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# North Texas is the location for key contentious races in 2018

By Joe Farkus  
NDG Contributing Writer

With the Dec. 11 deadline for candidates running in the 2018 elections passed, campaign season is heating up in important political races all over Texas. With so many candidates to keep up with, NDG has you covered on the latest on who's running for what in the 2018 March Primary and November General elections.

## U.S. Senate Race

After losing to Donald Trump in the 2016 Republican presidential primaries, Senator Ted Cruz's failure to endorse Trump at the Republican National Convention has made him vulnerable from ruffled Republicans as well as Democrats who view him as demagogic and too conservative to represent a state as diverse as Texas.

Two Republicans are challenging Cruz in the March primary: self-described moderate and accountant Mary Miller and Geraldine Sam, the first African American Mayor of La Marque, Texas (she was subsequently recalled by voters in 2011). The three Democrats filed to defeat Ted Cruz in next year's election are the leading candidate in the race Congressman Beto O'Rourke (CD-16), Democratic Socialist Sema Hernandez, and Edward Kimbrough.

## Congressional District 32

Congressman Pete Sessions is



L-R: Senatorial candidate Beto O'Rourke, incumbent State Sen. Royce West, Congressional candidate Colin Allred, Democratic Chair candidate Carolyn Ann Morris, Congressional candidate Brett Shipp, Incumbent State Rep. Eric Johnson (Courtesy Photos)

facing both a primary challenge this election cycle and a Democratic opponent from the largest field of potential challenges in recent memory. His primary challenge comes from Paul Brown, a military veteran and Sessions' opponent in 2016.

The Democratic field contains a slew of candidates including: former Obama administration State Department staffer Ed Meier, civil rights attorney and former professional football player Colin Allred, long-time WFAA investigate reporter Brett Shipp, entrepreneur and attorney Lillian Salerno, immigration lawyer George Rodriguez, 2016 Electoral College elector Chris Suprun, small business owner and craftsman Todd

Maternowski, retired aerospace engineer Ron Marshall, transgender rights activist Dani Pellett, web developer Awbrey Hughlett, Steve Love, and David Henry.

"One of the biggest problems I have with Pete Sessions isn't just his policies," Democratic candidate Colin Allred told the North Dallas Gazette. "He doesn't care about the people of this area.

Democrats across the country – and especially here in North Texas – are looking for a new generation of leadership. When we stand for opportunity and we stand for people who don't have a voice, that's when

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Simeon Booker



Valder Beebe

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On the GO??? But still need to be in the KNOW!!! Bookmark [NorthDallasGazette.com](http://NorthDallasGazette.com) on your phone or mobile device!!!



## Simeon Booker

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Simeon Booker, a trail-blazing Black journalist, who covered the Civil Rights Movement for the iconic African American magazines EBONY and Jet and who was the first Black person to work as a full-time Washington Post reporter, has died.

Booker, who's credited with playing an integral role in delivering the story of Emmett Till's murder, was 99.

"As Chairman of the NNPA, I know that we honored Simeon Booker during Black Press Week for his



overall excellence of journalism and certainly he is someone that has been very, very important to our industry," said Dorothy Leavell, the national chairman of the NNPA and publisher of the Crusader

Newspapers in Chicago, Ill., and Gary, Indiana.

Simeon Saunders Booker, Jr. was born on August 27, 1918, in Baltimore, Maryland to Roberta Waring and Simeon Saunders Booker, Sr., a YMCA director and minister, according to his biography published by The HistoryMakers.

After his family moved to Youngstown, Ohio, Booker became interested in journalism through a family friend, Carl Murphy, the owner and operator of "The Afro-American" newspapers, also known as "The Afro," in Baltimore, Md.

In 1942, after receiving his bachelor's degree in English from Virginia Union Univer-

sity in Richmond, Booker took a job at the The Afro-American as a young reporter.

In 1945, he moved back to Ohio to work for the "Call and Post."

Five years later, Booker was the recipient of the Nieman Fellowship from Harvard University to study journalism and develop his talent as a reporter. After leaving Harvard in 1951, Booker became the first full-time Black reporter at "The Washington Post."

In 1954, Booker was hired by the Johnson Publishing Company to report on current events in its weekly digest, Jet.

In 1955, Booker helped to

redefine the role of Jet and the entire Civil Rights Movement with his famous coverage of the Emmett Till murder and trial, turning an all too familiar event in the Deep South into a national tragedy that united the Black community.

Booker remained on the dangerous frontlines of the Civil Rights Movement, reporting on the 1957 integration of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. In 1961, Booker rode with the Congress on Racial Equality (CORE) Freedom Riders through the Deep South.

When the buses were fire-bombed in Anniston, Alabama, Booker arranged the Freedom Riders' evacuation

with U.S. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy.

Continuing his work of in-depth reporting, Booker toured Vietnam and interviewed General Westmoreland for Jet in the mid-1960s. In 1964, Booker outlined the importance of the ongoing Civil Rights Movement in his book, Black Man's America.

Booker covered every presidential election since the Eisenhower Administration in his 53 years with Johnson Publishing until he retired in 2007.

In 1982, Booker received one of the most prestigious awards in journalism, the National Press Club's Fourth Estate Award.

## Valder Beebe

Effective January 2018, KYBS Y99 FM Radio has announced Valder Beebe will head the KYBS Y99 News Division while pulling double duty as the "voice" of KYBS.

Listeners can tune into Valder Beebe's signature spot on KYBS Y99, "That Celebrity Interview" which airs daily at 12:05 p.m.

Beebe's celebrity interviews are exceptionally intriguing as audience members are informed and entertained with the latest



Valder Beebe Show / Twitter

new developments in medical science, home and garden design, movie, book and music productions and many other important topics from their favorite celebrities.

That Celebrity Interview show has included past guests such as Mary, Mary, Tia Mowry, Rosie Perez, Dr. Thomas Herzog and Tim Ferris.

Listeners can also hear the popular radio show host every Saturday and Sunday between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. via streaming radio on Y99 FM KYBS at www.kkvidfw.com.

Valder's primary focus is functioning as executive producer and host of the Valder Beebe Show on radio. The show is unique in its ability to use diverse

media platforms such as radio, social media, streaming video, newspaper and personal appearances to reach its audience.

Broadcasts include a wide range of topics including but not limited to, health and wellness, medical science and technology, home and garden, relationships and daily living with God as the ultimate focus.

The Valder Beebe show regularly invites celebrities, industry experts and spiritual leaders on air for interviews that provide ed-

ucational and inspirational messages for its audience members.

A graduate of Coleman Business College who majored in Automation (Technology), Beebe has been employed by several Fortune 500 companies over her career span and has been a solo entrepreneur since the year 2000.

Beebe was the 2015 recipient of Equanimity Magazine, LLC's Excellence in Media Partnership Award" and has been the host of her namesake show since 2002 which operates on multiple platforms that

include radio, podcast, streaming television and print.

Listeners can hear the show's podcast at www.soundcloud.com/valderbeebeshow or view satellite video interviews via www.valderbeebeshow.com or www.youtube.com/valderbeebeshow. Starting in 2018, listeners in the Mesquite, Garland, Balch Springs, Rowlett, Sachse and Royse City areas can hear daily broadcasts of the show on Y99 FM KYBS at www.kkvidfw.com.

## NDG Readers Sound Off...

### The Flying Biscuit Cafe plans to open three Dallas locations in 2017

Seems like the Oak Cliff area is perfect for you! We have eaten with you many times in Atlanta. Addison and Northpark din't seem to fit. Oak Cliff is walkable and bustling in growth  
-- Dinna Deaton. Hitt

**Facebook Contest**  
WIN TICKETS to AT&T Performing Arts Center presentation of The Colors of Christmas featuring Peabo Bryson the dynamic duo Marilyn

*McCool & Billy Davis, the Velvet Teddy Bear himself Ruben Studdard and Grammy winner Jody Watley. Tell us your favorite #PeaboBryson, #RubenStuddard, #MarilynMcCoo and #Billy-Davis, or #JodyWatley song.*

Jody Watley-Real Love  
-- Earnestine Williams

Ruben Studdard "Together" & "Love Him Like I Do"  
-- Danyell Williams

#peaboBryson beauty and the beast  
-- Trina Joe

I need an angel #rubenstuddard, Can you stop the rain #peabobryson, You don't have to be a star #marilynccoo #billy-davis, Everything #jody-watley  
--Janice Jackson-Harris

### Facebook Opinion Question

*What do you think about the mounting number of celebrities and politicians either resigning or being fired for sexual harassment allegations?*

I'm glad to see them vol-

untarily resign. What concerns me most are allegations proven false as seen in the Presidential and Alabama Senatorial campaigns.

