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Candidates face cold temps to get their message out at Monday Night Politics

By David Wilfong
NDG Contributing Writer

A steep drop in temperatures led to smaller numbers, but the 2018 run of Monday Night Politics presented by the Dallas Examiner continued with its second installment on Jan. 15 at the African American Museum in Fair Park. Those who attended were treated to conversations from candidates in four races; three state representative seats and one state senator race were presented on Monday night, though many candidates were not able to attend.

In the first segment, incumbent Roberto Alonzo faced challenger Jessica Gonzalez in the race for State Representative District 104. Both candidates come to the table with a wealth of experience in the political realm. Alonzo has held the seat since 1993, while Gonzalez – clearly identifying herself as a representative of the Progressive movement within the party, was a Law Graduate fellow for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute and served both on Capitol Hill and as a White House Intern.

“We’re still fighting over redistricting from the last time that the lines were drawn,” Gonzalez said. “So we’re really going to have a



Jessica Gonzalez (at left) is challenging longtime incumbent Roberto Alonzo (at right) for the State Representative seat in District 104. (Photo: David Wilfong / NDG)

fight ahead of us. Now I intend to use my background in voting rights to bring the fight to Austin. I think that we’ll have a real opportunity for us to get back some of these seats.”

She described District 104 as a very safe Democratic seat, and therefore one where the party could afford to have a “very progressive voice.”

Alonzo is counting on his experience, and cites coalition-building as one of his primary advantages. He noted that Democrats in Texas must be able to negotiate the legislative process in a Red state in order to be successful.

“In the House of Representatives we believe in coalition politics,” Alonzo said. “With the 55 Democrats, we only need 21 Republicans to elect the Speaker of the House. The reason I’m on the Calendars committee is not because I’m handsome, it’s because the Democrats helped to get the Speaker elected. We asked for committees. Part of the deal is give-and-take and we want to have our issues dealt with.”

The second slate of candidates welcomed to the stage were those running for State Representative District 109, a seat which will be

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Oprah slated to support local food pantry

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SMU extends scholarship offer to DISD grads

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Proud Mary movie is OK at best

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Amber Griffen



Dr. Kimberly D. Acquaviva

READERS SOUND OFF!!!

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

On the GO??? But still need to be in the KNOW!!! Bookmark NorthDallasGazette.com on your phone or mobile device!!!



Amber Griffin

Registration is now open for “Empowering Tomorrow’s Women Today,” a free Dallas community event designed to educate, inspire and prepare young women to network, start earning income and become financially literate. The event will be held on Jan. 20 from 2 to 4 p.m., at the Blackstone LaunchPad at UT Dallas.

Hosted by Skratch, a Dallas-based mobile platform that connects teens with odd jobs (“gigs”) in their neighborhoods to earn income conveniently and their schedules allow. The cata-



lyst for this event was recognizing that first opportunities to work give young women the chance to own and deliver their best first impression. Skratch is creating opportunities like this to provide safe, relevant and

accessible opportunities by introducing income to teens while teaching financial literacy because in the past 40 years, there has been a 30 percent decline in teens entering the workforce.

Although admission to the event is free, a donation to Genesis Women’s Shelter is suggested. Recommended donations include: restaurant, grocery or retail gift cards collected at event will be provided to the shelter to help mothers and families they serve.

Featured panelists of “Empowering Tomorrow’s Women Today” include:

- Amber Griffin, international model and founder of

the Model Prep program

- Randi Rubenstein, speaker and author of *The Parent Gap: Tools to Keep Your Cool, Stay Connected and Change Unhealthy Patterns*

- Summer Paillet, Collaborative Managing Partner at ID360inc, a people development firm, she is a business owner and soulpreneur.

- With moderation by Janelle Brandom, social media anchor for WFAA 8 News Daybreak Morning Show in Dallas.

Model Prep was founded by professional international model Amber Griffin to guide young girls to become the best they can be

both inside and out. She personally developed the Model Prep program to teach the importance of self-confidence and personal strength, as well as to bring awareness to appropriate make-up and fashion to fit each young girl’s personal style.

Griffin’s goal when she founded Model Prep was to help as many girls as possible learn the basics that all girls should know to avoid pitfalls that are all too common these days. With a focus on classical fundamentals for young ladies, Amber and her team of professionals guide Model Prep girls through each step of

the program as their mentor.

Model Prep is for all girls and you need not to be a model to attend. They invite and welcome all girls between the ages of 11 to 17.

“Model Prep is centered around growing self-confidence, because this is something I struggled with throughout my teenage years. I didn’t have a big sister or someone to mentor me through life’s ups and downs, which is something every girl needs and will find in Model Prep,” Griffin shared on Modelprep.com.

To learn more about the organizer of this event, please visit www.skratch.co.

Dr. Kimberly D. Acquaviva

Dr. Kimberly D. Acquaviva, who grew up in Irving, ended 2017 with the news that her first book, *LGBTQ-Inclusive Hospice and Palliative Care: A Practical Guide to Transforming Professional Practice*, was awarded Book of the Year by the American Journal of Nursing.

The award was given in the Palliative Care and Hospice category.

Lauded by health care professionals for its extensive research and Acquaviva’s passion for the sub-



ject; the book is a practical guide geared toward physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, registered nurses, social workers, counselors, and chaplains

working in the industry.

Reviewers state that even though the book is anchored in evidence and extensively referenced, it’s written in plain language.

Most notably, instead of seeking to inform health care workers on how to handle LGBTQ patients as a “special population,” Acquaviva sought strategies for providing care to all patients in a manner that is inclusive of LGBTQ needs.

“This book provides an in-depth yet user-friendly cultural competency lesson that encompasses such important topics as terminol-

ogy, historical context, family dynamics, physical histories, care planning, ethical and legal issues, spirituality, and institutional inclusiveness,” said Sherrill Wayland, manager of National Projects for SAGE (Services & Advocacy for GLBT Elders).

“All of these topics are essential to provide quality end-of-life care for LGBTQ patients, their spouses or partners, and families of origin/choice. The skills and competencies presented in this invaluable book extend beyond the hospice and palliative care provider and can

serve as useful tools in all segments of the medical field, from the academic classroom and hospital diversity initiatives to home-health and long-term care settings.”

Acquaviva now lives in Washington, D.C. and is a tenured professor at the George Washington University School of Nursing, where she is a founding faculty member and has worked there since 2004.

She is currently writing a second book which will detail the pioneering work of lesbians in the nursing field. Her scholarly work focuses

on LGBTQ aging and end-of-life issues, and her clinical work has been with patients and families facing life-limiting illnesses in both hospital and hospice settings.

In her free time, Acquaviva has a letterpress business called Ink & Imp Press. She runs the business out of her garage print shop using an 1894 Chandler & Price printing press and old metal type. She’s also an Assistant Scoutmaster with the Boy Scouts and a First Day (Sunday School) teacher at her Quaker meeting house.

NDG Readers Sound Off...

An open letter to Governor Abbott

Well said, Mr. Gray.
- Susan

Thank you Ed Gray for your always welcomed insight on situations which would require a second look and an “Ed Gray” voice of translation.
-David

Dallas scrambling to keep school guard crossing program

Has anyone asked DISD Trustees Flores and Marshall who founded the PAC

to dissolve DCS what their plan was for crossing guards? Was it like the plan for the suburban districts that use DCS – you are on your own kids? Surely they considered this. If not, then why not? After all they criticize the women and mothers on the board for asking questions and seeking information.

Let us not forget, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (Part one)

This was a beautiful article by Sister Tarpley. Thank you! In December 1999 at a Federal Memphis Civil Court

a jury of 12 found that the government had conspired to assassinate Martin Luther King, Jr. The transcripts of the trial are on the King Family website.

Dr. William F. Pepper, a personal friend of Martin, was the attorney for the King Family in this trial.

The updated story can be found in (a Youtube video from an) April 2017 interview by James Corbett with Dr. William Pepper.
-TomT

Is dallas water safe to drink?

To the editor,

Once again, it is time to renew the contract for community water fluoridation in the city of Dallas. The evidence on the safety and efficacy of water fluoridation is overwhelming. Every major public health and medical organization, and well over 2000 studies and peer-reviewed papers, support the benefits and safety of water fluoridation in preventing unnecessary tooth decay. This includes the American Dental Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the past

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Black women need real change, not just Thanks

By La'Tasha D. Mayes
Executive Director,
New Voices for
Reproductive Justice

After Roy Moore’s defeat at the hands of Alabama voters—driven by Black voter turnout, especially the votes of Black women—we saw the celebration, credit-taking, and meaning-making that usually accompanies a progressive electoral victory. But one thing was different this time. This time, mainstream media and social media feeds flooded with messages acknowledging and thanking Black women for our role in the outcome.

