

North Dallas Gazette

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Allred focusing on infrastructure and healthcare in election bid

By Joe Farkus
NDG Contributing Writer

North Texas is the site of one of the most competitive congressional races in the country, drawing national attention and visits from Vice President Pence, potential presidential candidates and millions of dollars in campaign cash. Democratic challenger Colin Allred is seeking to oust Republican incumbent Congressman Pete Sessions from his House seat in District 32 this November.

Born and raised by a single mother, who also taught in Texas public schools for nearly-thirty years, Allred earned a scholarship to play football at Baylor University before spending five years as a linebacker in the NFL. After a career-ending injury, he chose to study law and would later work in the Obama administration under Housing and Urban Development Secretary Julian Castro, later joining a Dallas law firm as a voting rights attorney.

"I'm not running for Congress to just be a check on one person in the White House," he told the *North Dallas Gazette*. "I want to represent this community that has meant so much to me."

His opponent and his allies have spent millions on ad campaigns to attack Allred over his views on taxes, border enforcement and the perception that he is too liberal to represent



Former pro football player Colin Allred is mounting a full-scale Democratic blitz on Texas House District 32 during the upcoming November 6 election cycle. (Photo: Wikimedia)

the district in Congress. Despite this, a September *New York Times*/Siena poll shows Allred only a point behind Sessions in what is quickly becoming a neck-and-neck race to finish.

"He is, I think, relying on national support, whereas I'm relying on local support," he responded when asked about recent visits from top Republicans to the district. "That's what's made our campaign special, not bringing in the Vice President or Donald Trump, Jr."

Despite disagreeing with the President on most major issues, Allred does see potential for common ground on what he views as the top priority for the next Congress.

"If I have my way, the first bill out

of the next Congress is going to be an infrastructure bill. We're growing extremely rapidly here in North Texas."

"This is something [the President] has said he wants to do," he continued. "I think if we put [an infrastructure bill] on his desk, it will get signed."

Allred has also chosen to make health care one of the issues front-and-center in his campaign, repeatedly criticizing his opponent for voting to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

"There are 330,000 people here in North Texas that have preexisting conditions. Pete Sessions has voted over fifty times to take away protec-

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People In The News...

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Danielle Brown



Rosie Trenia Moore

READERS SOUND OFF!!!
See Page 2 to see what NDG readers are saying about the latest news!

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Danielle Brown

WASHINGTON DC METRO AREA - Danielle Brown has been elected the 26th national president of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. The announcement was made at the organization's 43rd National Convention held in Kansas City, Missouri in July.

"I'm humbled by the great opportunity to serve as the 26th National President of Jack and Jill of America, Inc.," Mrs. Brown said. "Opportunities have never been greater for children of color, yet at the same time, they continue to face chal-



lenges that have plagued generations before them. The purpose of our organization has always been to equip our children with the tools needed not just to get by in America, but to succeed, to thrive, to lead and

to serve in the 21st century. I'm looking forward to continuing the great work done by my predecessors in this regard."

Jack and Jill of America is celebrating its 80th anniversary. It is the nation's oldest African American family organization, founded in 1938 with the specific mission of nurturing future African American leaders by stimulating the growth and development of children through educational, cultural, civic, recreational, health and social programs inspired by mothers. Through its nearly 250 chapters organized in seven

regions across the United States, the organization consists of more than 30,000 family members, which includes mother members, fathers and children ages two through 19.

Jack and Jill of America chapters also support non-profit organizations through its philanthropic arm, the Jack and Jill of America Foundation which is among the first foundations established by African-American families in the United States. Since its founding in 1968, the foundation has granted millions of dollars to worthy causes supporting children and families.

Mrs. Brown grew up as a child in the organization, and - following in the footsteps of her Great Aunt, a founding member of the organization's first chapter in Philadelphia Chapter, her Mother, a founding member of the Loudoun County, Virginia Chapter, and her Aunt, a past National Vice President - she joined the organization as a mother in 1998, in the Alexandria Mount Vernon Chapter and later transferred to her current Loudoun County Virginia Chapter.

Over the last two decades, she has served Jack and Jill in positions of

increasing responsibility, most recently as its national vice president. A graduate of George Mason University, Mrs. Brown brings more than 25 years of proven expertise in non-profit development, fundraising, public relations, event planning and executive sales. She is active in several organizations devoted to serving the community, including the Links Inc.

In addition to Mrs. Brown, delegates to the Jack and Jill of America, Inc., 2018 convention chose a slate of new officers to lead the organization.

Rosie Trena Moore

Well-known marketing professional and entrepreneur, Rosie Trena Moore has gathered some of the best in the industry to present, "Pit to the Palace," a first of its kind empowerment event and awards show that will take place on Saturday, October 27, 2018 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at American Celebrations Event Center, 921 West Belt Line Road #110, DeSoto, TX 75115.

The event is free to open to the public. Attendees are asked to register on



Eventbrite at www.eventbrite.com/e/pit-to-the-palace-empowerment-tour-tickets-50516320675?utm_term=eventurl_text.

Dallas is the first stop on this inaugural empowerment tour.

The event will include an awards ceremony honoring women for their contributions to the community, including Debra Peek-Haynes, First Lady of Friendship West Baptist Church; Cheryl "Action" Jackson of Minnie's Food Pantry; Willie Mae McIver of Beyond the Praise Gospel Radio Show, Anita Hawkins of Find One Reason to Smile and Debra Bowles of Women Called Moses.

Other honorees will in-

clude Sandra Robinson, Dorothy Weatherspoon, Lynette Haynes-Oliver, Letitia Owens, Shereese Slate, Bridget Fleury and a special award will be presented to Veta Holt.

Featured speakers will include Bridget Fleury and Associates; Dr. Sabrina Jackson, national radio and television personality; V. Toya Bradley, celebrity wardrobe stylist and Frederick W. Sanders, celebrity make-up artist. Event creator, Rosie Trena Moore will also share her personal "pit to

the palace" story.

There will be a special surprise performance by nationally acclaimed recording artist, Dorinda Clark-Cole of the famed Clark Sisters. Carmina Barnett of KHVN Heaven 97 will serve as the emcee.

One lucky registrant will win a full make-over, including hair, make-up and wardrobe styling from the participating celebrity stylists and an all-expense paid trip.