One or two months before their elections and fraudulent accusations emerge. To falsely allege with no repercussions? Stand against sexual harassment, yes. Stand against false allegations, I also say yes.

-- David Norsworthy

To share your opinion visit  
NorthDallasGazette.com

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# Do Black lives really matter to Black people?

By Chris B. Bennett  
The Seattle Medium  
NNPA Member

For years, the African American community has been asking and insisting that our professional athletes do more for our community. We ask them to give money towards initiatives and good causes, we ask them to be role models, and we ask them to stand up, speak up and speak out on issues affecting our community.

And yet, as you read this article today, there are pro football players that have taken a stance against oppression, police brutality and the killing of Black people by law enforcement officers all across this country. Yet, these athletes are under attack by the media, by “fans” who claim that they have ruined the game of football, because they will not stand during the national anthem...and yes, the players have even come under attack by the 45th occupant of the White House.

The Black Lives Matter movement and the many of the NFL players are standing up (or kneeling) for justice and “just us.” We are demanding justice for things that happen to just us. We demand justice for the racial profiling that happens to just us. We demand justice for the excessive force that is used against just us. And we are demanding justice, on behalf of millions of voiceless African Americans all across the country, for the lives that have been lost as a result of law enforcement officers shooting us (unarmed, Black Americans) at alarming rates.

Numbers don’t lie, and videos don’t lie either. Black men are killed by police officers in extrajudicial shootings at much higher rates that far outweigh the rate of that White men are shot and killed by police officers, which indicates to me that these killings repeatedly happen to just us; and think about the number

of videos that we have seen that show Black people gunned down, choked out, manhandled and beaten; while at the same time we see videos of Whites blatantly disrespecting police officers and daring them to do something to them, and those suspects are able to walk away unharmed.

In protesting these atrocities, Colin Kaepernick chose to take a knee during the national anthem, because he didn’t want to stand up for the flag of a country that oppresses Black people and people of color. In fact, Kaepernick was quoted as saying, “To me, this is bigger than football and it would be selfish on my part to look the other way. There are bodies in the street and people getting paid leave and getting away with murder.”

For taking such a stance, Kaepernick is no longer employed as an NFL player. We hear all the excuses about why he does not have a job as a quarterback in the NFL. You can believe the excuses if you want, but I would challenge you to answer this question: Do you honestly want to see Colin Kaepernick playing quarterback against your favorite team on Sunday? Your honest answer would probably be “No,” because despite any flaws or inconsistencies that he may have in his game, Colin Kaepernick is a game changer. He is a legitimate dual threat quarterback, who can find his way to the end zone anytime he touches the ball. So, why is he unemployed? You can answer that question for yourself.

As a result of what many believe was the blackballing of Kaepernick by the NFL, many people across this country, many of them Black women, decided to boycott the NFL this season; and the boycott is and was successful, so much so that the NFL, mainstream media and the 45th occupant led people to believe that the low ratings of NFL games this season

were a result of White men not watching the NFL, because Black players were protesting that national anthem. Then, the 45th occupant of the White House, in his puppeteering ways, stepped forward and said that the NFL should fire anyone, who refuses to stand for the national anthem, and accused those who chose to kneel during the national anthem of disrespecting the flag and being unpatriotic. Black folks took offense and I believe that they decided to watch the games in protest to “45”; I bet the ratings increased, too.

Now, fast forward to Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones stating that players on his team, who do not stand for the national anthem will not play, and “45” praises him for doing so. Ironic? I don’t think so. Don’t let them fool you, “45” and NFL owners have been joined at the hip in the process from the very beginning. The 45th occupant of the White House carried the water of the NFL owners, helped sway some sort of public opinion against the players and now the owners feel empowered to bring down their oppressive hammers on the players. The 45th occupant of the White House will take credit for bringing “law and order” to the plantation, and the NFL owners will walk away with little or no blood on their hands.

The real story is that a handful of players have stood up for what they feel is right. Now the question is, what is the African American community going to do to support them? Do you have the courage to turn the channel when your favorite team(s) play on Sunday? Do you have the courage to publicly tell people that you support the players who choose to take a knee for justice and not just us? Do you have the courage to proudly wear the jersey of Colin Kaepernick, Michael Bennett or any other player who chooses to

kneel or sit during the national anthem? Do you have the courage to start your own personal social media campaign supporting those players who take a knee to say that Black lives matter just as much as any other lives in this country? Are you willing to show your unwavering support for those who are standing tall by taking a knee during the national anthem? Will you write a letter, email or tweet to the NFL, the 45th occupant of the White House and your congressional delegation expressing your concerns about this issue? Do you have the backbone to stand up and advocate for freedom, justice and equality for those who are no longer here to speak for themselves?

For those of you who choose to protest, here is the best way (I believe) to do so:

- Turn the channel during the NFL’s big three nights—Monday night, Thursday night and Sunday night football. It’s not enough to just turn your TV off and do some other activity. Turn to a channel owned by African Americans during the games like TV One (Cathy Hughes), Aspire (Magic Johnson) or OWN (Oprah Winfrey). This will send a clear message that African Americans are turning away from football and will not allow anyone to spin that narrative. This not only shows that we are united in this fight, but it will also help these channels leverage our eyeballs into more advertising dollars and be able to bring additional culturally relevant programming to our community. It’s time to change the narrative from just us to justice, and you have the power to do it!

Through the eyes of an ink barrel, may peace be unto you.

*Chris B. Bennett is an award-winning journalist and co-publisher of The Seattle Medium newspaper. You can follow him on Twitter @The\_inkbarrel.*

# To boost baby's learning, read these books together

By Gigi Marino-Florida

Books that clearly name people and label objects help infants learn more and retain information, a new study suggests.

"When parents label people or characters with names, infants learn quite a bit," says Lisa Scott, a psychology professor at the University of Florida and coauthor of the study.

"Books with individual-level names may lead parents to talk to infants more, which is particularly important for the first year of life," Scott says.

Scott and colleagues from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst studied infants in Scott's Brain, Cognition, and Development Lab. Babies came into the lab twice: once at 6 months



Neeta Lind / Flickr

old and again at age 9 months. While in the lab, eye-tracking and electroencephalogram, or EEG, methods were used to measure attention and learning at both ages.

In between visits, parents were asked to read with their infants at home according to a schedule that included 10 minutes of parent-infant

shared book reading every day for the first two weeks, every other day for the second two weeks, and then continued to decrease until infants returned at 9 months.

Researchers randomly assigned storybooks to twenty-three families. One set contained individual-level names, and the other contained category-level la-

els. Both sets of books were identical except for the labeling. Each of the training books' eight pages presented an individual image and a two-sentence story.

The individual-level books clearly identified and labeled all eight individuals, with names such as "Jamar," "Boris," "Anice," and "Fiona." The category-level books included two made-up labels ("hitchel," "wadgen") for all images. The control group included 11 additional 9-month-old infants who did not receive books.

The infants whose parents read the individual-level names spent more time focusing and attending the images, and their brain activity clearly differentiated the individual characters after book reading. This was not

found at 6 months (before book reading), for the control group, or for the group of infants who were given books with category-level labels.

Scott has been studying how the specificity of labels affects infant learning and brain development since 2006. This longitudinal study is the third in a series. The eye tracking and EEG results are consistent with her other studies showing that name specificity improves cognition in infants.

"There are lots of recom-

mendations about reading books to babies, but our work provides a scientific basis for these recommendations and suggests that the type of book is also important," Scott says.

"Shared reading is a good way to support development in the first year of life," she says. "It creates an enjoyable and comforting environment for both the parents and the infant and encourages parents to talk to their infants."

Source: University of Florida

## Be a hard target for thieves who are more active during the holiday shopping season

With the holiday season upon us, the Carrollton Police Department would like to remind you of measures you can take to beat burglars at their own game.

While shopping:

1. Always lock your vehicle. Roll your windows all the way up and check door handles before walking away.

2. Always set the alarm system if your vehicle has one.

3. Replace the lighter or close the flap on the auxiliary plug, if you have used it, before you leave your ve-

hicle. Failure to do so could be a telltale sign to a potential thief that a valuable item may be hidden in the car.