Welcome to the reality Black women have known about—and named—for decades.

One of the hashtags that took off amid the Alabama election returns and the following days was #Trust-BlackWomen. But what does it mean to trust Black women? What does it mean to advance a policy agenda that addresses the issues Black women face in this country?

Black women voters are not a monolith—we’re diverse, complex, and deeply engaged in national, state, and local policy debates. We don’t all agree. But there is a set of values and policies that most Black women hold close to our hearts: we want a future where we can live with respect, health, and justice. Where we can decide whether and when to have children, and raise those children without fear of hunger, violence, or dis-

crimination. Where we can realize our dreams and highest human potential.

For a start, I hope that this election can finally put to rest the ludicrous question of whether a progressive agenda must include support for abortion access. (Yes, absolutely it must.) Not only are Black women overwhelmingly supportive of abortion access, but nationwide, keeping abortion legal has the highest levels of support in decades. Being able to make our own decisions about our bodies, pregnancy, and parenting is crucial to Black women’s dignity and self-determination.

Black women are already leading the way in reproductive health, rights, and justice policy. In 2015, after decades of work by Black women advocates, Representative Barbara Lee (D-Calif.) led the introduction of the EACH Woman Act to repeal the Hyde Amendment’s Reign of Terror on poor women, and the bill today has 128 co-sponsors in the House, even in this incredibly hostile political moment.

In another show of leadership, women of color in the Senate and their colleagues sent a bold and defiant letter to Trump demanding that he strip the Hyde Amendment and other bans on abortion coverage from the budget. I doubt anyone is holding their breath for him to do the right thing, but that should never stop our leaders in Congress from taking a principled proactive stand.

But a reproductive health, rights, and justice platform that respects Black women must go beyond abortion. Black women in the U.S. are dying in childbirth at many times the rate of White women, a national health crisis that has gone largely ignored. Black women also suffer and die at disproportionate rates of reproductive cancers like breast and cervical cancer. In addition to contraception and abortion care, we need access to quality affordable health care and coverage for the full range of reproductive care including cancer prevention, screening, and treatment, and prenatal, maternity, and postpartum care. The Affordable Care Act—a law Black women championed—was a monumental step in the right direction. Today, we’re fighting to hold on even to that, and we know a much more accessible and comprehensive solution is needed.

Every day in this country, Black women face nearly impossible odds to raise our children with dignity, love, and abundance. But the cruel anti-family budget and tax policies of the conservative GOP have decimated funding for nutrition, housing, and other necessities while lining the pockets of their wealthy donors—even as they have failed to reauthorize the Children’s Health Insurance Program also known as CHIP. We must do everything in our power to reverse this dangerous redistribution of wealth and well-being from the poor to the super-rich.

Finally, we must address the ways in which police and prisons have been weaponized against Black Americans to rob us of our loved ones through mass incarceration and deadly police violence. Black lives matter is more than a hashtag, organization, or movement. It’s the urgent cry for justice from the mouths of mothers, sisters, wives, partners, and daughters.

Time and time again, Black women have been told to wait our turn. When male citizens—both White and Black—got the legal right to vote, we were told to wait our turn. When white women built a suffrage movement on our backs and out of our genius and then cut us out of it, we were told to wait our turn. And when Democrats and Republicans alike have taken our votes for granted while ignoring our needs, we have been told to wait our turn.

No longer. It’s time for this country to do more than thank Black women—it’s time to put our issues in the center of the political table and follow the leadership of Black women as we construct a new nation that affirms the human rights of us all.

La'Tasha D. Mayes, the founder and executive director of New Voices for Reproductive Justice, that presents a clear and compelling case for policies that center Black women's health and needs. You can follow her on Twitter @duxfemfac.

COMMENTS,

continued from Page 2
five U.S. Surgeon Generals. Kids throughout the country, and right here in Dallas, suffer unnecessarily from painful oral health problems. And so do older adults. Optimal water fluoridation is the first line of defense in a lifetime of fewer cavities for young, old, rich and poor. Many residents who do not have dental insurance or who cannot afford to see a dentist for prevention of dental decay

of this proven public health measure. Sincerely,
Kenneth A. Bolin, DDS, MPH
American Board of Dental Public Health Diplomate
Considering the preponderance of information that begs for a change from fluoride to no fluoride; I fail to understand why the fluoride folk are so “set in stone” against trying something new. However, if this boils down (like almost everything else) to a question about

somebody's money; I totally understand. I wonder how many of the fluoride folk stand to make a few quarters – or whatever, off the continued use of fluoride in public water systems. Who’s making money off the use of fluoride? And who will lose money if fluoride use is stopped?
Anonymous
NDG Readers Respond

To share your opinion visit
NorthDallasGazette.com

Richardson offers wallet-friendly membership fees at recreation centers

If your New Year's resolutions include "get fit" and "save money," you can do both at a City of Richardson recreation center for a yearly fee of \$60 for residents and \$120 for nonresidents.

Memberships are valid at both Heights and Huffhines recreation centers, and each facility includes a cardio fitness area/weight room, a full-sized gym including a regulation-sized basketball court, a game room, free WiFi, a sauna and locker

rooms. In addition, each offers fitness classes for an extra charge including martial arts, a variety of dance forms, yoga, Zumba and fitness boot camps (new/re-vamped offerings for 2018 include archery for kids and chess for all ages). Nearby outdoor activities can be added on to a workout, such as tennis at Huffhines Tennis Center, swimming at Heights Family Aquatic Center (during the summer), or walking/jogging on the

trails of Heights Park and Huffhines Park.

Resident rates are available only to persons who live in Richardson and provide a driver's license or current water bill. People who work in Richardson may purchase a corporate membership by providing a recent paycheck stub or a corporate photo ID.

Memberships may be purchased online at www.cor.net/parksonline and in person at either cen-

ter; Heights Recreation Center at 711 W. Arapaho Rd., 972-744-7850; or Huffhines Recreation Center at 200 N. Plano Rd., 972-744-7881.

For further information about the recreation centers and membership rates, go to www.cor.net/parks. Information about rec center classes may be found at www.cor.net/parksonline. For aquatics and tennis information, visit www.cor.net/aquatics and www.cor.net/tennis.



City of Richardson

Guest Op-Ed: Do Dallas residents need community water fluoridation? Yes, and here's why

By Beth Stewart
NDG Guest Contributor

Oral health and general health are not separate. Dental care is the most prevalent unmet health need of children in the United States and dental caries (the #1 childhood chronic disease causing tooth decay) is five times more common than asthma. Untreated dental decay can lead to malnourishment, bacterial infections, pain and even death.

Dental disease is often misunderstood as a problem that affects individuals due to their own irresponsibility or ignorance when in reality it is a complex health issue tied to education, access, insurance coverage, and many more confounding factors. Self-sufficiency and personal responsibility are important concepts regarding dental disease impact on overall health, but one must also consider societal determinants and factors individuals cannot control. Every person should have access to effective, low-cost cavity prevention.

Water fluoridation is still necessary. Community water fluoridation and brushing with fluoride toothpaste complement each other, like seatbelts and airbags in automobiles. Both work individually, but together they provide even better protection. Many years after fluoride toothpaste became widely used,



Steve Johnson / Flickr

an independent panel of experts examined the specific impact of water fluoridation and determined that fluoridation reduces tooth decay by about 29%.

Community water fluoridation is safe. The National Academies Advisers to the Nation on Science, Engi-

neering and Medicine routinely conduct a scientific review of EPA's Standards of Fluoride in drinking water and to date have found no adverse health outcomes regarding Musculoskeletal Effects, Reproductive and Developmental Effects, Neurotoxicity and

Neurobehavioral, Effects on the Endocrine (Thyroid) System, Effects on the Gastrointestinal, Renal, Hepatic, and Immune Systems, Genotoxicity and Carcinogenicity.

Fluoridation is cost effective. For Dallas, the cost of fluoridation is only \$0.49 per year per person, so that a lifetime of cavity prevention is less than \$39. According to ADA's 2016 Survey of Dental Fees, the average cost of a filling is \$204. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that every \$1 invested in water fluoridation saves \$38 in dental treatment costs. The reduction in just the costs of filling and extracting diseased teeth far exceeds the cost of

fluoridation. The CDC reports that if all water were fluoridated, it would save over \$1 billion annually.

Everyone should have the right to choose whether they drink fluoridated water or not. People that oppose fluoridation are removing that choice for all residents and are providing no options except for everyone to pay for more treatment at the dental office.

When we fail to use proven preventive strategies like community water fluoridation, the consequences are felt by nearly everyone – not just those who say they don't want fluoridated water. In one way or another, the cost and impact of tooth decay affect virtually everyone in the community.