Pit to the Palace Empowerment Tour's mission is to encourage and empower

people who are stuck in their "pit" due to job loss, bad relationships, low self-esteem, abuse, or in need of a second chance for whatever reason and give them the tools to successfully transition to their "palace."

Through professional break-out sessions and open and transparent dialogue, attendees will be presented with the tools to begin the process of taking back their identity and recognizing their worth and value as an individual.

For more information, visit www.rtmgroupservices.org.

NDG Readers Sound Off...

A political prisoner

I hope the people in Texas are opposing this effort.

-- Sonya Dungey via Facebook

The protest and outrage has been ongoing in Dallas and Texas. Heck the courts had to slap them down just to keep voting normal here...now this injustice right here is ludicrous

-- Jacqueline Johnson via Facebook

Sister Tarpley: Time to get real with God

It is childish theological understandings such as this that brought us to where we

are today. We must do better.

-- @Piano_Shop via Twitter

NDG Readers were asked why they want to the State Fair of Texas and these are a few responses received via Facebook:

LaToya R. Johnson: All the amazing food! Plus I want to be daring and try something I haven't had before!

Tiffany Walker: I'm probably the only person in the world that don't eat any of the food(except a slice of

pizza)....but I really wanna go to walk around oh and look at the cars

Michelle Hull: I want to see all the Creative Arts, The Texas Lottery Booth and North Dallas Gazette Newspaper if they are at the fair!!!!

Neketa Rachelle: I love the car show and just walking around. I love the fair, it symbolizes fall to me.

Alicia Lopez: I want to eat a sausage on a stick and a funnel cake.

Ladyk Williams: Fun-

nel cake fingers, turkey leg fresh off the grill, street corn on the cob, curly fries and Floyd's catfish nuggets - with hot sauce of course! And a refillable slushi banana and blue coconut. Yummmmm

Carol V. Jenkins-Gaye: I want to see the new ride and football games. I like eating corndog, turkey leg, funnel cake and ice cold root beer.

To share your opinion visit

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Publisher’s Office:

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

Sales Department:

marketing@northdallasgazette.com
972-509-9049

Editorial Department:

editor@northdallasgazette.com

Online:

www.NorthDallasGazette.com
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Published By

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

NDG Senior Columnist

Ed Gray

Editor

Ruth Ferguson

Columnist

A.D. Jenkins

Web Master

Todd Jones

Contributing Writers

Tiffany Gilbert
Jackie Hardy
Rachel Hawkins
Angela Loston
Jacqueline Murphy
Dwain Price
Terri Schlichenmeyer
Nicole Scott
David Wilfong

Community Marketing

Nadina Davis

Account Executive

LaRoyce Jones

Production

David Wilfong



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AARP’s ‘Be the Difference. Vote.’ stresses the importance of voting in this year’s midterms

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Correspondent

Next month’s fast-approaching midterm elections count as one of the most consequential in a lifetime, according to political scholar Norman Ornstein.

The folks at AARP “wholeheartedly concur,” and not just in word, but also by actions.

The organization, which was founded in 1958 on the principles of promoting independence, dignity and purpose for older adults, has launched a campaign titled, “Be the Difference. Vote.”

AARP doesn’t endorse candidates or parties, they focus instead on policy that affects older adults.

“‘Be the Difference. Vote.’ is a non-partisan campaign whose goal is mobilizing African Americans voters — and all voters 50 and older — to exercise their power and vote,” says Edna Kane-Williams, the senior vice president of Multicultural Leadership at AARP. “Critical issues like Medicare, Social Security, prescription drugs and family caregiving are on the line and older voters need to show up and protect what they’ve earned.”

Launched in May, the “Be the Difference. Vote.” campaign relies on studies that show voters 50 and older are the most reliable.

The multifaceted campaign seeks to encourage the largest possible turnout of older voters to the polls during the midterm election, Nov. 6. This election places issues like Medicare, Social Security, financial security and caregiving — topics of particular interest to older voters — front and center.

Kane-Williams refer-



AARP

enced U.S. Census statistics that reveal that only 57 percent of all U.S. citizens between ages 25 and 44 voted in the 2012 general election, compared to 68 percent of those between 45 and 64. Among African Americans, 65 percent of individuals between 25 and 44 voted, compared to 72 percent who were between the ages of 45 and 64.

African Americans will be a deciding voting bloc in key races across the country, especially in Pennsylvania, Florida, North Carolina, Virginia and other swing states, according to multiple political experts. However, forecasters also predict potential Black voter dropout, a serious issue.

In 2016, the Black voter turnout rate declined for the first time in 20 years in a presidential election, falling to 59.6 percent after reaching a record high of 66.6 percent in 2012, according to the Pew Research Center.

“We are at a moment in which important decisions need to be made on matters key to the lives of older Americans,” AARP editors noted in the October 2018 AARP Bulletin.

“Some are obvious, like the future funding and structure of Medicare and our health care system,” the editors wrote. “At the same time, many states are grap-

pling with issues related to worker discrimination, retirement savings, underfunded pensions, Medicaid, caregiving and more. Those we put into office could shape the resolutions of these issues for decades to come.”

In a colorful graphic for the magazine, AARP editors outlined what’s at stake, including 35 of the 100 U.S. Senate seats; all 435 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives; and 36 of 50 states will elect a governor.

Nearly 300 state appellate judges, including 71 state Supreme Court justices will be elected or appointed; 25 of America’s largest cities will elect mayors; and 82 percent of state legislator positions, totaling 6,070 seats in 87 legislative chambers, are up for grabs.

AARP’s campaign is important, and the organization listed 10 ways in which the midterm elections will affect older Americans:

- Shoring up Social Security.
- Rising Drug Prices.
- Medicare Funding.
- Medicaid: Grow or slow it?
- The future of Health Insurance.
- Bolstering Retirement Savings.
- Lower Retirement Taxes.
- Fixing Pension Short-

falls.

- More Help for Caregivers.
- Fraud Targets.

Through the “Be the Difference. Vote.” campaign, AARP has used its website as a one-stop portal for voters to get information about the election, including issue briefings, polling results and voter guides.

AARP has pledged to conduct polls of 50-plus voters across the country and in battleground states, tracking voter sentiment on key issues. Throughout the initiative, the organization has delivered information on issues and election news, and has notified members of local events, tele-town halls and candidate forums.