4. Remove all valuables or anything that looks to be of value from the vehicle (even accumulated loose change). A gym bag full of dirty clothes could look like a bag with a computer in it to a thief.

5. Do not hide a purse or wallet in the vehicle.

6. If you can't take your items with you inside, place them in the trunk before arriving at a final destination. Burglars often sit in parking

lots to see what victims are doing before and after they get out of the car. They are watching to see where potential victims are hiding valuables or what they are placing inside their trunk.

7. When returning to your vehicle, have your keys ready as you approach. Look inside your car before you unlock the door and get in. If you are concerned for any reason, simply walk past it and find help.

8. Leave the parking spot immediately after everyone is situated and seatbelts are fastened. Don't stay and

write notes, balance check-books, or talk on the phone.

9. Please report any and all suspicious activity and persons to the Carrollton Police Department.

10. If possible, park in a well-lit area. The best way to prevent the burglary of your vehicle is to secure it inside a garage, if possible.

## Toyota Music Factory to support holiday donation drive

Toyota Music Factory is partnering with the Irving Police and Fire Departments to collect toys and food for the Blue Christmas Organization to help Irving families in-need during this holiday season. Beginning now through Dec. 15, anyone can donate nonperishable food items, unwrapped toys or

monetary gifts at Bar Louie, Thirsty Lion and Freshii at Toyota Music Factory. In return for "giving a gift," patrons will "get a gift" from the participating restaurant.

"We're proud to give back to the Irving community by teaming up with the Irving Police and Fire Department for their an-

nual Blue Christmas toy and food drive," said Noah Lazes, president of the ARK Group. "We are beginning our own tradition too, with the inaugural 'give a gift, get a gift,' program. Patrons of Bar Louie, Thirsty Lion and Freshii at Toyota Music

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**ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT CENTER**

# DWF's XIX Society gives \$30,000 grant to Jonathan's Place

On Dec. 5 at Times Ten Cellars, Dallas Women's Foundation's XIX Society members gathered for their annual holiday party and to present a \$30,000 check to Jonathan's Place, whose mission is to provide safe places, loving homes and promising futures for abused and neglected children, teens and young adults.

The XIX Society—named for Dallas Women's Foundation's 19 founders—is the Foundation's annual giving society for women and men of all backgrounds who are passionate about the Foundation's mission and want to support concrete solutions to improve the lives of women and girls. XIX Society members have the opportunity to hear about important topics and issues facing women and girls at quarterly breakfast club meetings, attend the Foundation's signature women's philanthropy education workshops, and join together for bus tours to visit Foundation grantees. A special benefit of being a mem-



*(Top left) Marsha Beasley, Roslyn Dawson Thompson and Maria-Cristina Esteves-Jaramillo take a pause in celebrations at the Dallas Women's Foundation event. (Top right) Shawn Wills and Katrina Watland celebrate the DWF gift. (At left) Barbara T. Crabtree, Ava Norris and Sara Grenier visit during the ceremony. (At right) Kristyn Senters, Erica H. Anderson and DeAndria Maddox were among the attendees at the DWF announcement. (Photos: Dallas Women's Foundation)*



ber is the ability to vote on which organization receives the XIX Society grant each year.

Wendy Messmann, XIX Society steering committee

co-chair, said, "We have had a remarkable year with incredible growth in our service and philanthropy for women and girls. We have all played a role in making a dif-

ference through our collective impact as XIX Society members, so thank you for your support."

Roslyn Dawson Thompson, Foundation president

and CEO, thanked Wendy for her leadership and members for their partnership. She also announced that Bonner Allen, a Foundation board member, will co-chair the

XIX Society steering committee in 2018.

Dawson Thompson added, "Thanks to the passion and generosity of XIX Society members, Jonathan's Place is receiving this grant, in support of its residential therapeutic program that provides a safe home, mental health services, counseling and academic support to girls who have endured abuse and neglect."

Melanie Carroll, Jonathan's Place chief development officer, gave the history of Jonathan's Place and thanked the XIX Society and Dallas Women's Foundation for the generous grant. She told how the funds will help sustain the residential program and provided examples of young women who have benefited from the therapeutic environment, and are now living independently and thriving.

To learn more about the XIX Society, visit <https://www.dallaswomensfdn.org/2016/get-involved/xix-society>.

## Residents invited to provide input on transportation projects online

Proposed modifications to the list of funded projects will be available for review during the upcoming online public comment period, scheduled to begin Dec. 11. Residents are encouraged to provide input on modifications

throughout the 30-day comment period.

A comprehensive list of funded transportation projects through 2020 is maintained in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Projects with committed

funds from federal, State and local sources are included in the TIP. NCTCOG works with TxDOT, local governments and transportation providers to develop the TIP. To maintain an accurate project listing, this document is

updated on a regular basis.

The Regional Transportation Council approved the 2017-2020 TIP on May 12, 2016. The Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration approved the 2017-2020 TIP on

December 19, 2016.

Information will be online through Jan. 10, 2018, at [www.nctcog.org/input](http://www.nctcog.org/input). To request printed copies, call 817-608-2365 or email [cbaylor@nctcog.org](mailto:cbaylor@nctcog.org). The online opportunity is offered

to provide residents the chance to review plans, share their thoughts, and ask questions.

For information on the TIP, including how projects are funded, visit [www.nctcog.org/trans/tip](http://www.nctcog.org/trans/tip).

# Registration for Winter and Spring classes is now under way!

## Spring Classes begin January 16!



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# Tom Joyner Foundation offers scholarships for HBCU students

(BlackNews.com) -- Tom Joyner is reminding students that the deadline for the Tom Joyner Foundation 'Full Ride' scholarship program is rapidly approaching. The highly coveted scholarship will cover all the expenses of one talented student planning to attend a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) in the fall of 2018.

"Our full ride scholars are outstanding," said Tom Joyner, chairman of his Foundation and host of the top-ranked nationally syndicated Tom Joyner Morning show. "We're looking for another amazing young person who already is changing the world - and wants to go to an HBCU where they can pursue their dreams."

Students will receive full tuition and stipends for up to 10 semesters to cover on-campus room and board and books. Students must meet the required academic standards each semester to renew the funds each year. Graduating high school seniors can apply for the schol-



Reach Media

arship by going to the Tom Joyner Foundation website at [www.tomjoynerfoundation.org](http://www.tomjoynerfoundation.org).

Students must have their schools mail their transcripts and recommendations to the Foundation at P.O. Box 630495, Irving, TX 75063-0495.

To be eligible, students must meet the following criteria:

- 1) A United States Citizen
- 2) Current high school seniors attending school in the United States (applicant must be anticipating completion of high school degree in the spring of 2018)
- 3) Minimum high school grade point average of 3.50

(on a 4.00 grade scale, excluding home school studies) and Minimum SAT score of 1400 (combined math essay and verbal score) or ACT score of 30.

4) Applicants must apply and be accepted to an HBCU by July 1, 2018.

5) Applicants must have demonstrated leadership abilities through participation in community service, extracurricular, or other activities.

The applications must be postmarked no later than January 19, 2018. Interviews will occur in March 2018.

Past Full Ride Scholars have impressive back-

grounds, including last year's winner, Z' Kijah Fleming of DeSoto, Texas, who is attending Howard University where she is planning to major in sports business; Morgan Taylor Brown, of Fayetteville, Ga., who is attending Spelman College, pursuing her interests to become a psychiatrist. In 2015, JoAnna Jones of Asheville, North Carolina's Buncombe County Early College High School is attending Winston-Salem State University, where she is pursuing a degree in nursing. Another winner is Titus Zeigler, who

was a top student at Atlanta's Henry W. Grady High School. The future trauma surgeon was a member of the Junior ROTC program, tutored kids at a local middle school and volunteered at the Atlanta Food Bank.

Blaine Robertson of Reserve, La. graduated from Howard University and he is pursuing his dream of teaching high school back home in Louisiana. Britney Wilson, a native of Brooklyn, N.Y., also graduated from Howard University and the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Wil-

son, who passed the New York Bar exam, is now a Bertha Justice Institute Fellow at the Center for Constitutional Rights. Another one of our Full Ride Scholars Cheyenne Boyce graduated from Spelman College, is completing her master's degree in international peace and conflict resolution at the American University in Washington, D.C. The Detroit-native, who is fluent in Japanese, graduated from Spelman College. She spent a year as a prestigious Fulbright scholar teaching English to families in Malaysia.