Community water fluoridation remains the most effective, cost-efficient method for reducing dental disease in all populations regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, or family income levels and is a smart health strategy worth maintaining.

Beth Stewart is the Executive Director of Texas Oral Health Coalition, Inc.

Editor's Note: *The discussion regarding fluoride in the water has generated a passionate discussion as shown in our reader's comments following recent stories shared on this public health topic. The opinions expressed in this op-ed or the one published last week do not necessarily reflect the views of NDG.*

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ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT CENTER

Oprah announced as keynote speaker for Minnie's Food Pantry Gala

Minnie's Food Pantry, a national non-profit organization with a mission of feeding the hungry, announced Oprah Winfrey as the keynote speaker for its 10th Anniversary "Feed Just One" Gala. This star-studded, black-tie event will be held on Tuesday, April 3 in Collin County. The red-carpet will start at 5:30 p.m. and the dinner and program will start at 7 p.m. The evening will include dinner, a live auction, remarks from



Courtesy photo

Oprah Winfrey and other surprises to be announced.

"I have been a 'student' of Oprah's for more than 30 years," said Cheryl Jackson,

founder of Minnie's Food Pantry. "I've watched, listened and learned a lot of what has helped me to make Minnie's Food Pantry a national charity. It's an esteemed honor to have the voice of one of the most powerful women in the world, Oprah Winfrey, resonate at our ten-year celebration. It reminds our staff, board of directors, sponsors and the thousands of volunteers, that our work is not in vain. We are grateful."

Emmy nominated actress, author and President of LightWorkers Media, Roma Downey and award-winning television and film producer Mark Burnett, President of MGM Television Group and Digital will be honored with the Minnie Ewing Legacy Award presented by Toyota. The legacy award identifies, supports and celebrates individuals who have demonstrated "the heart of a giver" in the same way that Minnie

Ewing lived her life. It acknowledges individuals who have exhibited outstanding leadership and contributed at least 300,000 meals to Minnie's Food Pantry.

Founded by Dr. Cheryl "Action" Jackson, Minnie's Food Pantry has literally been rolling out the red carpet for more than 10 years as they provide food for families living in low income, food insecure households. An award winning

non-profit organization and largest food pantry in Collin County, Minnie's Food Pantry has provided more than 7 million meals and brought the issue of food insecurity to the forefront on both a local and national level.

Minnie's Food Pantry's "Feed Just One" Gala tickets, sponsorships, tables or for other information, please email Zoya@MinniesFoodPantry.org or call (214) 709-4449.

Lewisville calls out to new vendors for ColorPalooza 2018

The City of Lewisville is now accepting vendor applications for ColorPalooza 2018: A Celebration of Spring. Artists, artisans, craft exhibitors, and non-profit organizations are encouraged to apply as the success of ColorPalooza is largely dependent on a variety of vendors offering different

artistic and environmental options.

ColorPalooza, the annual outdoor festival, will be held on Saturday, Apr. 14, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., in historic Old Town Lewisville. Admission to the festival will be free, although some activities will carry a nominal charge.

To qualify as an Artist/Ex-

hibitor vendor, all products on display must be hand-crafted, hand-stitched, homemade, or manufactured by the applicant or applicant's representatives. Examples include paintings, sculpture, pottery/ceramics, textile arts, photography, hand-carved items, hand-made jewelry, bead work,

up-cycled materials, mosaics, hand-sewn quilts, crafts, leather-working, metalworking, stained glass, and blown glass objects.

Non-profit organizations wanting to participate in ColorPalooza are welcome and encouraged to provide some type of interactive craft or art project during the

event to reinforce the festival theme.

Application deadline is Friday, March 16. Vendor applications can be downloaded at LewisvilleColorPalooza.com. For answers to vendor-related questions, contact Jamie Milstead at jmilstead@city-of-lewisville.com.

The festival features Chalk this Way, the annual sidewalk chalk art extravaganza; Eco Alley; live musical performances on the Lonestar Toyota Stage in Wayne Ferguson Plaza; Do-It-Yourself Tie Dye; strolling entertainers; cultural group performances; midway attractions; and more.

Southern Dallas loses beloved pillar of the community

Businessman and entrepreneur Jasper Baccus died this week at the age of 89. Baccus opened the first Baccus Cleaners, more than five decades ago, deep in the heart of the southern Dallas community after selling his Cadillac to help fund the project. His renowned passion for cus-

tomers and community service led to the opening of numerous dry cleaner locations, including a laundry service and a washateria, providing jobs and opportunity to area-residents in addition to his business's services to its customers.

"Mr. Baccus was a good friend of Dwaine's and

mine," commented former State Representative and current Congressional candidate Barbara Mallory Caraway, also wife of current Mayor Pro Tem and Council member Dwaine Caraway, via social media. "He was a great businessman and leader...I am happy I had a chance to

know him."

Baccus, whose father and grandfather also owned their own businesses, passes down a family tradition of business ownership to his offspring – now the fourth generation of Baccus business owners and entrepreneurs. Baccus leaves behind 17 children, many friends,

and a community in mourning.

A wake has been scheduled for Baccus on Monday, Jan. 22 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Central Point Church of Christ located at 7440 Westmoreland, Dallas. A funeral has been arranged for Tuesday, Jan. 23 at 11 a.m. at the same location.



Facebook / Baccus 50 MIN Cleaner

Registration for Winter and Spring classes is now under way!

Spring Classes begin January 16!



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SMU offering four-year scholarships for Dallas ISD students

SMU is working to provide more students in the Dallas area with an opportunity for a valuable SMU education by expanding eligibility for an existing scholarship program and by partnering with Dallas County Promise for five new scholarships.

SMU will expand the opportunity to apply for 10 scholarships previously available only to Dallas ISD graduates. The expanded program, the Dallas County Mustang Scholarship, will award up to 10 four-year combined scholarship packages worth more than \$225,000 each to cover full tuition and fees for eligible students who will graduate from any high school located



in Dallas County.

High school seniors interested in the Dallas County Mustang Scholarship should complete the SMU admission application, the Mustang Scholars essay, the FAFSA and CSS Profile or TASFA by Feb. 1, 2018. Please visit www.smu.edu/mustangsolars to learn more.

Aiming to provide a

bridge to SMU for students who begin their education in community college, SMU and Dallas County Promise are partnering in a new financial aid program – the SMU Mustang Promise Scholarship. The new program will award up to five two-year scholarships annually to eligible high school seniors who have success-

fully completed the Dallas County Promise Program and plan to transfer to SMU after earning a qualifying associate degree from the Dallas County Community College District.

“There are future Dallas County leaders among the students attending high school in our community who may not get their best chance to lead because financial means is a barrier to an undergraduate college degree,” said Wes Waggoner, SMU associate vice president for enrollment management. “Expanding eligibility for some of our existing scholarships, and joining the Dallas County Promise Program, is going to be a great way to help identify these

students as high school seniors and give them an opportunity to attend and graduate from SMU.”

Students selected to receive the Dallas County Promise scholarships will be eligible for free tuition for up to three years toward completing a degree at any DCCCD college. Each two-year SMU Mustang Promise Scholarship will then contribute to a full tuition and fees scholarship – an award worth more than \$110,000 over the two-year period, allowing the students completing an associate degree from a DCCCD college to then complete their undergraduate degree at SMU.

To be eligible for the Dallas County Promise Scholar-

ship, high school seniors at Promise-eligible high schools must complete the Dallas County Promise Pledge by Jan. 31, 2018; and apply for the fall semester at a Dallas County Community College and complete a FAFSA/TASFA by March 15, 2018. Full student information is available at www.dallascountypromise.org/students.

Waggoner added that students who apply for the two-year SMU Mustang Promise Scholarship also would be considered for other scholarships and financial aid available to SMU undergraduates. More than \$90 million in academic and need-based aid is awarded to SMU undergraduates each year.

Toyota donates \$60k to HBCUs and Tom Joyner Foundation in honor of Dr. King

In honor of the life and vision of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Toyota Financial Services (TFS) announced its continued support of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), with its annual donation of \$60,000 to five HBCUs and the Tom Joyner Foundation.

TFS established the donation to meet and assist numerous talented young minds who may have otherwise been unable to complete their education due to the lack of financial aid. The program builds upon a decade-long partnership between Toyota and the Tom Joyner Foundation to support HBCU students.

“Dr. King believed all young people should be given an opportunity to receive the best education possible,” said John Ridgeway, general manager of TFS’ Customer Serv-

ice Center in Maryland. “It’s been an honor for Toyota to support the mission of HBCUs, and help these students reach their academic and professional aspirations.”