Candidates are pressured to address issues of vital importance to older Americans in campaign speeches, literature and advertising messages, based upon the input received from AARP tracking polls and member communications.

AARP has also applied advanced data analytics to target turnout of 50-plus voters in major races across the country, while reaching out to African American and Latino voters — especially in races where they represent a key or deciding voting bloc.

“AARP encourages all voters, regardless of their ages, to take part in the ‘Be the Difference. Vote.’ campaign by signing AARP’s pledge to vote, using the voting tool to ensure they have the information they need to vote, and learning where the candidates stand on issues that matter to them and their families,” Kane-Williams said.

Voters can sign the pledge and get more information at aarp.org/vote.

Faith-based approach to changing lifestyle lowers blood pressure

A church-based program to encourage a healthy lifestyle lowered systolic blood pressure more than an educational program alone delivered in other churches, according to new research in *Circulation: Cardiovascular Quality and Outcomes*, an American Heart Association journal.

The Faith-based Approaches in the Treatment of Hypertension (FAITH) trial is the first and largest community-based study to evaluate the effect of a comprehensive lifestyle intervention on blood pressure reduction among African Americans in prominently black churches. Previously, other faith-based interventions have successfully increased cancer screening, reduced weight and improved fruit and vegetable intake among churchgoers, researchers said.

“Implementation of a lifestyle program in a faith-based setting was very effective in improving blood pressure control and could be routine practice in places of worship,” said Gbenga Ogedegbe, M.D., M.P.H., M.S., senior author of the study, professor of medicine and population health, and director of the Center for Healthful Behavior Change



at the New York University School of Medicine. “This is particularly important for black communities who suffer a disproportionately higher burden of heart disease due to high blood pressure, and who may not have access to care due to a lack of insurance or mistrust of the healthcare system.”

Researchers evaluated the impact of a program that combined faith-based lifestyle change with motivational interviewing compared to health education alone on 373 adults in 32 traditionally black churches in New York City. Participants were average age 63 and 76 percent were women. The program was delivered by trained lay church members.

The intensive intervention included 11 weekly 90-minute sessions focused on a healthy diet (low-fat and low-

sodium with plenty of fruits and vegetables), exercise, weight loss, adherence to medication and stress reduction. The curriculum included prayer, scripture and faith-based discussion related to health. After the intensive intervention, participants received three monthly phone calls to help motivate them to continue the lifestyle changes.

Researchers found that after the six-month intensive phase of the program, systolic (top number) blood pressure was reduced 5.8 mm Hg more in the faith-based lifestyle change group than in the health education group. The benefit was sustained but smaller (5.2 mm Hg) after nine months. However, researchers could not rule out that the latter finding was not

due to chance alone. There was not a significant change in diastolic pressure (bottom number in a blood pressure reading).

The study is limited because it could not determine how much of the difference

in blood pressure resulted from lifestyle improvements and how much from changes in medication or better adherence to medication.

Co-authors of the study are Antoinette M. Schoenthaler, Ed.D.; Kristie J. Lancaster,

Ph.D., R.D.; William Chaplin, Ph.D.; Mark Butler, Ph.D.; and Jessica Forsyth, Ph.D. Author disclosures are on the manuscript.

The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute funded the study.

Judge Teresa Hawthorne

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Dallas DA seeks to set the record straight on shooting

By Rachel Hawkins
NDG Staff Writer

“We cannot go to another agency and fire somebody,” Faith Johnson, Dallas County District Attorney said. “We’ve been going around to many groups to try to clear the record and help folks understand what the process is.”

For more than six weeks, many have debated the case involving Dallas police officer Amber Guyger walking into the wrong apartment and fatally shooting Botham Jean, an unarmed black man. Guyger allegedly claimed she thought Jean's apartment was her own and believed Jean to be an intruder.

Johnson said many people mistakenly thought the district attorney could fire the police officer on the spot, which is not true. Guyger was eventually fired by Dallas Police Chief Renee Hall.

On Oct. 11, Johnson and several Irving citizens held a meet and greet to discuss Johnson's views, and hopes for the future as she seeks support in her bid for a second term as the Dallas County District Attorney (DA). Johnson was appointed to her position by



Faith Johnson, Dallas County District Attorney, and Irving citizens hold a meet and greet and discuss many Dallas issues. (Image: Rachel Hawkins/NDG)

Governor Greg Abbott.

“That particular shooting took place on the (Sept.) 6th, and of course a lot of people were up in arms,” Johnson said. “The case was turned over to us by the Texas Rangers on Sept. 9. A lot of folks thought people got upset about the search warrant return that was released. They thought that the DA's office released it and we had nothing to do with it.”

“The only reason why we're doing this is because I'm so concerned about what may happen once the grand jury hears its case,” Johnson said.

She stated the grand jury can make two decisions. It can either be a no bill, where

the Grand Jury would not have enough evidence to pursue the case, or a true bill, where the case can be considered murder or homicide.

“So many people got misinformation, and so many people already decided about what happened and what may not have happened,” Johnson said. “When you

talk about a criminal process, once a crime occurs a police officer can then go to the scene and start investigating. If the officer thinks a crime has been committed he or she can either arrest the person or issue an arrest warrant.”

While explaining the criminal process Johnson also stated if a person has an arrest warrant, then they will go to a magistrate will be read their rights and a bond will be set.

“Once that happens the arresting agency files a case to my office,” Johnson said. “That's the first time the case literally becomes mine. The Texas Rangers filed the case on Sept. 10. So whatever happened before then on deciding whether it's going to be manslaughter or murder, or if she could turn this up in Kaufman County or not, we

got it on Sept. 10.”

Johnson explained most times the DA's office does not get the opportunity to have the advising police officer and see what the case is, whoever files the case decide and just files.

“However, in this case, I did have a conversation with the Texas Rangers,” Johnson said. “They decide what they're going to do. So now we have this case. We're investigating, and we're continuing our investigations. In fact, we have a special public integrity unit, and that unit is designed to go out and all police shootings. And believe it, or not this investigation is still going on.”

Johnson and the unit want to ensure they have all evidence before presenting it to the Grand Jury. Once they present the evidence to them,

Johnson and her team would have to turn the case over to them and step out, and the Grand Jury would make the final decision. Unlike a regular jury, only nine people would have to agree for there to be an indictment issued. Johnson and her team will just have this one opportunity to present the case. She believes presenting it more than once is unjust, and will only be presented on multiple occasions if there is new information.