## Black gospel music expert discusses timelessness of Christmas spirituals and how they differ from Christmas carols

WACO — One of the most cherished parts of entering the holiday season is gathering to sing and listen to Christmas carols. Songs like Silent Night, Hark the Herald Angels Sing and The First Noel resound as Christmas approaches. However, a Baylor University expert in black gospel music holds another Christmas tradition near and dear to his heart. He treasures the rich sounds of Christmas spirituals, which differ from Christmas carols.

"So many of the spirituals are written in what has been performed as and what scholars call the 'eternal now,'" said Robert F. Darden, professor of journalism and founder of Baylor's Black Gospel Music Restoration Project. "If you read the lyrics as they were transcribed, many of them are in the present tense."

To illustrate his point,

Darden referenced the spiritual "Were You There?" where the lyrics read, "It causes me to tremble." Darden said that since slaves in America were not book educated and struggled with the concept of time, the Bible was a contemporary account of what was going on for them. In their minds, they conflated Abraham in the Bible with Father Abraham Lincoln who was going to free them and associated Harriett Tubman with Moses and the Ohio River with the Jordan River. Darden said the powerful resonance in these spirituals is unmatched because of the passion of the people who sang them.

"When you hear the Christmas spirituals, you're hearing people who [believe] this is a real live event," Darden said. "Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born, not was born.

That gives them more of an immediacy and a power than songs that are in the past tense."

Darden listed these eight Christmas spirituals as some of the most influential songs that help him reflect on the true essence of Christmas.

1. "Rise Up Shepherd and Follow" from Odetta: Christmas Spirituals

2. "Mary, What You Gonna Call That Pretty Little Baby?" featuring Marion Williams and Princess Stewart from Black Nativity

3. "Sweet Little Jesus Boy" from The Harmonizing Four

4. "Silent Night" by the Mighty Clouds of Joy from A Gospel Christmas Celebration

5. "Christmas Hymn" by Karen Kraft from The Texas Christmas Selection

See SPIRITUALS, Page 14



With convenient service to Love Field and DFW International Airport, DART is your quick and easy getaway to the ones you love this holiday season. [DART.org/airports](http://DART.org/airports)

# Davis Cemetery Designated as an Individual Heritage Resource

We are excited to announce Davis Cemetery as the second cemetery to be locally designated an individual heritage resource in the City of Plano. The cemetery was unanimously approved by the Heritage Commission, the Planning & Zoning Commission and

City Council.

The L.A. Davis Cemetery, also known as the Davis Cemetery, is on H Avenue, south of the existing Old City Cemetery in the Douglass Community. Approximately 87 documented graves fill this landmark and it has served as an

official burial site for African Americans since 1945. The cemetery is named after Mr. Lee Andrew Davis, a prominent African American business owner and community leader who came to Plano in 1910 from South Texas. Last month, City Council

approved the designation of Davis Cemetery after the property owner submitted a zoning petition.

In 1990, Bowman Cemetery was the first cemetery to be designated as an individual heritage resource in the City of Plano. Bowman is located at Oak Grove

Drive near the southern end of Santa Fe Park.

Learn more about Mr. Lee Andrew Davis and the Davis Cemetery in this Plano Magazine article. If you like stories on Plano's heritage resources and the history of Plano, subscribe to Preservation Review.



Lee Andrew Davis

## NDG's 2017 Gift Guide Round-Up

By Ruth Ferguson  
NDG Editor

For the continuation of *North Dallas Gazette's* look at a wide range of gift ideas we present to you books, kitchen tools, gift basket ideas for your favorite coffee and tea drinker and suggestions for family game night.

For more gift ideas, visit [NorthDallasGazette.com](http://NorthDallasGazette.com).

### For your favorite book lover

*Texas Far & Wide* by E. R. Bills actually has a pretty long title for a relatively short book, but it is long on fascinating information about Texas. The subtitle on the cover is *The Tornado with Eyes, Gettysburg's Last Casualty, the Celestial Skipping Stone and Other Tales*. The book is filled with short stories providing little known facts about remarkable Texans and events across the state.

One of my favorites is the *Lost Legend of Troup* sharing the story of 16-year-old boxer Byron Payton from Troup, Texas on his way to possible Olympic fame. Unfortunately, he and all of the passengers of a flight in Poland were tragically killed when the engine came apart. The nation and world at large never got to know Payton, but the heartbroken residents of Troup never forgot him. Great gift for your favorite Texan who loves a good story about the Lone Star State.

There is one book that so makes me wish I could bake, and it almost tempts me to believe that I could (trust me I know better). But if you have a baker in your family you must get

them a copy of *Cake, I Love You* by Jill O'Connor. How can you not love a book that has a recipe for carrot cake named the Chubby Bunny! The Chocolate Peanut Butter Blackout Cake and Coconut Passion Cake are just two others that cry out to my

but the kids book is so adorable.

As a kid I only got in trouble for one thing in school: talking too much. So, of course Tessie in *Tessie Tames Her Tongue* by Melissa Martin, Ph.D. is a girl after my own heart. Tessie learns much faster

and *The Anna Mae Mysteries: The Golden Treasure* by Lillian Cauldwell. One more for bakers is the *Taste of Home: 365 Days of Cookies*, because who does not need a cookie a day!

### In the Kitchen

If Santa delivers you the *Ninja Coffee Brewer*, your

brew in January is not out of the question, with this wizard machine from Ninja, just push a button, and yes you can have your froth too.

Now if you are going to have coffee, what sounds more heavenly than *GO-DIVA Breakfast Blend*? Trust me it is no run of the

will love *The Eureka Tea Series Adventure* box is really an adventure indeed with flavors such as Rose, Peppermint, Hibiscus Orange, Lemongrass Ginger and Orange Cinnamon just to name a few featured. Few things goes better with tea than honey, of course in Texas we love *Nature Nate's*. They not only have individual packets, but your gift basket will be complete with their holiday gift tins.

So, does your favorite baker love to make minipies or better yet quiche for leisurely brunches? Then you will shoot to the top of her favorite gifts list if you provide her with *CucinaPro's Mini Pie and Quiche Maker*. It is so easy to use, that even I can make tasty breakfast pies which are easy to grab for breakfast during the week. Attach a *T-Fal Ingenio Garlic Press* and *Vidalia Chop Wizard* and you will cut the chef's work time in half.

### Family Game Time!

*Family Feud 40th Anniversary Edition* with over 500 questions is practically guaranteed family fun time after everyone wakes up from their food coma. For the brainiac family the choices include a face off trying to figure out *The Cube - Next Generation* of Rubik's Cube, which sadly 30 years I still can't do it. Or maybe together you can put together your own *Tin Can Robot*, it is not only a completely unplugged game but it is less than \$20. Finally, a new board game to check out is *The Mazins* features a family on vacation discovering things to do, winning trophies along the way.



NDG

Holiday Gifts



Clockwise: *The Cube-Next Generation Rubik's Cube*, *T-Fal Ingenio Garlic Press*, *Ninja Coffee Brewer*, *Dion Leonard's Finding Gobi*.  
(Composite: Joe Farkus/NDG)

inner Martha Stewart.

There are so many children's books to choose from two of my favorites reviewed this holiday season were *Finding Gobi* by Dion Leonard tells the story of how Gobi, a stray dog decided to join marathon runner Dion on his 155 mile race across China. There is an adult version of the story,

than I did the importance of knowing when to be quiet and when to talk.

Other books to consider are: *Gokul Village and The Magic Fountain* by Jeni Chapman and *Bal Das, SAM: The Cat Without A Tail* by Gloria Lintermans, *The Great Race: Story of the Chinese Zodiac* by Christopher Corr,

local coffee shop barista might file a missing person's report. Do you love the convenience of the pods but not the expense, no worries, you can make a single serve cup, they even provide a travel mug. Half or full carafe is also an option. In Texas we may love coffee everyday but with our weather, sometimes cold

mill breakfast blend, the smooth finish almost makes Mondays bearable. The well-known family-owned *Community Coffee* is offering a special Military Match mug for free for orders featuring four 12 oz. bags of your choice gift sets shipped to military addresses only.