The following universities will each receive \$10,000:

1. University of Maryland – Eastern Shore, Princess Anne, Md.
2. North Carolina A&T University, Greensboro, N.C.
3. Lincoln University, Lincoln University, Pa.
4. Huston-Tillotson University, Austin, Texas
5. Alabama State University, Montgomery, Ala.

Toyota Financial Services also is donating \$10,000 to support the work of the Tom Joyner Foundation. The foundation provides academic support, scholarships, and programming to over 80 HBCUs in the Southern and Eastern United States.

“Toyota is a valued partner in our mission to help students at these colleges, and we’re thankful to be collaborating with them for a fourth consecutive year,” said Thomas Joyner, Jr., president and CEO of the Foundation. “These scholarships are game-changing investments for so many of these students who are working hard to achieve their college degrees.”

Financial support of universities is key in driving student success and retention at HBCUs, thereby producing high graduation rates.

“Providing this support not only helps ensure students achieve their dreams of higher education, it also contributes to the sustainment of these HBCUs and helps them address the issues that impact student retention,” concluded Ridgeway.

Collin College Continuing Education hosts Soar Awards

Collin College Continuing Education hosted the SOAR awards for noncredit English language development course achievement.

These noncredit courses focus on English language development and offer various levels to accommodate

the diverse language skills, goals, and achievement of our students. Level 5 is the highest level of these courses, with specializations in Grammar, Pronunciation, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.

“Learning another lan-

guage conveys a desire to understand others and form connections,” said Jim Merritt, program manager for creative careers and languages. “By dedicating the time and effort and overcoming any fears or frustra-

See SOAR, Page 7

learn more >

BORN TO BE GREAT

To be ready for the jobs of the future, students need learning experiences that meet them where they are, engage them deeply, let them progress at a pace that meets their individual needs, and helps them master the skills for today and tomorrow. *To learn more about ESSA and how you can get involved, visit www.nnpa.org/essa.*

Made possible by a grant from the
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Plano Mayor receives a leadership appointment on national committee

Plano Mayor Harry LaRosiliere was appointed to a leadership role in the U.S. Conference of Mayors. New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu tapped Mayor LaRosiliere to head

up the conference's Transportation and Communications Standing Committee.

In a letter to the Plano mayor, Landrieu wrote, "I know that you will help the U.S. Conference of

Mayors develop a proactive, strategic agenda on these priority issues. The USCM is a bipartisan organization of over 400 Mayors across the United States. The organization

serves the helps develop and promote effective national urban/suburban policy; build stronger and more effective federal-city relationships; monitor the effectiveness of federal

policy in terms of its service to urban needs; help mayors develop leadership and management tools; and to create a forum in which mayors can share ideas and information.

Mayor LaRosiliere is a member of the organization for professional development and to provide Plano a seat at the table during national conversations.

Photography exhibit offers insights of the Civil Rights Movement

This Light of Ours: Activist Photographers of the Civil Rights Movement is a major traveling exhibition presenting the Civil Rights Movement (also called the Southern Freedom Movement) through the work and voices of nine activist photographers – men and women who chose to document the national struggle against segregation and other forms of race-based disenfranchisement from within the movement. The exhibition is displayed at the Irving Arts Center until March 4.

Unlike images produced



Courtesy photo

by photojournalists, who covered breaking news events, most of the photographers in this exhibit were affiliated with the Student Non-violent Coordinating Com-

mittee (SNCC) and documented its activities by focusing on the student activists and local people who together made the movement happen.

The exhibition focuses primarily on the Deep South states of Mississippi and Alabama between the years 1963-1966 and features a selection of 157 black and white photographs, representing the work of Bob Adelman, George Ballis, Bob Fitch, Bob Fletcher, Matt Herron, David Prince, Herbert Randall, Maria Varela and Tamio Wakayama. Images are grouped into four themes and convey SNCC's organizing strategies, resolve in the face of violence and impact on the nation's political and cultural conscious-

ness. In addition, photographers' eye witness accounts of life inside the movement – their descriptions of how and why photos were taken and their personal revelations of the movement's impact on their lives – are incorporated into audio guides prepared for adults and children. These guides are presented through the actual voices of the photographers and evoke the way activists experienced a quest for social justice that transformed American life.

Organized by the Center for Documentary Expression and Art in Salt Lake City,

Utah, and curated by Matt Herron, one of the contributing photographers, the exhibition's name was inspired by "This Little Light of Mine," the children's gospel song, written by composer and teacher Harry Dixon Loes around 1920, to become a civil rights anthem during the 1950s and '60s. The exhibition highlights the efforts of unsung heroes within the movement, capturing the day-to-day struggles of everyday citizens working to register voters, hold workshops, and march for civil rights.

Imagine You! Girls' Conference returns to Irving's Lively Pointe

Girls in middle school and high school are invited to register for the 2018 Imagine You! Conference, which will be held on Saturday, March 3 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Lively Pointe Youth Center. This conference is aimed at promoting a positive self-image and enriching the personal development of today's young women.

Topics for the program this year will include health and wellness, career opportunities, self-defense, and entrepreneurship. Girls will also learn to shop on a budget and

sharpen negotiation skills as they visit the fashion thrift shop.

Lunch will be provided and participants will receive valuable information and free giveaways. Admission to the Imagine You! Conference is free, but spaces are limited. Registration is on a first come, first served basis.

To register, please download the registration form below, complete all information, and email to Dr. Jaleen Sims: sims.foundationofhope@yahoo.com.

For more information, please call 913-735-3717.

Recognizing leaders at the 36th annual MLK Awards Banquet...



(Clockwise from top left) The keynote address for the 36th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Banquet was Rev. Dr. William J. Barber of North Carolina.

Doris Edmon was the recipient of the Dream Forward Award, given to a City of Dallas employee who goes above and beyond.

The Humanitarian Award went to Kym Scott, who was not able to attend the dinner. Accepting on her behalf was Howard Scott, well-known for the band War.

It was a full house in the Hyatt Regency Ballroom for the 36th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Banquet.

(Photos: David Wilfong / NDG)



SOAR, continued from Page 6

tions, you open yourself up to another world of possibilities. Our ESL program and dedicated instructors help students achieve that goal to understanding and forming new relationships both personally and professionally."

Awards were presented to students in five categories: Amazing Ambassador Award: Jyothi Singidi from Plano

Language & Leadership Award: Marla Miranda from Allen

Perfect Attendance Award: Ira Kuznetsova from Frisco

SOAR Award: Fakhria Rahnamoon from Plano

The awards ceremony also recognized educator Stephanie Messonnier as the ESL Outstanding Educator Award recipient for

the 2017-2018 academic year.

Students voted for the ESL instructor who they believed continually makes a positive impact on the learning experience.

Those interested in improving their English language skills should attend a

free ESL Placement testing and advising session. For more information visit www.collin.edu/ce, call 972.985.3790 or email CE-info@collin.edu.

Placement and advising sessions will be held at three Collin College locations on these dates:

Courtyard Center, 4800 Preston Park Blvd., Plano, TX 75093 - 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 18 - Room 118

Central Park Campus, 2200 W. University Drive, McKinney - 12:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 18 - Room LA240

Dallas

DFW International Community Alliance, in partnership with the A Plus Academy, is hosting a new series of **Free English as a Second Language (ESL) Citizenship Class** that begins on Saturday, Jan. 20 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at 10327 Rylie Road, Dallas. The series will consist of 12 sessions each Saturday that run from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Each class will be bilingual (English and Spanish) and green card holders of all ethnicities are invited to participate. For more information, call 972-885-0888 or visit www.dfwinternational.org/Citizenship.

The Dallas Women's March 2018 will take place Saturday, Jan. 20 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. beginning at St. Paul United Methodist Church located at 1816 Routh Street, Dallas and ending at Pike Park located at 2807 Harry Hines Boulevard, Dallas. This march is sponsored by State Representative Victoria Neave, Democratic candidate and Chair of the Dallas Women's March Rhett



The Dallas Women's March 2018 will take place Saturday, Jan. 20 in honor of last year's march for women's rights and equality. (Photo Credit: Paul Sableman / Flickr)

Bowers, Planned Parenthood, Dallas AFL-CIO, and many other organizations united to march for women's rights and equal justice. There will be a rally following the march at Pike Park at 10:45 a.m. featuring music and line-up of speakers.

The City of Dallas is hosting **Neighborhood Public Hearings** to receive input into the development of the Consolidated Plan Budget for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Grants beginning Thursday, Jan. 25 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at

Willie B. Johnson Recreation Center located at 12225 Willowdell Drive, Dallas. The primary purpose of the hearing will be to solicit citizen input for the potential use of HUD funds for low and moderate-income individuals and to inform the public of the budget processes. This is one of a series of hearings that will take place every Thursday through Feb. 13 at various locations around Dallas.