“We are going to explain the law to the Grand Jury,” Johnson said. “We're going to let them know what murder is, we're going to let them know what manslaughter is, and we are going to give them every piece of evidence that we have gathered so they can make the right decision.”

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Pol. Adv. paid by Staci Williams Judicial Campaign.

Center for Vital Longevity receives over \$5 million for aging studies

Researchers at the Center for Vital Longevity at The University of Texas at Dallas recently received three federal grants totaling more than \$5 million to start new projects or continue existing studies on the cognitive neuroscience of aging.

“These recent awards are a very welcome addition to the federal funding held by the center,” said Dr. Michael Rugg, Distinguished Chair in Behavioral and Brain Sciences and center director. “They will support important and urgently needed research and are a testimony to the talents of my colleagues and to the high quality of their research programs.”

Dr. Denise Park, Distinguished University Chair in Behavioral and Brain Sciences and director of research and the founder of the center, was awarded \$1.2 million from the National Institute on Aging (NIA) for an ongoing project



Dr. Denise Park (center, back row) and members of her lab at the Center for Vital Longevity were awarded a \$1.2 million grant that will help them continue their work examining whether the rate at which brains age can be slowed.

aimed at determining whether individuals can slow the rate at which their brains age. Park initiated the Synapse Project eight years ago with NIA funding.

As part of the original study, older adults were randomly assigned to mentally challenging conditions, including learning digital photography, quilting or both. Park and her team used written tests and MRI scans to measure participants’

cognitive and brain function before and after the tasks to learn whether cognitive stimulation, socialization or a combination of both changed or improved their functioning.

Results showed that memory improved after participants learned to take digital photographs, but further study is needed to determine how mentally challenging activities facilitate memory in cognitively normal adults

through changes in neural structure and function.

With the infusion of \$1.2 million from the NIA’s Alzheimer’s Disease Initiative, Park and her team will re-create similar conditions to the earlier project to see if they can replicate the original effect. If successful, they expect to begin a large clinical trial that tests whether sustained engagement delays normal and pathological cognitive decline.

Dr. Karen Rodrigue, associate professor of cognition and neuroscience, received a five-year, \$3.5 million award from the NIA for research seeking to distinguish age-related brain changes linked to the earliest signs of Alzheimer’s disease — before symptoms occur — from changes that reflect non-pathological aging. Her previous research has provided insight into when certain biomarkers that are associated with

risk for Alzheimer’s begin to accumulate in the brain.

With the new funding, Rodrigue will examine novel biomarkers in the brain, such as iron accumulation, changes in synaptic density and accumulation of a protein called beta amyloid, and their potential to be early markers of neural and cognitive decline. The study will include healthy adults both with and without genetic risk for Alzheimer’s, as well as adults in the earliest phase of Alzheimer’s with mild cognitive impairment.

Rodrigue and her lab members will test whether brain changes in response to increasing cognitive demands also might serve as a biomarker in those who don’t yet have symptoms of Alzheimer’s but may harbor Alzheimer’s pathology. Early evidence suggests that the brains of people with slightly elevated levels of amyloid may have to recruit

more cognitive resources to complete tasks.

Dr. Chandramallika Basak, associate professor of cognition and neuroscience, received more than \$760,000 in NIA funding to explore the potential benefits of cognitive training in healthy older adults.

Basak will use both experimentally developed and commercially available video games to exercise working memory and attention in study participants. The aim is to determine whether the ability to switch attention between various features of an environment and to perform complex tasks improves as a result of structured practice on different types of video games.

“The ability to flexibly and efficiently switch your attention from one thing to another underlies successful performance on a broad array of cognitive tasks,” Basak said.

Brookhaven, Thomson Reuters grant will train IT workers for future job market

Thomson Reuters Applications, Inc. and Brookhaven College are partners in a Skills Development Fund grant from the Texas Workforce Commission, which will total \$910,800 over two years. The formal check presentation for the first year of the grant, an investment of \$455,400 for training for Thomson Reuters employees, was Sept. 12.

Brookhaven College will develop customized business operations and technical curriculum to train Thomson Reuters employees. The training will support 245 new and incumbent workers at Thomson Reuters for the first year and almost 500 employees over the two-year life of the grant.

The training provided by the grant will serve the community by supplying highly-skilled workers to meet the needs of employers and providing those workers with increased opportunities and earning potential. Positions designated to receive the

training include administrative assistants, website developers, business operations an-

alysts and project managers.

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Wini Cannon


Democratic Candidate for Dallas County Commissioner, District 2

Wini Cannon is the principal at the Cannon Law Group PLLC, former Associate Municipal Judge for the City of Dallas, and dedicated public servant training for Commissioner District 2. Wini supports good governance. She is fiscally responsible and creatively resourceful. Her approach to the County budget is to identify revenue growth opportunities to increase the County Budget without resorting to raising taxes. She will work diligently to make Dallas County better by providing economic opportunities for individuals and small businesses, promoting criminal justice reform, and strengthening our support for schools and adult job training programs.

Political Adv. Paid by Campaign to Elect Wini Cannon, Janice Schwartz, Treasurer



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Pol. ad paid for by Faith Johnson for District Attorney

Frisco

The **Teen Summit 2018** will be held on Oct. 27 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Collin County Community College, Preston Ridge Campus - Conference Center, in Frisco. The Collin County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority will presents its Teen Summit: L.I.F.E. – Learn. Inspire. Focus. Engage. This is a unique opportunity to talk

honestly with youth about life after High School. The day will be filled with workshops centered on preparing for college, leadership and career development, and social action.

There is a separate Parent forum to help parents understand their role in preparing their kids for life after High School. To register for the free event, visit Eventbrite.com.

Garland

Pumpkins at the Farmers Market will be held on Oct. 20 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Farmers Market at Firewheel Town Center, in Garland. There will be a pumpkin patch, fresh fruit, vegetables, frozen meats, and delicacies. For more information visit Facebook.com/events.

For more Community Briefs, visit NorthDallasGazette.com

Legoland, football and more this week

By Tiffany Gilbert
NDG Entertainment

Almost Halloween and Legoland is ready to kickoff the celebration this week with kiddos, the State Fair of Texas closes out this weekend with the State Fair Showdown featuring Texas Southern vs. Southern University, and much more this week.