Your favorite tea drinker

**Carrollton**

Creekview High School is hosting the **Carrollton Wind Symphony Holiday Concert** Friday, Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m. at 3201 Old Denton Road, Carrollton. This all-volunteer community concert directed by Jim McDaniel and Jim Moen aims to usher in the holiday season with merry music with performances by musicians of varied experience and talent. Admission to this winter concert is free.

**Dallas**

Deep Ellum Outdoor Market is hosting **Deep Ellum Style Xmas!** Saturday, Dec. 16 from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. at 100-199 N. Crowds St., Dallas. The market offers shoppers a chance to find something special for all of the important people in their lives this holiday season made by local artists, crafts persons, and musicians in addition to delicious treats. The market will be serenaded with live music and will have electricity and



*The MINT Foundation presents the 4th annual Grace & Taste Gala Dec. 16 to raise funds for families and children in need (Courtesy Photo)*

public facilities provided by the Wit's End and Drugstore Cowboy Deep Ellum.

The MINT Foundation presents the **4th annual Grace & Taste Gala: Winter Masquerade Ball** Saturday, Dec. 16 from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. at the Dallas Sheraton Hotel at 400 N. Olive St., Dallas. This yearly fundraiser will benefit the MINT foundation which serves underserved families and children in the areas of basic needs such as: education, nutrition, resources, and training. Organizers encourage attendees to bring

toy donations as well to benefit the Christmas Candyland Extravaganza. K104FM's DeDe McGuire will host with the event with David and Tamela Mann serving as honorary chairs.

**Farmers Branch**

The City of Farmers Branch is hosting **Christmas Tours** Friday, Dec. 15 starting at 2:15 p.m. at Farmers Branch Historical Park at 2540 Farmers Branch Lane, Farmers Branch. The tour will showcase holiday decorations and traditions of the past and allow participants to experience Christmas in

the Old Church, School House, Queen Anne Victorian Cottage, and the General Store. Admission to the event is free. To schedule your Christmas Tour, call 972-406-0184.

**Garland**

Firewheel Town Center is celebrating **National Ugly Christmas Sweater Day** Friday, Dec. 15 from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. at 245 Cedar Sage Dr., Garland. The center will be celebrating this nationally-recognized celebration by giving groups dressed in their best ugly sweaters opportunities to take photos with Santa Claus in his new location across from the park playground, next to Sweet & Sassy. This photo experience is open to people of all ages. For photo package pricing and more information on the event, call 856-298-7621.

**Irving**

Lively Pointe Youth Center will be the location for **Teen Jam: Video Game**

**Jam** Saturday, Dec. 16 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at 909 N. O'Connor Road, Irving.

The event will feature opportunities for middle school and high school students to participate in a video game tournament to win prizes. The tournament will include all the new 2018 sports games and complimentary food and drinks. Admission is free with a valid IPAR card or school ID, More information on the event can be found here.

**McKinney**

The McKinney Public Library System is hosting **Family Storytime** Saturday, Dec. 16 from 11:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at John and Judy Gay Library at 6861 W. Eldorado Parkway, McKinney.

This event is intended for parents and children between the ages of three and six years old, but younger and older siblings are also welcome to attend. The

event will feature stories, crafts, songs, and other activities. Admission to the event is free, but parents are encouraged to register their children here.

**Plano**

The Plano Police Department is hosting **Active Shooter Training Preparedness** Wednesday, Dec. 20 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Plano Event Center at 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano.

The City of Plano has trained its police, fire, dispatch, and other emergency personnel how to respond effectively to active shooter situations; through this event, the public will be empowered on how to respond to and survive and active shooter incident. This event is open to the public and is a free. To attend, register here.

*To submit events and announcements, send an email to editor@northdallasgazette.com with headline Community Briefs.*

**VOTE,** continued from Page 1

we always win.”

**Congressional District 6**  
With current Congressman Joe Barton not seeking re-election due to lewd photos he'd sent to women surfacing online this year, three Republicans and five Democrats have filed to replace him. The three Republicans who have filed to replace him are former Barton Chief of Staff and most recent Tarrant County Tax Assessor Ron Wright, retired naval fighter and businessman Jake Ellzey, and conservative activist Deborah Gagliardi, who attacked Barton in a crude tweet regarding the Barton scandal.

Five Democrats have officially filed to challenge the Republican field: Barton's challenger in 2016 and the only African American in the race Ruby Faye Woolridge, grassroots organizer for the Bernie Sanders campaign Justin Snider, the former journalist and political fundraiser Jana Lynne Sanchez, U.S. Navy veteran Levii Shocklee, and HIV/AIDS activist John

Duncan.

**Texas Senate District 23**  
State Senator Royce West has filed for re-election to his current seat in District 23. He is unchallenged in the Democratic Primary and will not face a Republican opponent in the general election.

**Texas House District 100**  
State Representative Eric Johnson has filed for reelection to this current seat in District 100. First elected in 2010, Johnson will not face a Republican opponent in the general election. He is, however, facing one Democratic opponent: Sandra Crenshaw, who twice ran for Texas House District 110 and once ran for City Council District 4 in 2015. Johnson is reportedly considering a run for Speaker of the Texas House if re-elected.

“Texas needs leaders who will represent all of the people, not just one political party's primary voters,” Johnson said in an official press release. “Single party

rule has proven to be as disastrous in Texas as it is in Washington. If I decide to run for Speaker, it will be to change that.”

**Texas House District 109**  
After serving 13 terms in the Texas House, Helen Giddings has decided to retire, leaving four Democrats to fight over who will fill her seat: former DeSoto Mayor Carl Sherman Sr., DeSoto City Council member Deshaundra Lockhart Jones, attorney Christopher Graham, and Victoria Walton.

**Dallas County Democratic Party (DCDP) Chair**  
Current Chair Carol Donovan is facing off against two challengers in the March 2018 primary: civil rights attorney and progressive activist Chris Hamilton and former DCDP precinct chair and former Lancaster ISD board member Carolyn Ann Morris. Read *NDG's* story covering a recent debate between the three candidates for DCDP Chair for more insight on this hotly contested race.

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# Dak's mental toughness on display as Cowboys down the Giants again

By Dwain Price  
NDG Special Sports Contributor

FRISCO – Whatever lingering doubts anyone had about whether Dallas Cowboys Dak Prescott can be an effective quarterback without running back Ezekiel Elliott by his side were thoroughly put to rest during this past Sunday's game against the New York Giants.

Prescott threw for a career-high 332 yards and three touchdowns and had a very polished quarterback rating of 137.1 as the Cowboys scored 20 points in the game's final eight minutes and beat the Giants, 30-10. That sterling performance by Prescott kept alive the Cowboys' slim hopes of advancing to the playoffs.

Then again, coach Jason Garrett has never questioned



The mental fortitude of Cowboys' quarterback Dak Prescott was on full display in the weekend's contest against the New York Giants. (Photo: Keith Allison / Flickr)

the maturity level of his steely-eyed second-year quarterback.

"He's a really mentally tough guy," Garrett said. "His poise, his composure, his mental toughness to handle the positives and the negatives that comes with that position (is great).

"It's one thing to say, 'Ok,

I'm going to check the ball down, I'm going to check the ball down.' But when the opportunity presents itself you have to be ready to make the play, and he was able to do that throughout the game."

Prescott tossed an 81-yard touchdown to Rod Smith, a 54-yard pass to Cole

Beasley and a 50-yard TD to Dez Bryant. That, along with 20 completions in 30 attempts against the Giants, will likely give him even more confidence going into Sunday's 7:30 p.m. road game against the Oakland Raiders.

"The biggest takeaway I take from the game is doing that, is getting the ball out," Prescott said. "Even though they were short routes, having that confidence and getting that guy a good throw, a throw where he can shake off his man and go make a play.

"It was a grind early and it was a grind all throughout

the game. And we were finally able to get some momentum and get going and got good right there in the fourth (quarter)."

This was a game the Cowboys desperately needed to remain in the NFL wild card playoff conversation. But in order to make the playoffs, the Cowboys are going to need some enormous help.

Just to qualify for the playoffs the Cowboys (7-6) must win their final three games against the Raiders, Seattle Seahawks and Philadelphia Eagles. And they'll also need the Atlanta Falcons (8-5) to lose two of their remaining three games,

and the Green Bay Packers (7-6) and Detroit Lions (7-6) to each lose at least one of their remaining three games.