Farmers Branch

The Farmers Branch Manske Library is hosting **Animal Adventures** Saturday, Jan. 20 from 3 p.m. to

4 p.m. at 13613 Webb Chapel Road, Farmers Branch. All ages are welcome to attend this event where the Dallas Zoo will show of some of its most exciting animals. To tickets or registration is required.

Garland

DFW for Beto and the Beto O'Rourke Campaign are presenting **DFW Stands with Beto** Friday, Jan. 26 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Plumbers and Pipefitters Union Hall located at 3541 West Miller Road, Garland. This free event is being organized to allow voters across DFW the opportunity to meet U.S. Senate candidate Beto O'Rourke as he competes to be the Democratic candidate to challenge incumbent Republican Senator Ted Cruz in November.

For more information on O'Rourke, visit www.betofortexas.com.

McKinney

The Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary is hosting a **Night Hike** Saturday, Jan. 20 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at 1 Na-

ture Place, McKinney. Participants will explore the sights, smells and sounds of the night with Heard Trail Guides as they hike and sharpen their sense to be able to spot animal life and learn more about the inhabitants of the Heard. Preregistration is required for the event and can be done online at www.heardmuseum.org.

Plano

The Texas Civil Rights Project, Texas House District 67 Democrats, and others are hosting an **Immigration Policy and Economic Security - Citizens Town Hall** Saturday, Jan. 20 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the East Plano Islamic Center located at 1350 Star Court, Plano. Citizens are encouraged to attend as a panel of community leaders discuss issues relating to immigration, economics, and local infrastructure projects.

Richardson

Molding Doctors at University of Texas - Dallas (UTD) presents **Dance for Haiti** Friday, Jan. 19 from 7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Student Union Faculty Din-

ing Hall at the UTD campus located at 800 West Campbell Road, Richardson. This event will benefit the Emory-Haiti Alliance, which sends medical professionals and medical students to perform surgeries in areas lacking in medical resources and expertise. This event will feature performances by dance groups from the UTD campus. Tickets are \$7 at the door.

Lone Eagle Martial Arts is hosting a **Women's Empowerment and Self-Defense Course** on Saturday, Jan. 20 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at 580 West Arapaho Road, Suite 208, Richardson. This course will teach participants techniques and skills used by police officers and military to protect themselves in encounters. It will focus on observation skills as well as strikes, escapes and realistic scenarios to make sure women feel empowered and safe. This event is free.

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

Roland G. Parrish named as Finance Chairman of Rep. Eric Johnson's re-election campaign

Texas State Representative Eric Johnson (D-Dallas) will report over \$362,000 cash-on-hand in his semi-annual campaign finance report for 2017. This week Roland G. Parrish was announced as the Finance Chair of Rep. Johnson's re-election efforts.

Rep. Johnson, who faces opposition in the Democratic

primary for the first time since 2010, raised \$98,000 in the second half of last year, which includes donations from over 200 individuals.

Dallas businessman Roland G. Parrish will serve as Finance Chairman of his 2018 re-election campaign. Parrish is President, CEO/Owner of Parrish

Restaurants, Ltd., which owns 23 McDonald's in North Texas. The company consistently makes Black Enterprise Magazine's BE 100 as one of the Top 100 Black-Owned Businesses in the

U.S. *The Dallas Business Journal* listed Parrish Restaurants, Ltd. as the 9th largest minority-owned business in North Texas in 2016.

"It is truly an honor to have my long time friend and sup-

porter, Roland Parrish, serve as the Finance Chairman of my re-election campaign," stated Johnson.

"Mr. Parrish is a legendary businessman who is nationally recognized not

only for his business acumen, but for his philanthropy. I know he will do a great job in making sure our campaign has the resources it needs to win on March 6," Johnson added.

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FAST FURNISHINGS

NDG Movie Review: Proud Mary is OK at best

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

Proud Mary starring Taraji P. Henson burst on the scene with a dynamic trailer. It looks like 2018 is going to start off with an exciting action flick with a different twist, a female hired gun. While it is true this is not a bad film, there is a reason it is released in January which is considered the burial ground of movie release dates. There is plenty of action, but not enough depth to truly care about the character's plight.

On a routine kill assignment, if there is any such thing, Mary (Henson) knocks off a man we never even get a clear look at before she discovers his young son. Thanks to headphones and is squarely focused on the video game he is playing, the young boy



does not even realize his life has suddenly changed forever. We watch Mary take the young boys photo from a frame. Then suddenly it is a year later and it appears Danny (played by Jahi Di'Allo Winston) has fallen into a life of crime himself and when he needs rescuing Mary just happens to arrive on the scene.

Mary is not a gun for hire to highest bidder she works

for Benny (Danny Glover) who is the head of one of the two biggest crime families in Boston. I am guessing the director or producer is a fan of the Color Purple and was tickled at the chance to reunite Shug (Margaret Avery) and Mister. In Proud Mary Avery plays Glover's wife Mina, who we meet for a minute at her birthday party eating red velvet cake. Benny

leaves much of the day-to-day operations of the family business to his son Tom played by one of the best visual assets of the movie, Billy Brown (just ask Viola Davis as he was her lover for a while on How to Get Away with Murder).

The challenge with Proud Mary is it generates more questions than it ever answers for viewers. In a city the size of Boston, how believable is it she is going to find the little boy a year later at the moment he needs help the most? I get that his dad was not Father of the Year material, but you just want to ride off into the

sunset with the woman that just admitted she killed your daddy? The guy who was robbed one day in a drug deal gone bad just happens to be working in the alley in of a totally different crime family - they co-share drug dealers these days? There are others, let's just say when they cut this film down to 89 minutes, it was a brutal chop job and the story suffers as a result.

Henson has been vocal about her concerns that Screen Gems, the film studio, did not provide any support for this movie. She is right there were no advance screenings for critics

and the fact they released it in January is a sign they had little faith in its potential success. It appears they were not wrong with a dismal opening weekend box office of an estimated \$3 million. Whether is the fault of the studio, the director, the story, the editing job or the performance is unclear. I lean in the direction of the filmmaker and editing of the film. But you can be the judge at a local theater near you, this week, but likely available on DVD or your favorite streaming system sooner than they expected.

Proud Mary is rated R for violence.

9-1-1 featuring Angela Bassett appears to be a hit

The Jan. 3 premiere of FOX's new series, 9-1-1, grew to 14.7 million viewers in 7-Day multi-platform viewing (including its encore), delivering FOX's largest debut since EMPIRE in 2015, excluding post-Super Bowl premieres. In Nielsen Live + 7 Day, the show delivered 10.7 million viewers, a lift of 57 percent from Live+Same Day.



On social media, 9-1-1 is this season's No. 1 new broadcast drama series and the most engaging new broadcast program on YouTube, with more than nine million views.

9-1-1 explores the high-pressure experiences of police officers, paramedics and firefighters who are thrust into the most frightening, shocking and heart-stopping situations. These emergency responders must try to bal-

ance saving those who are at their most vulnerable with solving the problems in their own lives.

The provocative series stars Academy and Emmy Award nominee Angela Bassett ("American Horror Story," "What's Love Got to Do with It"), Emmy Award and Golden Globe nominee Peter Krause ("The Catch," "Six Feet Under") and Emmy Award nominee Connie Britton ("Nashville,"

"Friday Night Lights," "American Horror Story"). The series also stars Oliver Stark ("Into The Badlands"), Aisha Hinds ("Shots Fired," "Underground"), Kenneth Choi ("The People v. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story") and Rockmond Dunbar ("Prison Break," "The Path").

9-1-1 airs Wednesdays 8 p.m. on FOX and full episodes are available next-day on FOX NOW and Hulu.



Frieda Porter for the Office of Justice of the Peace

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

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

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

I've volunteered my services for the Arlington NAACP Using my experience and education of Fair Housing, Real Estate Law and Multi-Family Management to bring positive resolution to citizens with Landlord complaints.

Precinct 7 is my home. My children grew up here. As JP, I will use my office as a support to homeowners, renters and help our truants move into a positive direction. Remember, I'm Number #1 on the Ballot. Cast your vote for Frieda Porter for Justice of the Peace, Pct. 7 on March 6, 2018.

Note:
Precinct 7 includes Tarrant Grand Prairie, South Arlington, Mansfield, Kennedale, Dalworthington Gardens and Rendon
Pol. Adv. paid for by Frieda Porter for JP campaign



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Yellowman premiere set for Feb. 1 at Soul Rep Theatre

Soul Rep Theatre Company's SOUL POWERED 11th season of plays continues with the regional premiere of the Pulitzer Prize-nominated lyrical drama, YELLOWMAN, by Dael Orlandersmith. The production is directed by theater veteran Ed Smith and stars two dynamic actors -- company member, Monique Ridge-Williams, and Angelo Reid. YELLOWMAN will run Feb. 1 - 4 and Feb. 9 - 11 at the South Dallas Cultural Center, where Soul Rep is the resident theater company.