Brick-or-Treat at **LEGOLAND Discovery Center** on Oct. 20 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. They are hosting fun halloween party

for the kids so come dressed up and be ready to be amazed with the Legoland work. More details here.

State Fair Showdown - Texas Southern vs. Southern University is the final hurrah for football at the State Fair of Texas with the two teams on Saturday. The game kick-off time is 2 p.m. at the Cotton Bowl Stadium. This will definitely be a game you don't want to miss.

Also, on Saturday, Oct. 20 guests are invited to take a

bus tour hosted by **Remembering Black Dallas** at the Martin L. King Center (for departure) at 9 a.m. with the tour lasting until 2:30 p.m.

Discover and come to know the former slaves and farmers of the North Dallas area. Visit here for more info on the tour. You can read more about the organization in an article the *North Dallas Gazette* wrote earlier.

To read about more upcoming events visit NorthDallasGazette.com.



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Can the Dallas Cowboys offensive resurgence continue?

By Dwain Price
NDG Sports

ARLINGTON – That surprisingly dominating performance the Dallas Cowboys put on the Jacksonville Jaguars this past Sunday at AT&T Stadium is precisely what they would like to do every week on a consistent basis.

The Cowboys turned the highly-touted Jaguars every which way but loose en route to embarrassing Jacksonville in stunning fashion, 40-7. In the end, Dak Prescott ran for one touchdown and tossed a pair of touchdowns to Cole Beasley, and the defense completely stymied a Jaguars squad that was considered one of the best the NFL has to offer.

“It was the most dominating performance we’ve had since I’ve been here,” said running back Ezekiel Elliott, who rushed for 106 yards on 24 carries and scored a touchdown. “We knew what we wanted to do.”

“We came out and started fast and executed well and we handled our business.”

The Cowboys were up by a commanding 24-0 at intermission after scoring on all four of their first-half possessions. It was like taking candy from a baby day for the Cowboys, who showed how powerful they can be when they’re clicking on all cylinders.

“Everybody came to work (Sunday) and did their job to the highest level,” defensive end DeMarcus Lawrence said. “I’m just proud to be alongside this group.”

Jacksonville was held to just 204 total yards, and the relentless Cowboys defense sacked Jaguars quarterback Blake Bortles three times and harassed him all day long.

“It was a good win against a good team,” coach Jason Garrett said. “Every phase contributed, every phase played well throughout the game -- 60-minute effort on



Dak Prescott had plenty to smile about after the dominating offensive performance against the Jaguars. (Photo Credit: Keith Allison/Flickr)

offense, defense, and the kicking game -- everybody was a part of it.

“We played the way we want to play. Made some really good stops defensively, got them off the field on third down, and obviously, we were able to run the ball and throw the ball the way we wanted to throughout the game offensively.”

Quarterback Dak Prescott completed 17-of-27 passes for 183 yards and also rushed 11 times for 82 yards. And after they made superb plays, Trevon Austin, Jeff Heath, Elliott, Prescott, and Beasley all performed the same strut similar to the one performed by mixed martial artist and boxer Conor McGregor, who was on the field and pumping up the Cowboys during pre-game warmups.

“It was huge from the point of complimentary football,” Prescott said. “It’s definitely the best we played from executing to taking advantage from the defense giving us turnovers and good field position.”

“We were just feeding off of each other. We felt it early. I don’t know if it was Conor McGregor or what it was, but we came out and attacked and it was a great win.”

So great that it puts the Cowboys (3-3) just half-a-game behind the NFC East-leading Washington Redskins (3-2). Thus, first place

will be on the line when the Redskins host the Cowboys on Sunday at 3:25 p.m.

Meanwhile, Beasley scored on catches of 17 and nine yards against the Jaguars after not having a touchdown in 12 games. He finished with nine receptions for 101 yards – the second career game where he’s caught passes for 100 or more yards.

See COWBOYS, Page 10



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'The Champion' provides a snapshot on the life of an American icon

By David Wilfong
NDG Contributing Writer

What do you do if you are waiting tables alone and a major celebrity walks in the door?

That is the premise for "The Champion," a new play by Amy Evans which is currently in production at the Bishop Arts Theatre.

The play revolves around a small diner in North Carolina where a young waitress named Theresa (played by Cedisha Pitts) is tending shop alone when Nina Simone (Deontay Roaf) walks in with members of her band (Justin White and Lorenzo Hunt). As it occurs in the early 60s, it takes a moment, and some prodding, before Theresa realizes she is serving a star.

Throughout the performance, a snapshot of the career of Simone is painted in the table-side chatter of the musicians; including the



Waitress Theresa (at left, played by Cedisha Pitts) receives a gift from Nina Simone (right, Deontay Roaf) in "The Champion." (Photo: Tony Boyattia)

isolation and yearning for permanent relationships that can occur around a life on the road. It also touches on matters of race, and how even celebrities were not immune to bigotry as they made their way through small towns and train stations in 1960s America. Simone's character had reached some point of resolve on the matter and tries to instill the same sense of resilience in the

young waitress she encounters.

There are also some light-hearted moments as well, especially in the character of the band's drummer Bobby Hamilton (Lawrence Patterson). Patterson's character joins the band late after being left at the train station alone, and the actor pulls off comedic annoyance to great effect.

Roaf and Pitts pull off standout performances in

the play, portraying two very different women from different backgrounds, at very different places in their life; Simone the seasoned professional of great renown, and Theresa the starry-eyed young girl with simple hopes and ambitions.

The play also serves to shed a bit more light on (and perhaps for some an introduction to) the life of Eunice Kathleen Waymon, who used the name Nina Simone to record more than 40 albums in addition to taking a stand against racial discrimination in a very turbulent era in America. The performance does deal with delicate subjects of race and adult content and contains language which might not be suitable for younger audiences.

"The Champion" continues through Oct. 28 at the Bishop Arts Theatre Center (215 S. Tyler St.).

COWBOYS, continued from Page 9

"I was just glad I could make the plays that I needed to (in order) to move the chains and help the offense move," Beasley said. "Any time I can do that, whether it's 10 targets or three, I've got to do it."