Following the game against the Raiders, Elliott will return for the team's final two games after serving an NFL-mandated six-game suspension for violating the league's domestic violence policy.

The Cowboys also received a major boost on the defensive side this past Sunday when linebacker Sean Lee was back in the lineup after missing the previous three games with a strained

See COWBOYS Page 11

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## Enter to Win! Ticket Giveaway

**NDG Entertainment Ticket Giveaway!!! Follow North Dallas Gazette on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to keep up on all the latest!!!**

## Star Wars: *The Last Jedi* will please loyal fans

By Joe Farkus  
NDG Contributing Writer

Considering *Star Wars*' films have always been a unique blend of soap opera dramatics and space western gunslinger, *The Last Jedi* fits

impressively into this iconic tradition. Picking up where *The Force Awakens* left off, *Jedi* follows protagonist Rey (Daisy Ridley) as she encounters Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill) and attempts to gain both his trust and as-

sistance in the Resistance's fight against the oppressive and murderous First Order asserting authoritarian control over the galaxy.

Full of the mesmerizing CGI space battle sequences fans should be used to by

now, the film truly shines in its fleeting moments of genuine emotion and consistently appropriate bouts of humor. Yet for a franchise clearly looking to establish a

See JEDI, Page 11



*Star Wars: The Last Jedi* opens in theaters nationwide Friday, Dec. 15 (Courtesy Photo)

## NDG Book Review: *Only You Can Save Christmas!*

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You're always Mom's Best Helper.

You bring her things when she needs them. You keep your room clean and you do chores around the rest of the house, too. She really appreciates when you lend a hand, and in the new book "*Only YOU Can Save Christmas!*" by Adam Wallace, pictures by Garth Bruner, you'll see that even Santa needs a little help sometimes.

Meet Wink Silverbells.

Wink is an elf, and he's the boss of the toy workshop at the North Pole. It's a big



job, as you can guess, and Wink does very well at it. Most times, everything goes smoothly but there are Christmases when one little thing causes trouble...

Like this year, when Wink finds a list that he didn't see before.

Uh oh. It had to be Santa's own personal gift list for Mrs. Claus. Everyone knows that can't be left behind! Wink couldn't possibly ignore it, so he has an emergency on his hands and he needs all the help he could get.

The first thing on the list is a... what??

"Who has a partridge in a pear tree?" Wink asks.

Well, never mind. It's on the list, it has to be found, and there isn't much time to find it. If you could help with that first thing, Wink is pretty sure he can find the second thing on the list, or at least

something pretty close.

Hmmm... three French hens. Do they have to speak French? Of course they would, if they're French, right? You can help get them, while Wink brings what's fourth on the list. Hurry, though, because there are many more things you'll have to find and it's starting to get awfully crowded in the room. Maybe it's time for a party? That might really help Wink with Santa's list.

Mrs. Claus will be so happy that you helped. For sure, Wink appreciates what you've done. So will Santa, when he comes to check that

things are ready to go on Christmas Eve, but he's also now a little confused. What's going on, who made the mess, and why is Santa laughing?

Whatever his reason, your child will be, too, when you've got "*Only YOU Can Save Christmas!*" in your hands.

That's because this book absolutely demands participation. Author Adam Wallace asks kids to whistle and make siren noises, dance and shake and squirm in order to help his main character with what's on a missing Wish List. As the story gets wilder,

so do the requests, until kids are up on their feet.

Feel free, as you're reading this book aloud, to embellish: more whistling might be better. More honking and yodeling, please. That leads to even more fun with this book, and illustrations by Garth Bruner become the icing on the Christmas cake.

Absolutely, this is not a bedtime book. It's more for a preschool or a church group or kids' holiday party so give 'em room, stand back, and start "*Only YOU Can Save Christmas!*" Your child can't help but love it.

# Make room for a cozy holiday season at DCT!

Enjoy the Peanuts Gang and the endearing tale of Frosty with your family!

**Ages 5 and up**  
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# Black teen entrepreneurs prove a successful business can be run by kids

(BlackNews.com) -- 15-year old entrepreneurs, Essynce Moore and Moziah Bridges, are disrupting the entrepreneur industry, leading by example after having started a business at a young age. Essynce started her business at the age of 10 and is owner of Essynce Couture, LLC based in Hillside, NJ. She's an entrepreneur, actress, motivational speaker, fashion designer/stylist and author.

Moziah Bridges, on the other hand, started his business at age 9 and is the President and Creative Director Mo's Bows based in Mem-



15-year old teen entrepreneurs, Essynce Moore and Moziah Bridges are proving age is not insurmountable in running a business. (Courtesy photo)

phis, TN. His company, which was featured on ABC's Shark Tank, produces handmade bowties and is on a mission is to make men look and feel their best.

In addition to running their companies, both Essynce and Moziah travel around the country to teach, inspire, and empower other youth about entrepreneurship. Both of them also do a

lot of motivational speaking at various schools, conferences, workshops, and more.

Both say that they would like to help more young ones to be financially prepared for the world after elementary, middle, and/or high school. They also want to encourage more young people to start a business, travel, be positive role models to other children, and live life unapologetically with integrity.

Essynce started designing clothes at the tender age of 6 with just for fun doodles in her school binder and

notepads. Her passion was and still is, to find her own style, to share her creative upscale clothing ideas and styles with youth around the world, and to encourage reading. Essynce is a "teen" that has turned her passion into a business in 2013. When she graduates high school, she wants to either travel the world for one year to consider college or attend a performing arts school.

Moziah started his company because he needed an accessory to help him look sharp, but didn't see anything out there that fit his style or personality. So,

with the help of his granny, he started making his own bow ties.

His dream is to become a fashion mogul. When he graduates high school in 2020, he plans to study fashion design in college. He would one day like to expand his business to include clothing for women.

For more information about Essynce and her company, visit [www.essynce-couture.com](http://www.essynce-couture.com). For more information on Moziah and his company, visit his website at [www.mosbowsmemphis.com](http://www.mosbowsmemphis.com).

## COWBOYS, continued from Page 9

hamstring.

Lee promptly made his presence felt as he collected a game-high 18 tackles and also intercepted a pass against the Giants.

"I'm just excited to be back," Lee said. "It's frustrating being out – you feel like you're letting your teammates down."

"But to be able to be back with them, and really the support I got during injuries is what motivates me to get back and it motivates me to work hard. I want to try to perform when I come back and help this team. I love playing for this team and I'm excited to be able to do it."

The three rookies in the Cowboys' secondary – Chidobe Awuzie, Jourdan Lewis and Xavier Woods – are also excited about being able to make some meaningful contributions in their first season in the NFL.

"It was fun seeing how far we've come so far and are still going, obviously," Awuzie said. "The most im-

portant thing is we were able to contribute and make a positive impact on the game (against the Giants) and get a win.

"Coming into this league you can't take anything for granted. These players are grown men, everybody's good, everybody's great, and you kind of have to step up your preparation and your skills a little bit."

Mostly, the rookies simply try to play through their mistakes and follow the lead of their more experienced teammates.

"We just look at the (veterans) as people of examples to try to emulate what they've done and what they've made a mistake on and hopefully do it better this time around," Awuzie said. "Getting these W's, that's the main thing."

"When we win everything's good, everything's happy, people are able to look at their mistakes more objectively and not really be annoyed because we lost or

something like that. We definitely have a positive feeling in this locker room and it feels good."

A large portion of that positive feeling is directly centered around Prescott, who didn't pass for at least 180 yards in any of the previous four games which Elliott was suspended from. But that all changed in a mighty big way against the Giants.

"It's so hard when you're just nickeling and diming all the way down the field," Beasley said. "It's too hard to do that in this league."

"It makes it so much easier when you have those big plays."

And it makes it so much easier for the Cowboys when they have a quarterback like Prescott who can deliver those big plays.

"This says a lot for a young player to come into this league and just have one of those games," Witten said, referring to Prescott. "It's a tremendous job by him of staying poised and making plays down the stretch."

## JEDI, continued from Page 10

seemingly never-ending future of new films, Jedi relies largely on nostalgic moments involving beloved characters of the past, namely Leia (Carrie Fisher) and Skywalker, for its most moving moments. For lifelong fans of the Star Wars

universe, this is hardly a complaint. But for those looking for a singular installment that stands on its own two feet, this leaves much to be desired.

