celestial didn't click until years later. They met again, dated, and the rest was, well, not exactly smooth. He cheated on her a time or two. She'd freeze him out when she caught him, but she knew she was his woman.

Celestial also knew the

man she married, and Roy wasn't capable of raping some woman six years older than his own mother. But a jury wouldn't believe her, wouldn't believe him, would only believe an old woman who pointed a finger ... and there you go: Roy's sentence was twelve years in a Louisiana penitentiary.

And, oh, they wrote letters, but they were apart longer than they weren't and eventually, Celestial wanted to – needed to – move on. She found somebody else, somebody who was her future and her past, but she was still Roy's wife.

And when Roy got out of prison seven years early, he hoped to remind her of that fact.

There's a reason that Oprah picked "An American Marriage" as one of her books. Yes, this novel is that good.

Really, though, author Tayari Jones tells a simple story of boy-meets-girl-marries-her. It's a fairy tale, modernized; a romance with a twist: Roy idealizes his marriage, while Celestial is a realist. He's your basic Nice Guy. She's been raised to take care of herself and speak her mind. His memories differ quite a bit from hers, and seeing both

sides through their eyes makes their story better.

Add a situation that hints at the unimaginable, and some additional, sometimes irritating, characters with influence and you've got a book filled with a tale that'll keep you dry-mouthed, page-turning, and right on the edge of hollering.

This is a novel that unabashedly plays with your senses of right and not-quite-right. It also plays with your emotions, if you've ever been in love – so have a handful of tissues nearby. "An American Marriage" could bring you to your knees.

## MNP, continued from Page 1

and enhanced informational access.

"They have these things in other places," Jones said. "We should have it here. We want to go ahead and take the extra step to make it educational as well."

"The City of Dallas has IT services, and they are responsible for that," Rideaux said, adding that for improvements he would move to create a night court if bailiffs can be scheduled.

### JP, Precinct 4 Place 2

In the race for Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4 Place 2, incumbent Katy Hubener is facing challenger Sasha Moreno in the Democratic primary (as well as Fred Jackson, who was not present). The most intense exchange of the evening, Moreno put her legal career at the top of the list for why she should be elected.

"I am the only candidate in this race licensed to practice law," Moreno said, repeating the assertion several

times throughout the exchange. Among the other things Moreno said she wants to bring to the office are night court, alternative legal solutions to keep people from getting to court in the first place, and informational access for defendants (including availability in their language).

She conceded that Hubener had begun some of these services, but asserted it was only two months ago, an assertion Hubener was quick to rebuke.

"We began doing it since 2013 when the law allowed us to," Hubener said.

Hubener reminded the audience that Moreno was licensed to practice law in California, not Texas (Moreno practices federal law, so she is only required to be licensed in one state). She also said that the only criticism brought forward was that she was not an attorney.

"I don't think that's a fair

criticism when I've done a great job," Hubener said.

None of the candidates for Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2 Place 1, were present at the MNP forum on Monday night.

### Constable, Precinct 4

Voters are going to have their hands full when it comes time to vote for the office of Precinct 4 Constable. There are a total of seven candidates vying for the position, five of which were present for the forum.

Bryan D. Woodard, Edward Wright, Sam Allen, Kevin Solomon and Sha Steger Wright took the stage to round out the forum presentations. All candidates appearing come from lengthy law enforcement backgrounds, though they pointed out that one of the candidates not present was not a licensed peace officer.

Woodard is currently working in the Precinct 2 Constables office, and has become well-known on social media for trying to improve the perceptions of law

enforcement among members of the community.

Wright has been with the Sheriff's Office for 29 years. Having filed more than 200 cases, he points to a 100 percent conviction rate and community services for youth beginning in 2008.

Sam Allen, a Cedar Hill resident who works in Balch Springs, points to programs he has done for youth and domestic vio-

lence victims in Balch Springs and says he will just "slide it over" to his new assignment.

Solomon has experience both specifically in the Constable's office and management experience. He is one of a very small percentage who has done writs and executions, which he says points to a thorough understanding of the work involved.

Knight points out that she

is the only female in the race, but "I am the most qualified, I just happen to be a lady." She is also currently in a Constable's office (Precinct 1) and has implemented training programs for other officers in the past.

MNP will be held again on March 5, focusing on school board candidates who will be up for election in May. MNP is always free to the public and begins at 6 p.m.

## ALAMAN, continued from Page 2

teer Attorney Program, Human Rights Initiative, Gateway of Grace and Cliff Temple Baptist Church.

Loretta Landry is the Regional Manager of Child Hunger Outreach, Texas Hunger Initiative, at Baylor University. Loretta employs

her advocacy skills to put Dallas County children first. She has developed and implemented innovative strategies and programs to meet the nutritional needs of low-income children who struggle with food insecurity. Her work helps children access

and qualify for federal meal programs, incentivizes best practices among program providers and leads community coalitions that are driving down child hunger.

To learn more about the Community First Award and the 2018 recipients, please visit: [www.IStandforParkland.org/Community-First](http://www.IStandforParkland.org/Community-First).

**Democratic Primary Election:**  
Tuesday, March 6, 2018  
Early Voting: February 20 - March 2

[jessicafortexas.com](http://jessicafortexas.com)



**Jessica Gonzalez**

**Democrat for State Representative 104**

Pol. Adv. Pd. for By Jessica Gonzalez Campaign