Defensively, the Cowboys were energized by the return of tackle David Irving, who missed training camp, the first four games of this season due to a suspension and the fifth game for personal reasons. Irving only got in three practice sessions last week, but he made his presence felt against the Jaguars.

"He looks like he's 11 feet tall out there," Garrett said. "He was in the backfield and penetrating and it was great to see him out there."

The Jaguars were considered one of the NFL's top defenses and had allowed just 17 points per game before running up against the Cowboys' determined offense. In the meantime, the Cowboys' defenders were determined

to show Jacksonville that they also could be resourceful.

"We just understand that we are an elite defense as well," linebacker Jaylon Smith said. "Every time you step on the field you want to dominate your opponent."

"Playing against another great defense as well, it only adds fuel to the fire. So we succeeded."

The 40 points Dallas scored were the most scored by the Cowboys since they beat up the San Francisco 49ers, 40-10, on Oct. 22, 2017.

"The offense came to work (Sunday)," Lawrence said. "They started fast and got in the end zone fast to put the pressure on their offense to compete."

"Overall, the defense got (two) turnovers tonight, put pressure on the quarterback and made it unsafe for him. We have to keep this pressure up and continue it next week."

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Public service loan forgiveness program fails to forgive

By Charlene Crowell
NNPA Contributor

Across the nation and multiple generations, student loan debt now surpasses \$1.5 trillion. The anxiety shared by borrowers from all walks of life seeking ways to lift this unsustainable consumer debt affects multiple life dimensions. In some cases, these burdensome debts threaten the future of America's middle class.

Two recent developments hold potential for struggling consumers.

On September 28, the independent and nonpartisan

General Accounting Office (GAO) released findings on the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program. Eligible student loan borrowers who have dedicated their careers to public service and met other requirements, such as 10 years of qualifying payments, can have their loan balances forgiven. The first step towards forgiveness requires that interested borrowers are initially screened to certify their employment and loans meet threshold criteria. Once certified, borrowers submit a loan forgiveness application for a final check before forgive-

ness is approved.

Although PSLF legislation was enacted in 2007, September 2017 was the first time that borrowers became eligible for the application for forgiveness. And according to the GAO findings, forgiveness approvals are minute compared to those who qualify.

As of June 2018, more than 1.2 million student loan borrowers requested to be certified, with 890,000 ultimately certified eligible. 28,000 applied for loan forgiveness, thinking that they had met the 10-year payment and employment requirements. Shockingly, of

these, only 96 — less than one-half of one percent — received forgiveness.

According to the GAO report, "Education has used various outreach methods to inform borrowers about PSLF, but the large number of denied borrowers suggests that many are still confused by the program requirements."

In response, the Department of Education has now agreed to all GAO recommendations. These include: comprehensive guidance for borrowers and servicers alike; more information about qualifying employers; standardized payment infor-

mation; and enough detailed information to help identify payment counting errors.

In a related but separate action on October 3, the American Federation of

Teachers (AFT) filed a federal class-action lawsuit alleging that the nation's largest student loan servicer, Navient, misled bor-

See DEBT, Page 12

← TRAIN, continued from Page 6

Ruth R. Hughs, TWC chair and Commissioner Representing Employers, was quoted in a release from the TWC as saying, "This partnership focuses on special-

ized IT skills training needed to support this high-demand industry in the Greater Dallas area. This investment benefits employers, citizens, and communities, and contributes

to keeping Texas the best state in the country for business."

The training partnership with Thomson Reuters illustrates Brookhaven College's continued commitment to supporting the community

and local businesses. Since 2013, the college has been awarded more than \$2.3 million in Skills Development Fund grants for training with various partners in manufacturing, electrical contracting and technology.

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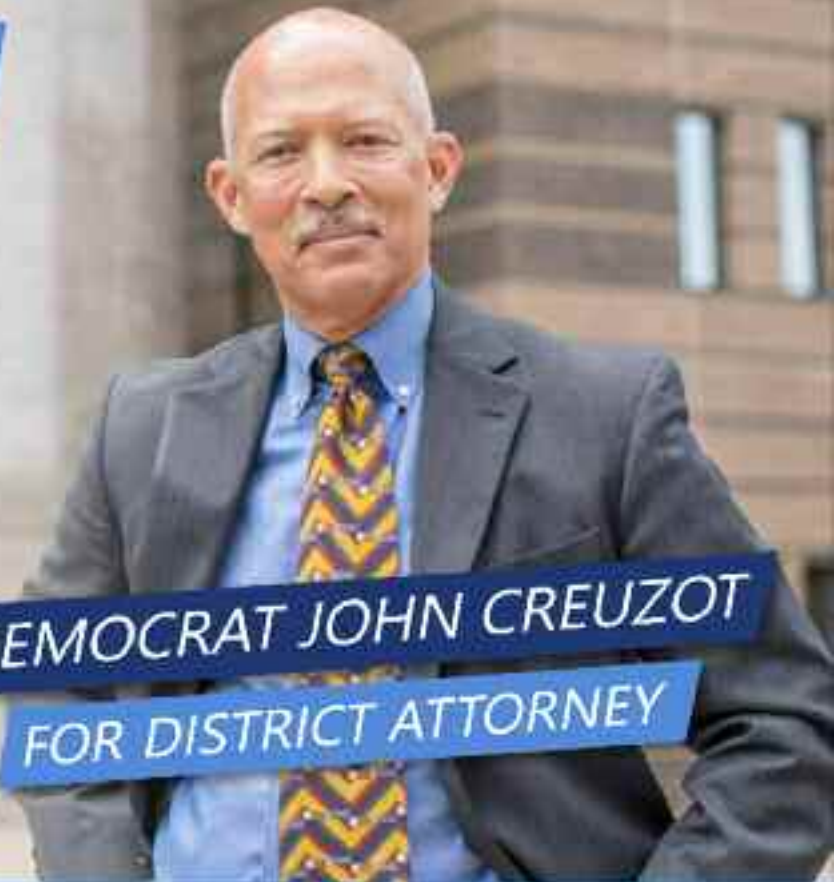
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Election Day: Tuesday, November 6

North Texans optimistic about area's future as a leading tech hub

North Texans are increasingly optimistic about the region growing as a tech hub, and believe this has spurred greater economic opportunity for the area over the past five years – expecting it will only get better, according to the results of a new Capital One Future Edge DFW survey released last week at the company's Reimagine Communities Symposium.