Set in South Carolina between the 1960's - 80's, this dramatic two-person play has been deemed both "heartwarming" and "heart-breaking." YELLOWMAN explores colorism and its effects on the decades' long friendship between dark-skinned and heavy-set "Alma" and the fair-skinned



Courtesy photo

"Eugene", who mature and fall in love, much to the dismay of their families. Through searing poetry and rich storytelling, the play also illustrates the beauty and depth of the Gullah culture of the Carolinas and the destructiveness of generational self-hatred and abuse. "Although the play takes place within the Black community," she explains, "the themes of alcoholism,

parental abuse, and self-abuse are universal themes. That is the play's intent - to show universality."

Tickets range from \$15 - \$20 and can be purchased on Soul Rep's website - www.soulrep.org. Performances will take place on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. A "pay as you can" preview performance is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 1.

Dallas Summer Musical season tickets, including Hamilton, on sale now

Dallas Summer Musicals, Inc. (DSM) and Broadway Across America (BAA) have announced the full lineup of Broadway shows coming to Dallas as part of the 2018-2019 season, as well as Dear Evan Hansen, which will headline the 2019-2020 season. Joining previously announced Hamilton and Disney's Aladdin is Broadway's most beloved musical, the 2017 Tony Award winner for Best Revival, Hello Dolly!

Also announced is Cameron Mackintosh's new production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's The Phantom of the Opera; the romantic and adventure-filled new musical Anastasia; the legendary story direct from Broadway, Miss Saigon; and a new Broadway production of Fiddler on the Roof, directed by Tony winner Bartlett



Dallas Summer Musicals

Sher.

In addition, DSM and BAA are welcoming back two audience favorites to Dallas as Season Add-Ons. The musical Elf, based on the film of the same name will return to Dallas just in time for the holiday season. By popular demand, The Book of Mormon, winner of nine Tony Awards including Best Musical, will also return to Dallas for a limited one-week engagement.

It was also announced that the winner of six 2017 Tony Awards, including Best Mu-

sical, and 2018 Grammy Award nominee Dear Evan Hansen will play Dallas as part of the Dallas Summer Musicals 2019-2020 season.

Subscribers for the 2018-2019 season will have first access to reserve their seats for DEAR EVAN HANSEN when they renew their subscription for the 2019-2020 season. The dates and performance schedule will be announced at a later date.

"The stage is set for another amazing season at Dallas Summer Musicals. With so many hits direct from Broadway, we continue to fulfill our promise of bringing the best of Broadway to North Texas. It's the season everyone's been waiting for, so don't miss your chance to be in the room where it happens!" says Kenneth T. Novice, DSM President.

JC Penney selected by Black Enterprise as a Best Companies For Diversity

NEW YORK -- BLACK ENTERPRISE, in collaboration with The Executive Leadership Council, the leading organization of black senior managers, has released its annual listing of the 50 Best Companies for Diversity as featured in the

publication's November/December 2017 issue. These 50 companies recognize the value of the link between diversity and engagement, which is driven by corporate leadership at the highest level.

The three companies from

Texas selected were AT&T, Comerica Bank and JC Penney. Nationally other companies included Merck & Company, Xerox, Fannie Mae, and American Express.

In 2005, BLACK ENTERPRISE began publish-

ing its list of the "Best Companies for Diversity," identifying those corporations that proved to be the best in developing a culture and executing policies that promoted inclusion of African Americans within their workforce, senior man-

agement ranks, corporate boards, and supplier pools.

"At a time when African American executive talent is more abundant than ever, corporations should willingly embrace our inclusion to drive their performance," says BLACK ENTER-

PRISE's President and CEO Earl "Butch" Graves Jr. "The strength of our nation is in its diversity. In order for America to fully realize its potential, African Americans and other minorities must be an integral part of that equation—period."

Dallas businessman appointed to IRS Advisory Council

The Internal Revenue Service has announced the appointment of seven new members to the Internal Revenue Service Advisory Council (IRSAC), and one is from Lewisville. 26-year local businessman, Charles Read, President and CEO of GetPayroll, passed an extensive review process to be

appointed as the Small Business Self-Employed/Wage & Investment (SBSE/W&I) Advisor for the Council.

The IRSAC, established in 1953, is an organized public forum for IRS officials and representatives of the public to discuss various issues in tax administration. The council provides the

IRS Commissioner with relevant feedback, observations, and recommendations.

The IRS strives to appoint members to the IRSAC who represent the taxpaying public, the tax professional community, small and large businesses, academia and the payroll community. It

only makes sense that Mr. Read would be selected for the Council.

Read is a Certified Public Accountant, US Tax Court Practitioner, and the founder and CEO of Custom Payroll Associates Inc. (GetPayroll and the Simon™ Payroll App) in Lewisville, Texas, where he has been preparing

business and individual tax returns since 1991. He leads business development, strategy and operations for a full-service business-to-business payroll and payroll tax processing company that helps small- to medium-sized businesses across the U.S. with direct deposits, debit card loads, printed

checks, payroll deposits, reports and tax filings, year-end Forms W-2 and employer-employee website portals. Read earned his BBA and MBA from the University of North Texas.

Read has been appointed to serve three-year appointments on the council beginning in 2018.

RACE, continued from Page 1

open due to the retirement of State Rep. Helen Giddings.

Of the four candidates running, Deshaundra Lockhart Jones and Carl Sherman, Sr. were present at the forum. Also running are Christopher Graham and Victoria Walton. Jones and Sherman are quite familiar to each other, as they both have served as elected members of the DeSoto City Council. Jones emphasized that she is the only currently-elected official running for the office. Sherman, who has served as the mayor of DeSoto in the past, is currently working as a city manager for Hutchins.

"One of the things I like to bring is a continuation of what I've already brought, which is advances in technology and things that are environmentally responsible," Jones said. "Things that also include positive health options for our individuals. The healthcare costs are rising and the things that are necessary to improve that happen to impact more than one demographic of the population. In addition to that, on the educational forefront, being able to make sure that we have what we need to have

a wholesome, working pool of individuals to attract as well as incentivize the businesses to come to the Southwest region."

Sherman pointed to education and school finance as one of his main reasons for running.

"Approximately \$47 billion (of the state's total budget) is set aside for education, and each session it seems legislators are giving less and less back to the local community" Sherman said. "We've gone from 58 percent, down to 38 percent. In the next two years, we're going to add 80,000 more students to our student population across the State of Texas. That's the size of Lancaster and DeSoto combined. So we need more resources and not less."

In the race for State Representative District 113, only second-time candidate Rhetta Bowers was in attendance. Also running for the seat is Billy Ingram. Bowers comes from a background of broadcast journalism, but set her career aside to raise her children. She said she is now ready to focus on the issues facing the citizens of Texas. She served as Chair of the Dallas Women's March, and ran for the seat in 2016 as



Rhetta Bowers, a Democratic candidate for State Representative District 113, addresses the audience during her turn at the Monday Night Politics forum held on Jan. 15. With Dallas hit by frigid temperatures that day, the crowd was small for the second installment of the series and Bowers was the only HD-113 candidate to make it to Monday night's event. (Photo: David Wilfong / NDG)

well.

"I will tell you that I never planned to run for office," Bowers said. "I truly am a community organizer and only want to make my community a better place. And it just so happened that I ended up in a life of public service just as an appointed official and working whether it was in the community with PTA boards, band booster boards and on the executive committee and just working to make our community better."

The final race presented for the night featured Joe Bogen, a local attorney running for State Senate District 16. Billy Ingram is also running for the office, but was not in attendance on Monday night. Bogen's legal practice has been in criminal defense, and he

points out he has focused on indigent and juvenile clients. He was born in District 16 and like Gonzalez, he identifies himself as part of the new Progressive wing of the Democratic Party.

If chosen in the primary, Bogen will be facing Republican Don Huffines in the general election, a fact that was not lost on the overwhelmingly Democratic crowd. The simplest answers sometimes being the best, Bogen brought laughter and cheers from the crowd when asked by moderator Mercedes Fulbright what he would do for the district if he did not win the race. "Run again," was his short response.

Bogen stated that in his practice he has seen the disparity in how individuals

face the legal system as defendants. He recalled seeing defendants from a murder caught on camera and a police shooting get bailed out the next day, while he's had a teenage client languish in jail from a simple posses-

sion charge.

Monday Night Politics is held every Monday from 6-8 p.m. until March 5 at the African American Museum at Fair Park. The event is always free and open to the public.