The film's director Rian Johnson should be commended for trying to intro-

duce more subtle elements and emotional depth than J.J. Abrams' The Force Awakens. Some of the risks he takes do not pay off but, fortunately, more do than don't. His take on the almost universally-known franchise serves up the kind of entertainment that most would define as "can't miss".

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**ASSESSMENT OF FAIR HOUSING**

The City of McKinney and the McKinney Housing Authority announce collaboration to work together with the public, community leaders, and interested parties in the North Texas Regional Housing Assessment, to examine housing-related challenges and challenges related to employment, transportation; and accessibility to opportunities in our city.

The Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) is a legal requirement that both the City and McKinney Housing Authority must complete in order to continue receiving federal housing and community development funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Specifically, the AFH is an analysis undertaken pursuant to 24 CFR 5.154 that includes an analysis of fair housing data, an assessment of fair housing issues and contributing factors, and an identification of fair housing priorities and goals specific to McKinney. The primary purpose of the Public Hearing is to provide an opportunity for citizens to provide input during the development process of the Fair Housing Assessment.

**You Are Invited to Participate in A Public Hearing on Saturday January 20, 2018 at 6pm.**  
**MHA Merritt Community Center \* 1200 N. Tennessee St. McKinney, TX 75069**

Posted in accordance with the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, on the 30th day of November at or before 5pm.

*Roslyn Miller* Executive Director

If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability that requires special arrangements at the meeting, please contact McKinney Housing Authority at 972-542-5641, within 48 hours of the scheduled business meeting date. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.

# Racism in the workplace and the whitewashing of the #MeToo movement

By Julianne Malveaux  
NNPA Newswire Columnist

Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.) was the first member of the Congressional Black Caucus to leave his job after the “MeToo” hashtag galvanized women to speak up about sexual misconduct, harassment and more. Too bad that impetus did not float up to the top, where an avowed grabber of women’s genitals occupies the White House. It’s also unfortunate, that members of Congress have paid sexual assault accusers out of a taxpayer-funded slush fund have not been unmasked. We know some of the names. Texas Congressman Blake Farenthold (R-Texas) arranged to have his former communications director paid \$84,000 (a fraction of the \$27,000 Conyers is said to have paid). Farenthold has not resigned, nor have Congressional Republicans called for his resignation, in-

cluding Speaker of the House Paul Ryan (R-Wis.). Farenthold said he will pay the money back. Yeah, right.

As a woman, I am cheered by the #MeToo movement, although I am also annoyed by the myopia about women of color and sexual harassment, assault and rape. In 1944, Recy Taylor was viciously raped by seven White men, who never paid a price. Civil rights icon Rosa Parks was an NAACP investigator in this case, as chronicled by Danielle McGuire in her book, “At the Dark End of the Street: Black Women, Rape, and Resistance—A New History of the Civil Rights Movement from Rosa Parks to the Rise of Black Power.” The first case in which the Supreme Court ruled that sexual harassment was a violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act was brought by Michelle Vinson, an African American woman, in the case *Meritor*

*Savings Bank v. Vinson* (1986). The high-profile, White women who are talking about workplace sexual harassment and assault really need to acknowledge the many ways that African American women have been systematically abused, and systematically ignored (and sometimes conspired against) by their White “sisters.”

Perhaps I quibble, but this overwhelming stand against sexual misconduct and beyond (getting nude in front of your staff, forcible kissing, grabbing women by the you know what, etc.) makes me wonder when there will be a similar groundswell against racism and racial harassment in the workplace. Numerous cases of nooses being displayed in workplaces have been reported in the last decade, so many that a law journal published an article titled, “Does One Noose in the Workplace Constitute a Hostile Work

Environment? If Not, How Many?” One isolated incident is not enough, the article opines. What about one unwanted kiss or one abusive grope? Why do nooses get to be seen as “jokes,” while unwanted kissing is seen as an occurrence of zero tolerance?

I’m not ever, ever, ever going to excuse sexual perfidy (and more) in the workplace, but I do wonder why we can wink, nod, and grin about racial workplace misbehavior while we stand our ground about gender. I wonder why so many say accept the “just kidding” or “I didn’t know” excuse when people are racially insensitive, but are now willing to hold press conferences and speak out against sexism in the workplace. If you look at the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives, the paucity of people of color as senior staffers is amazing, as documented by the Joint Center for Political

and Economic Studies. Surely, there is no shortage of highly qualified African Americans and Latinos who could work on Capitol Hill. Why aren’t members of Congress calling each other on their racial myopia?

Perhaps racism and racial harassment are a little more complicated than sexism and sexual harassment. Half of the population, after all, is female, and while women make the slow climb up the hierarchy in corporate America, politics, the media, and entertainment, the pace has been steady enough that powerful women are now able to call men out on their misbehavior, with women demanding resignations of (some) misbehaving men. However, too few White women and men have been willing to apply the same “zero tolerance” to employment matters regarding race.

There should never be another noose laid on a Black

employee’s desk or displayed in a workplace. There should never be another intimidating Confederate flag flying in a Black person’s face. There should never be another opportunity for an employee (or fellow student, or faculty member) to talk about picking cotton. There should never be another blackface performance, anywhere. And there should never be another person who talks about zero tolerance around workplace sexism to accept any whisper of workplace racism.

*Julianne Malveaux is an economist, author, and Founder of Economic Education. Her latest book “Are We Better Off: Race, Obama and Public Policy” is available via amazon.com. For booking, wholesale inquiries, or for more info, visit [www.julianne-malveaux.com](http://www.julianne-malveaux.com). Follow Dr. Malveaux on Twitter @drjlastword.*



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# Upcoming DFW area job fairs

**Dec. 15**

## Dallas Hiring Event

Zara at NorthPark is looking for seasonal employees for all positions including: sales associates, cashiers, stock associates, etc. Ideal candidates should be friendly and energetic, customer service driven and have a passion for fashion. Job seekers meeting these expectations, join Zara at their hiring event. There will be open interviews, and participants should bring their resume. As ZARA USA, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer, all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, citizenship status, veteran status or any other characteristic protected by applicable federal, state or local laws. Preferably candidates will have at least one year of sales associate experience. This fair will take place from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Zara NorthPark Center at 8687 N. Central Expressway, H2-1508, Dallas.

## Plano Hiring Event

Magnolia lodging is looking for talented, driven, and enthusiastic hospitality professionals to join the Home2Suites by Hilton (opening early 2018) team. Onsite interviews will be



conducted for all positions – both full and part-time. Available positions include: night auditors, front desk agents, housekeeping supervisor, housekeeping, maintenance, and breakfast attendants. Prior hotel experience is preferred, but not required. Front Desk, AGM, and Night Auditors are required to have a valid driver's license. Job seekers should bring their resume and be ready to interview. This fair will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Hampton Inn & Suites – Dallas/Plano East at 2813 E. President George Bush Highway, Plano.

## Farmers Branch Hiring Event

Bulldog/ADT Security is a top 10 national ADT dealer with over a decade of security system industry experience that is expanding operations in North Texas. They are looking for talented sales and customer service professionals to join their ADT Residential Sales Team. Applicants should be goal-oriented, entrepreneurial-minded and comfortable working in a performance-driven environment. Mem-

bers of the Residential Sales Team receive: weekly pay, \$5,000/monthly, paid training, sales leads provided daily, advancement opportunities, medical benefits, paid time off, and an opportunity for a long-term career with a well-established company.

Candidates should have excellent customer service and communication skills, the ability to work Monday-Friday from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. daily, ability to pass a criminal background check, reliable transportation and a valid driver's license. This hiring event will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at their corporate headquarters at 2727 LBJ Freeway, Suite 436, Farmers Branch.

**Dec. 18**

## Dallas Hiring Event

For those looking to join a team for a fast-growing company that can offer flexible scheduling, competitive rates, and the possibility for advancement as they move throughout their career, SAS Retail Services is hiring. As an SAS team member, a job seeker would partner with retailers to enhance the consumer's shopping experience as well as maintaining a strong communication flow between all parties on the business side of things. The only essential requirements for job seekers looking to work as an

SAS team member are the ability to meet the physical demands of the job, attentiveness to detail, ability communicate effectively, and reliable transportation. High school diploma and relevant experience is preferred. This event will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 2000 Hard Rock Road, Irving.