The survey revealed a growing perception among DFW residents that North Texas is an attractive, emerging tech hot spot – with 65 percent believing that major tech companies

will grow or increase their presence in DFW over the next decade, a 30 percent increase from a similar study Capital One released in October 2016.

In line with these findings, more than seven-in-ten (71 percent) DFW millennials, and the majority (53 percent) of residents overall, are anticipating they will pursue a technology-related career in the next two years, whether it be in the technology sector or a role that uses technology skills in another field. This is substantially higher than national trends (millennials: 64 percent; entire

population 43 percent).

Education and tech-related skill training are how workers intend to get ahead. According to the survey, a vast majority (77 percent) of DFW millennials, and more than two-thirds (67 percent) of residents overall plan to begin or continue learning tech-related skills in the next year. This is four percentage points and 10 percentage points more, respectively than Americans overall. And with the variety of schools in the metroplex 83 percent of the residents believe finding learning-related resources available locally.

Once they gain the necessary knowledge more than four out of five (85 percent) DFW residents believe their area is a great place for tech-related jobs and innovation, showing a six percentage point increase from 2016 (79 percent). They contribute this to the presence of leading technology companies (43 percent), networking and knowledge-sharing opportunities (40 percent) and the overall quality of life (40 percent).

"DFW is well-positioned to become one of the next major U.S. tech hubs, and it is clearly already well on its way," said Sanjiv Yajnik,

President, Financial Services, Capital One. "Residents are excited about how tech is transforming the region, which already enjoys great infrastructure to support learning and innovation. We're thrilled to contribute to the region's evolution through our Future Edge DFW initiative, where we are working hand-in-hand with a variety of community partners to support the area's continued growth, innovation and economic vitality."

These survey findings are part of the larger Future Edge DFW effort, focused on helping DFW get ready

for tomorrow, today. The new opinion survey is a successor to Capital One's 2016-17 collaboration with independent, not-for-profit research group, Institute for the Future (ITF) to explore the trends shaping the future of DFW on three dimensions – technology innovations, financial innovations and expectations, and the workforce of tomorrow. A comprehensive study, DFW 2026: Igniting Economic and Cultural Prosperity in North Texas, combining both an initial, quantitative public survey and qualitative ITF research, was published in early 2017.

DEBT, continued from Page 11

rowers, preventing some of those in public service professions from accessing PSLF, just to boost its own profits. The action was brought by nine AFT members from four states: California, Florida, Maryland, and New York.

In part the complaint states, "The PSLF program is life-or-death critical to America's public servants who otherwise would never be able to overcome their student debt burden ... Navient has not been living up to its obligation to help vulnerable borrowers get on the best possible repayment plan and qualify for PSLF. Instead, Navient has harmed and continues to harm millions of hard-working public servants by routinely providing false information to these borrowers preventing them from qualifying for the PSLF program."

By deceiving borrowers with false information, misrepresentations, and fraudulent conduct, the complaint also cites several other concerns:

Navient is responsible for servicing over \$205.9 billion in federal student loans, owed by approximately 6.1 million accounts;

Since 1983, the cost of higher education has risen

more than 700 percent — five times greater than inflation, and even faster than healthcare costs; and

From 1996 to 2015, teacher pay fell by \$30 per week while pay for other college graduates increased by \$124, according to the Economic Policy Institute

"No one goes into public service to strike it rich; they do it out of a deep commitment to students, patients

and the public good," said Randi Weingarten, AFT President. "But we cannot attract the best and brightest to these careers if promises of debt relief are deliberately broken."

For much of Black America, still-soaring student debt brings yet another financial hurdle to overcome – in addition to other disproportionate and historic struggles to obtain the full benefits of being a citizen and consumer.

According to Jason N. Houle of Dartmouth College, and Fenaba R. Addo with the University of Wisconsin at Madison, disproportionate Black student debt makes for an even more fragile Black Middle Class.

"We theorize that racial disparities in student loan debt accumulation and repayment are a function of racialized economic hardship and discrimination across the life course,"

wrote the two scholars in a new report for the Russell Sage Foundation.

"Some have argued that the student loan market is not unlike the mortgage market, where Blacks lack access to fair credit and are disproportionately steered toward high-interest loans that are difficult to repay."

The esteemed scholars may be right. But in neighborhoods across the country Black people do not need to

theorize. We live that agony every day and nearly every year. Perhaps it is time to shift from research and data points to activist engagement.

To put it another way, what are we prepared to do about it?

Charlene Crowell is the Center for Responsible Lending's Communications Deputy Director. She can be reached at Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.

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Dallas City Council - District 4

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Early Voting: Oct 22 - Nov 2



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Upcoming DFW area job fairs

Oct. 20 Senior Sales Executive - Online Hiring Event

The Senior Sales Executive - Online Hiring Event will be held on Oct. 20 online. Online Hiring Events are live forums designed to enable you to understand the role and requirements through an interactive Q&A session followed by a self-directed testing process. The testing takes between 3-5 hours to complete. This event will include all testing required to apply for the role. Upon grading the tests, and if you advance, you will be set up with an interview with the hiring manager. As the Senior Sales Executive, you are the hunter and closer who will manage the entire sales process from initial outreach, through contract negotiation and to closure. This includes creating sales opportunities by diligently prospecting to new companies and effectively following up on Marketing generated sales leads. For more information visit [LinkedIn.com/job](https://www.linkedin.com/job).



Oct. 25 Live Recruiting/Hiring Event

The Live Recruiting/Hiring Event will be held on Oct. 25 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Magnolia Hotel Dallas Park Cities, in Dallas.

Be sure to register at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com). Dress professionally and be sure to bring plenty of resumes. For more information contact 877-561-5627.

Oct. 29 The Multi-Profession Diversity Job Fair of Dallas

The Multi-Profession Diversity Job Fair of Dallas will take place on Oct. 29 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Embassy Suites by Hilton - Dallas DFW Airport South, in Irving. You can pre-register at

Pre-Register online at: catalystcareergroup.com.

Positions in these fields are typically available: sales, customer service, call center, management, general business, marketing, retail, administrative, insurance, banking, engineering, accounting, finance, education, law enforcement, government, military, hospitality, human resources, technicians, telemarketing, healthcare, it, and more. Be sure to dress professionally and bring plenty of resumes.