RAC

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EEO

Skin color, not credit risk, tied to auto finance, says report

By Charlene Crowell

Nationwide, auto loans represent the third highest category of consumer debt. And according to new research, the color of your skin has a lot to do with how much debt is incurred.

Discrimination in Auto Lending, authored and published by the National Fair Housing Alliance (NFHA), found that despite federal laws banning credit discrimination by race or ethnicity, race remains a key factor in the cost of financing auto loans.

According to the report, "This discrimination has undoubtedly played a part in creating the racial and ethnic wealth gaps and credit access disparities that exist in the U.S. today, and it will ensure that they persist if allowed to continue unchecked."

Like secret shoppers, NFHA sent eight teams of

testers to dealerships to inquire about purchasing the same vehicle. Each team was told to ask the same questions and then report on their experiences. Seven of the teams were non-White and had both higher incomes and credit scores that of the eighth and White tester.

All testers encountered challenges to securing information needed to secure the best auto loan available. However, the Non-White testers noted being treated disrespectfully and receiving a pricier quote for finance than the White testers. Numerically, the sum of experiences found:

75 percent of the time, White testers were offered more financing options than Non-White testers;

62.5 percent of the time, Non-White testers who were more qualified than their White counterparts received more costly pricing

options; and

On average, Non-White testers who experienced discrimination would have paid an average of \$2,662.56 more over the life of the loan than less-qualified White testers.

"Such high rates of discriminatory treatment are alarming and extremely rare in similar audit-style investigations conducted in the mortgage lending industry," states the report. "Although it has its bad actors, the mortgage lending industry has been regulated and monitored for civil rights violations for decades. It is imperative that auto lending regulations, particularly those that are designed to fight discrimination, are similarly robust and regularly enforced."

Earlier research by the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL) reached similar conclusions. A lack of transparency, dealer

mark-ups on interest financing, and practices known as 'loan packing' and 'yo-yo' scams have all been cited by CRL.

Loan packing is a term used to describe how dealerships steer consumers into bundling several services and/or products that effectively boost purchase and finance costs. Often, many consumers do not know is that these products can often be purchased far cheaper if they were to secure them independently of the dealership.

Yo-yo scams in auto financing occur when a consumer drives a car off the dealer lot without finalizing its finance. Technically, if the loan paperwork has not been signed but the consumer has the use of the vehicle – especially overnight or longer -- the consumer unwittingly has taken delivery on the car. By the time the consumer returns, the

dealership hikes the price of the vehicle and interest – the 'yo-yo'. At that point, the consumer has next to no opportunity to negotiate price or finance rates. If a trade-in of an older car is involved, dealerships often tell these kinds of customers that it has already been re-sold.

Commenting on the new NFHA findings, Delvin Davis, a senior CRL researcher said, "Racial discrimination should not be tolerated with any financial product – which makes regulation especially important when the product is one of the most expensive investments a family will make."

In recent years, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) found racial discrimination in interest rate markups, then sued and settled these issues with banks and financing arms of major auto manufacturers. For example, Ally Financial and Ally Bank settled its

lawsuit in 2013 for \$98 million. In 2015, Honda's settlement was \$24 million and Toyota's in 2016 was \$21.9 million.

NFHA also likened auto discrimination to yet another more form of bias that burdens Blacks and other consumers of color.

"Too often the people in this situation are people of color whose neighborhoods have been starved of investment and whose ability to move to neighborhoods that better connect them to opportunity has been constrained by discriminatory policies and practices. And too often, when they seek a loan to finance an auto purchase, they face discrimination again."

The Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA) makes it illegal for creditors to discriminate against credit applicants based on race, color, religion, national ori-

See AUTO, Page 14



Ed Bell Construction Company

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January 1, 2018,

Ed Bell Construction is a Dallas based heavy highway contractor doing business in the North Texas market since 1963. With clients such as TxDOT, Dallas County Public Works, and the Cities of Dallas, Fort Worth, Richardson and Mansfield (plus many others), we have a strong backlog of work in the highway market locally.

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Upcoming DFW area job fairs

Jan. 20

United Protective Services Job Fair

United Protective is a privately held, independent corporation dedicated to providing contract security services throughout the Texas region. They are looking for full time Security Officers that can exhibit a high level of professionalism when interacting with clientele and fellow employees and can meet all state requirements to obtain and maintain a Non-Commissioned Security Officer License in the State of Texas. These positions offer competitive pay rates and benefits. General duties include: responding to any and all medical emergencies on site, properly identifying all tenants and/or visitors upon arrival, staying firm with the rules and regulations for the facility and company, and possessing a dedication to the post and property. Availability must be able to work overnight, on weekends and on holidays. All candidates must be 21 years or older, have no criminal history, and must possess a high school diploma or equivalent and a valid state driver's license in addition to passing a drug urinalysis test. All job seekers are encouraged to schedule an interview ahead of time by calling 214-342-5300. The fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at



6500 Greenville Avenue, Suite 525, Dallas.

Jan. 21 & 28

Six Flags Over Texas Job Fair

Six Flags Over Texas is hosting a job fair with on-the-spot job offers for many positions. Walk-ins are welcome to this hiring event. Interested applicants should complete an application online at sixflagsjobs.com. Applications should be completed prior to interviewing at the job fair. Team members will receive perks such as: pay above minimum wage, free park admission, health benefits, private employee benefits, reward programs, on-site training, flexible scheduling, a weekly pay day, and mentor programs. Positions include areas such as life-guarding, retail, guest services, entertainment, cooking, and ride operations. The company is looking for hard-working, enthusiastic and eager individuals who are ready for a challenging and rewarding position. This fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 2201 E Road to Six Flags Street, Arlington.

Jan. 23 & 24

EOS USA Hiring Event

EOS USA is hosting an onsite job fair to fill multiple full time Collection Specialist positions in their growing call center. All job seekers are encouraged to bring a copy of their his/her resume to this event, as hiring managers will be onsite to conduct interviews on both days. All candidates must clear a drug test and standard background check and must possess a professional reference and high school diploma or GED equivalent to be considered. For questions, please contact Lauren Sacchetti at 781-753-4340. This fair will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 23 and Wednesday, Jan. 24 at 4099 McEwen Road, Suite 700, Dallas.

Jan. 24

Penn Apartment Staffing Job Fair

Penn Apartment Staffing provides quality full-time and temporary staffing for the apartment industry in Dallas, Fort Worth, and Houston by recruiting candidates to meet all of a community's staffing needs. The company matches qualified candidates with positions such as: Property Manager, Assistant Manager, Leasing Consultant, Lead Maintenance, Assistant Maintenance, Make Ready, and

Porter / Groundskeeper positions for Direct Hire, Temp-to-Perm, and Temporary opportunities. All job seekers are encouraged to book their spot for this job fair online at pennapartmentstaffing.com. This fair will be from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at 10300 North Central Expressway, Dallas.

Jan. 24 & 25

Pilot Flying J Job Fair

Pilot Flying J is looking to hire new managers to join one of the leaders in the retail and restaurant industries and assisting in bringing quality customer service to each and every location which serves a million and a half customers a day. With over 650 retail locations and over 350 restaurants, the company is looking to hire positions such as: retail general managers, deli managers, kitchen managers, and retail and deli shift managers. All candidates must have basic knowledge of the principles and methods behind showing, promoting and selling products or services, the ability to coach and develop others with exceptional people management skills, and the ability to analyze, interpret and act on data to achieve desired business objectives. Benefits include: Nationwide medical/dental/vision plan, 401(k), flexible spending accounts, adoption as-

sistance, tuition reimbursement, flexible schedules, and weekly pay. Job seekers are encouraged to dress business casual and bring copies of their resume. This fair will be from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 24 and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 25 at the DoubleTree by Hilton located at 2015 Market Center Boulevard, Dallas.

Jan. 30

Richardson Recruiting Event and Career Fair

This fair allows job seekers and potential employees to meet face-to-face with hiring managers looking to fill more than one hundred job openings. Free resume reviews will also be available by DFW Resume's Sara Timm. All jobs require U.S. citizenship and a minimum two years of industry experience on top of a degree.

There will be a cocktail reception after the Career Fair from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. The fair will be held from 3

p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Richardson Civic Center located at 411 West Arapaho Road, Suite 102, Richardson.

Jan. 31

Plano Career Fair

Participants are invited to this free career fair to 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 will be there 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 job seekers. Attend the career fair and get in front of decision makers. This fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Plano Event Centre located at 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway, Plano.

Paid Internship opportunity for writers, college students in the Dallas Area

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.



The position is for up to 20 hours a week at \$8.00 per hour. Applicants must have reliable transportation.

Send resume and writing samples to: businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com

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BETHEL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP, CARROLLTON (A PLACE TO BELONG)

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 and start the New Year off blessed.