**Jan. 18**

## Dallas Career Fair

You'll meet face-to-face with hiring decision-makers from some of the area's top employers. Dress professionally and bring plenty of resumes, because they're here to hire. Walk in and start interviewing, it's that simple. Save time, money and effort interviewing with multiple companies in one day at one location. Many of these companies have several openings and are eager to meet with you. You're no longer just a piece of paper. Attend the career fair and get in front of decision makers. Admission to this event is free. This fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hilton Arlington at 2401 E. Lamar Blvd., Arlington, Texas 76006.

## Addison Career Fair

This event is designed to get you in front of hiring managers looking to fill sales positions in varying capacities. This is not a cat-

tle call career fair with hundreds of other candidates and lines out the door. We will have multiple companies in attendance ranging from fortune 500 businesses to local organizations. You will save a lot of time by interviewing with multiple businesses in just a few hours, so stop relying on the "apply" button and make it a priority to pre-register and attend. Once you pre-register, your resume' is uploaded to a database that only the organizations participating in this specific event have access to. Please plan on arriving a few minutes early with 15 printed copies of your resume, come dressed for a professional interview, and feel free to bring a friend. This fair will be at 6 p.m. at the Intercontinental Hotel at 15201 Dallas Parkway, Addison, Texas 75001.

**Jan. 25**

## Dallas Job Fair

The Dallas Career Fair will be your opportunity to

meet with some of the city's top hiring companies. Attending the Dallas Job Fair will give you the chance to interview and find out about hundreds of jobs available in your local area. Dress for success and bring plenty of resumes to the Dallas job fair.

Walk in the event and start meeting and interviewing with dozens of employers, it's that easy. Stop sending resumes to online job ads that go nowhere. The companies at the Dallas Career Fair will be interviewing for multiple job opportunities and are excited to meet with qualified candidates. Attend the Dallas Career Fair and land your dream job. If you have been looking for an opportunity to market yourself to companies as the best candidate for the job this is it. The fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel – Dallas Market Center at 2015 Market Center Blvd., Dallas, Texas 75207.



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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.bethelbible-fellowship.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.

**December 17, 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.

**December 20, 7 p.m.**  
Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Pastor Brenda Patterson, Senior Pastor Woodson, Pastor Larry Gardner, Pastor Bernadette and others conducting a new study on the book of Ephesians with supporting chapters and verses. Spiritual maturity is God's desire

for you; it's Time to Grow in the Word of God.  
Dr. Terrance Woodson, Senior Pastor  
1944 E. Hebron Parkway  
Carrollton, TX 75007  
972-492-4300  
www.bethelbible-fellowship.org

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

**December 17, 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.

**December 20**  
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.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed.D. Senior Pastor  
1609 14th Street  
Plano, TX 75074  
Future Building location is 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**

**December 15, 7 p.m.**  
All men are invited to Men's Ministry meeting each Friday night at 7 p.m., (IBOC promotes proactive male leadership.)

**December 17, 10 a.m.**  
You're invited this Sunday as we praise, worship, honor and magnify God's Holy name in songs and the spoken word.

**December 18, 7 p.m.**  
Join us in Monday School as we grow in God's Word and learn 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)**

**December 17, 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.

**December 20, 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  
300 Chisholm Place  
Plano, TX 75075  
972-633-5511  
www.mocop.org

**NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH (Abiding in Christ)**

**December 17, 7 a.m.**  
Join us for our Early Service or our Morning Worship Service as we praise and worship God, you will be blessed.

**December 20**  
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  
9550 Shepherd Road  
Dallas, TX 75243  
214-341-6459  
nmzbcofdallas@aol.com

**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.

**December 17, 8 a.m. & 11 a.m.**  
You are welcome to join us for our Morning Services; you will enjoy the fellowship during our 8 a.m. and in the 11 a.m. Worship Services. We would love to have you.

**Also, Christmas Concert - December 17th**  
SMBC Worship & Fine Arts Christmas Concert will be on December 17th at 6 P.M. Join us for an evening of music, worship and the Word celebrating Jesus' birth.

**December 20, 7 p.m.**  
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.

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

**← SPIRITUALS,**

continued from Page 6

6. "Go Tell It on the Mountain" by the Mighty Clouds of Joy from The Legendary Groups of Gospel

7. "Joy to the World" featuring Marion Williams and Princess Stewart from Black Nativity

8. "Hallelujah Chorus" by Pastor Donald Alford and the Progressive Radio Choir from A Gospel Family Christmas

Darden also said that slaves had a more intimate understanding of the nativity story because they identified with the conditions into

which Christ was born. They understood what it was like to come from a foreign land to a place where they were despised and enslaved in the same way that Christ was born as a refugee child with people seeking to kill him.

"The spirituals reflect a people who believe they're in the middle of the Bible story. I think that gives them a power that's hard for others to match and why the Gospel artists, who would later record these songs, tried to capture that and keep that immediacy and intimacy that I think a lot of

Christmas carols don't have," Darden said.

Darden said the modern world still needs Christmas spirituals. While commercialism gets people excited and inspired for the holidays, people in 2017 need something that will help them reflect on what truly matters about the season.

Darden founded Baylor's Black Gospel Music Restoration Project (BGMRP) more than a decade ago. The BGMRP is the world's largest initiative to identify, acquire, preserve, digitize and catalog recordings from the black gospel music tradition. This music,

from the Golden Age of Gospel from 1945 to 1975, was quickly vanishing as albums made the transition to CDs.

Recordings from the BGMRP are available online in the Baylor Libraries Digital Collection, which includes, in some cases, taped interviews, photographs, press packets, tour books and programs, newspaper and magazine clippings, and sheet music.

The BGMRP also provides the gospel music for the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C.

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# The power of prayer



**Sister Tarpley**

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

We are in a crisis in our world, our Federal Government, our states, cities, communities; and the stressful lives of people, especially around this time of the year.

Prayer is the only thing that will help us with these problems. Prayer can change, not only conditions around us, but change us as well.

Prayer is a way to talk to GOD about things that no one can help us with.

Remember, GOD sits on the throne; and the devil is a liar.

Perhaps you are going through a tough time right now, but now is the time to think positively.

I believe that God gives

four answers to prayer: "Yes!" "No." "Not yet." Or "I have something better in mind."

I am told of the "Five Finger Prayer" it is beautiful! It is also worth making it a part of our lives.

Your thumb is nearest you. Begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you. It has been said, "To pray for our loved ones is a sweet duty."

The next finger is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal.

This includes teachers, doctors, Pastors and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction.

The next finger is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for all elected officials.

Pray for leaders in the business world and in industry; and don't forget administrators.

These people shape our

nation and guide public opinion. They need GOD'S divine guidance.

The fourth finger is our ring finger. What is surprising to many is that this is our weakest finger, as any piano teacher will testify.

It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need our prayers day and night.

And, last is our little finger (the pinkie) it is the smallest finger of all, which

is where we should place ourselves in relation to GOD and others.

The Bible says, "The least shall be the greatest among you." Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself.

By the time you have prayed for the other groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

A prayer is one of the best gifts we receive. There is no cost but a lot of rewards. Continue to pray for one another.

-- Anonymous

Things to Ponder: GOD is also willing to forgive; HIS love is there for those who pray to HIM; HE can be trusted.

GOD Loves US. HIS love is faithful; HIS decisions are always fair. They are firm like mountains, deep like the sea.

HIS love is a treasure; we can find shelter in the shadow of HIS Wings. Psalm 36:5-10.

GOD Protects US. HE is our protector; HE doesn't sleep or let us stumble. Thanks Be To GOD!



L to R: Sister Oreler Murry, Sister Elmer Turner and Sister Tarpley at Bethel's Women Ministry Christmas Party 2017

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## ← DONATE, continued from Page 4 →

Factory will not only have the opportunity to make a difference in a local family's life, but also receive a special 'thank you' from one of the three restaurants."

The Blue Christmas Organization provides food, toys and holiday joy to

children residing in Irving that otherwise would have little to no holiday celebration. Generously donated by local businesses and citizens throughout the community, new toys and meals for families are delivered by the Irving Police and Fire Departments.

**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](http://NorthDallasGazette.com)

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<sup>2</sup>Encore based on MSRP of \$30,800; Envision based on MSRP of \$41,930; Enclave based on MSRP of \$49,325. Tax and delivery by 1/2/18. Not available with special financing, lease and some other offers. See participating dealer for details. ©2017 General Motors. All rights reserved. Buick® Encore® Envision® Enclave®