Nov. 8 Sales Associate Hiring Event

The Sales Associate Hiring Event will be held on Nov. 8 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at AutoNation Chevrolet, in North Richland Hills. The Sales Associate interacts with hun-

dreds of customers to help guide them in their vehicle purchase the company's no-haggle sales environment. With your outstanding communication and listening skills, you'll help our customers select their perfect vehicle, negotiate terms that ensure payment options meet their lifestyles, budgets, and expectations and close the deal. Our Sales Associates provide an exceptional customer experience, driving loyalty by following up to ensure customer satisfaction and helping transition customers to the Service department to support their ownership experience. Take advantage of stability. Earn a base salary of \$2,500 per month for three months while training. After training, earn \$2,000 per month, or a similar hourly rate, plus bonuses based on each vehicle sold,

vehicle purchased, your longevity with the company and more. To apply, send your resume to figueroae2@autonation.com.

Sprint proposes to build an 83.5-foot Monopole Communications Tower at the approx. vicinity of 3708 Spring Valley Rd, Addison, Dallas County, TX 75001. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: *Trileaf Corp, Brice, b.bloomer@trileaf.com, 2550 S IH 35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704, 512-519-9388.*

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Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit, Caterers Permit, Mixed Beverage Late Hours Permit and Beverage Cartage Permit by Mini Bar Brigade LLC dba Mini Bar Brigade, to be located at 4575 Westgrove, Suite 104, Addison, Dallas County, Texas. Owners of said limited liability corporation are Lindsey Sanders, Manager and John Sanders, Manager.



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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.

October 21, 9:45 a.m.

Join us in our quiet time "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.

October 24, 7 p.m.

Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Senior Pastor Woodson, Pastor Larry Gardner, and others conducting a new book study with "Boundaries" when to say yes or how to say no by Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr. John Townsend, with supporting chapters and verses. Spiritual maturity 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"

October 21, 9 a.m.

Join us in our Sunday Morning Services as we praise and worship God in the Joycie Turner Fellow-

ship Hall, followed by our Worship Services; and bring someone with you, you will be blessed. It's for God's glory and honor.

October 24

Join us in our Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day Live, Prayer and Bible Study class 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.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed. D.
Senior Pastor
2450 K Avenue #300
Plano, TX 75074
972-379-3287
www.theship3c.org

INSPIRING BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH,

**Let's Go Fishing!
MATTHEW 4:19**

October 19, p.m.

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

October 21, 10 a.m.

Don't forget to invite family and friends to join us for

our Morning Service as we celebrate our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

October 24, 7 p.m.

You are invited to Monday School to see what God has to say to us.

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)

October 21, 10 a.m.

Join us for Morning Worship Service as we praise and worship God for His Honor and His glory. Don't forget to comeback at 7 p.m. for our Brazilian Church.

October 24, 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.

Dr. Sam Fenceroy, PhD
Senior Pastor and
Pastor Gloria Fenceroy

300 Chisholm Place
Plano, TX 75075
972-633-5511
www.mocop.org

SHILOH MBC IN PLANO (WHERE COMMUNITY BECOMES FAMILY)

Come and connect to God through Shiloh; grow in Christ through the study of God's Word; and Serve God through service to each other and to the world. John 12:26.

October 21

You are invited to join us for our Morning Worship Services in our 8 am and/or our 11 am Worship Services. Sunday School will start at 8:30 a.m. We would love to have you at all our worship services.

October 24

You're invited to our AWANA Registration at 6:30 pm and 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

See CHURCH, Page 15



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Dennis Jarvis / Flickr

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A small group that prays



Sister Tarpley

Send email to: businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com to sign up for Sister Tarpley's weekly electronic newsletter.

"One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When He finished, one of His disciples said to Him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.'"

Luke 11:1

God is calling out a remnant of Christians' believers throughout the world who understand the role of prayer in their community and work place. These people have learned that prayer is not a five-minute exercise in the morning devotion time, but it is a vital strategic tool to discern and know God's will and purposes in their work lives. You see they have learned that their lives are their ministries to God and others. These men and women have entered into covenant relationships with intercessory prayer partners who help discern the activities they should be involved in. Some even have paid staff, who intercede for the decisions and activities in which they will be involved. They are a small trace of believers who know that skill and technique are not enough to fulfill God's purposes.

A servant of the Lord has well said: Prayer is the rail for God's work. Indeed, prayer is to God's will as

CHURCH,

continued from Page 14

through the study of His Word."

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

Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.
Senior Pastor
920 E. 14th Street
Plano, TX 75074
972-423-6695
www.smbcplano.org

rails are to a train. The locomotive is full of power: it is capable of running a thousand miles a day. But if there are no rails, it cannot move forward a single inch. If it dares to move without them, it will soon sink into the earth. It may be able to travel over great distances, yet it cannot go to any place where no rails have been laid. And such is the relation between prayer and God's work. Without any doubt God is almighty and He works mightily, but He will not and cannot work if you and I do not labor together with Him in prayer, prepare the way for His will, and pray "with all prayer and supplication" (Ephesians 6:18) to grant Him the maneuverability to so work.

Many are the things, which God wills to do, and would like to do, but His hands are bound because His children do not sympathize with Him and have not prayed so as to prepare ways

for Him. Let me say to all who have wholly given themselves to God: Do examine yourselves and see if in this respect you have limited Him day after day.

Is prayer a vital part of your strategic business practices? Put prayer on the front lines, instead of making it an afterthought. You will begin to see renewed power in your work life.

Thank God for all of the special people He has placed in your life to complete you. Thank God for your friends who are truly friends, for your Christian brothers and sisters. Pray now for those who do not have a special person to complete their lives. Ask God to send the right person along who can be the one to offer them some encouragement,

friendship, loving guidance, unconditional love, and to just be there for them. Pray that a bond of Christian love with develop and that both people will be uplifted. Ask God to forgive you for not always letting the special people know how much they mean to you, and to help you

to show them their importance in your life. Praise God and thank Him for always being there for you also, and for His promise to never leave nor forsake you. Pray in Jesus' name, He is the one who paid the price for you to go boldly you God.





Sister Rachel Lewis, Sister Elma (Sister "Tee") Turner, last lunch for 2018 because Sister "Tee" is moving back to Connecticut.

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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