January 21, 2018, 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.

January 24, 2018, 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"

January 21, 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.

January 24, 2018

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

January 19, 7 p.m.

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

January 21, 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.

January 22, 2018, 7 p.m.

Join us in Monday School as we grow in God's Word; and learn what God has to say to us.

Also, January 28, 2018 Every 2nd and 4th Sunday

Reserve your seat at Rush-restaurant; it's all you can eat as long as you can eat. It's after Morning Worship Service. See you there!

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)

January 21, 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.

January 24, 2018, 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)

January 21, 7 a.m.

Join us for our Early Service or our Morning Worship Service as we praise and worship God, you will be blessed.

January 24, 2018, 7 pm

Join us at our Wednesday's Intercessory as we pray to God for others.

Dr. Tommy L. Brown, Ed. D. Senior Pastor
9550 Shepherd Road
Dallas, TX 75243
214-341-6459
nmzbcofdallas@aol.com
SHILOH MBC

terms were offered.

A second federal law, Unfair, deceptive, or abusive acts and practices (UDAAP) went into effect with the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Act. Under UDAAP financial product and service providers are not allowed to coerce or deceive consumers into making unwanted purchases. They are also not allowed to mislead consumers through specific statements or through a lack of clear and full disclosure.

"NFHA's investigation is timely and underscores the

need to maintain strong anti-discriminatory protections and enforcement, including the Consumer Bureau's indirect auto lending guidance that addresses discriminatory pricing in the auto financing market," said Mike Calhoun, President of the Center for Responsible Lending. "We commend NFHA for their incredible work and urge lawmakers at the state and federal level to use their power to fight against this type of unlawful discrimination and financial abuse."

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.

January 21, 2018

You are invited to our morning worship at 10 a.m. Sunday School will begin at 8:30 a.m. We would love to have you at our services.

January 24, 2018, 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."

January 27, 10 am

Our Career Connections Ministry will host a "First Impression" Workshop. Everyone is welcomed.

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

Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr. Senior Pastor
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AUTO, continued from Page 12

gin, sex, marital status, or age.

Under this law, consumers have the right to:

- Know whether your application was accepted or rejected within 30 days of filing a complete application.

- Know why your application was rejected. The creditor must tell you the specific reason for the rejection or that you are entitled to learn the reason if you ask within 60 days. An acceptable reason might be: "your income was too low" or

"you haven't been employed long enough." An unacceptable reason might be "you didn't meet our minimum standards." That information isn't specific enough.

- Learn the specific reason you were offered less favorable terms than you applied for, but only if you reject these terms. For example, if the lender offers you a smaller loan or a higher interest rate, and you don't accept the offer, you have the right to know why those

Let us not forget, Dr. Martin L. King, Jr.



Sister Tarpley

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

Editor's Note: For the month of January, Sis. Tarpley is spotlighting the wisdom and contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King. This is Part 2 in a four-part series.

It has been said, "That it is not when a man was born or when he died that makes the difference in his life and his legacy; it is the dash or space between his birth and his death."

Dr. King was born Michael Luther King, Jr., but later he had his name changed to Martin. His grandfather began the family's tenure as pastors of the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta honoring and praising God, he served from 1914 to 1931.

Dr. King's father served from then until his death; and from 1960 until his death Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. acted as co-pastor.

He attended segregated public schools in Georgia, graduating from high school at the age of 15; he received his BA degree in 1948 from Morehouse College, a HBCU (Historical Black College and University) a distinguished institution of Atlanta from which both his father and grandfather had graduated.

After three years of theo-

logical study at Crozer a Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania where he was elected president of a predominantly White senior class, he was awarded the BD in 1951. Dr. King received his doctorate degree in 1955.

In Boston he met and married Coretta Scott, a young woman of uncommon intellectual and artistic attainments. Two sons and two daughters were born into the family.

In 1954, Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. became pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama.

He was a member of the executive committee of the NACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) the leading organization of its kind in the nation.

In December 1955 he accepted the leadership of the first Black nonviolent demonstration of contemporary times in the United States; the bus boycott lasted 382 days.

On December 21, 1956, after the Supreme Court of the United States had declared unconstitutional the laws requiring segregation on buses, everyone rode the buses as equals.

In 1957 Dr. King was elected president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), an organization formed to provide new leadership for the now burgeoning civil rights movement.

The ideals for this organi-

zation Dr. King took from Christianity; and its operational techniques from Gandhi.

In the eleven-year period between 1957 and 1968, Dr. King traveled over six million miles and spoke over twenty-five hundred times,

appearing wherever there was injustice, protest, and action; meanwhile he wrote five books as well as numerous articles.

In these years, he led a massive protest in Birmingham, Alabama, that caught the attention of the entire

world, providing what he called a coalition of conscience.

Dr. King planned voter registration drives in Alabama and he directed the peaceful march on Washington, D.C. of 250,000 people to whom he delivered his address, "I Have a Dream."

He conferred with President John F. Kennedy and campaigned for President Lyndon B. Johnson.

He was awarded five honorary degrees; was named Man of the Year by Time magazine in 1963; and became not only the symbolic leader of American Blacks but also a world figure.

At the age of thirty-five, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was the youngest man to have received the Nobel Peace Prize.

When notified of his selection, he announced that he would turn over the prize money of \$54,123 to the furtherance of the civil rights movement.

Christian Wisdom and Quotes: "It is impossible for a person not to be puffed up by his good works unless he has first been deflated and destroyed by suffering and evil to the point that he knows that he is worthless and that his works are not his but God's."



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
(January 15, 1929-April 4, 1968)

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NDGtv

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

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

Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com

LIFE

Sundays | 10:30 AM

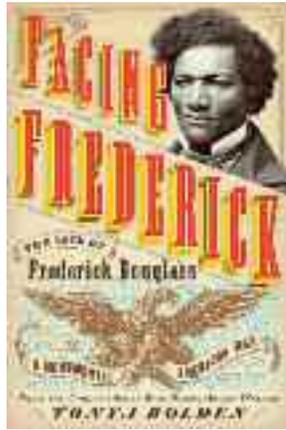
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NDG Book Review - Facing Frederick is a story of persistence

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You're not backing down. There's a line in the sand and nobody's crossing it on your watch. When something isn't right and you can fix it, you're going to defend it, too, even if it costs you. As you'll see in "Facing Frederick" by Tonya Bolden, if you lived in the mid-1800s, you'd be in good company.

Though he really didn't like to talk about it much, Frederick Douglass had been through things that were unimaginable. From the moment he was born into slavery, he was taken from his



mother, who died when Frederick was small. At age six, his owner removed him from his grandparents' farm to a plantation house; there, he slept on the floor of a closet. He was hired out to a

slavemaster who beat him for no reason at all, and he worked as a shipbuilder before escaping from bondage.

Douglass didn't like to talk about his life – but he had to. As a young man, he gained recognition as an orator and newspaper publisher, but people thought he was a “fake.” He grew awfully sick of that and so he wrote a book, to great acclaim, though doing so was dangerous: Douglass used several aliases in his anti-slavery activism, and his book finally laid bare the whole truth. Finding safety in Great Britain, he became a celebrity there, and met

some men who further influenced his life and his work.

Following his time in Great Britain, he returned to America and started an anti-slavery newspaper with donations he'd received while overseas. The paper faltered later because Douglass “miscalculated,” but that setback didn't cause him to lose sight of his goal; in fact, it strengthened his anti-slavery ideals. He and his family became conductors on the Underground Railroad, moving people up through New England into Canada.

“With the outbreak of the Civil War,” says Bolden, “Frederick's hopes soared.”

But he still wasn't happy: Black soldiers weren't allowed to do their part in the War, and Douglass wanted that changed. Finally, on August 10, 1863, he went to the White House. The man who was once a little boy who slept on the floor of a closet had an appointment with President Lincoln...

Filled with excerpts from diaries, newspaper articles, bits of speeches, and reproductions of photographs, “Facing Frederick” is a great book with a powerful story.

Getting the full extent from of it, I think, will depend on the age of its reader.

Because it wouldn't be the

same biography without dates and accounts of Douglass' travels and actions, there's a lot in here and this book can be hard-to-follow. Older kids on a 10-to-14-year-old spectrum shouldn't have any problem with it; it's lively enough between the dates-and-facts to keep that age group's attention. Kids on the younger side may struggle with too many facts.

Even so, let them try. “Facing Frederick,” published in honor of the 200th anniversary of Douglass' birthday, is a big story that's too important to miss. They may not be able to put it down.

DCHHS reports seven additional flu-related deaths of season

Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) is reporting seven additional flu-related deaths in Dallas County totaling 38 flu-related deaths for the 2017-2018 season. The patients range in age from 51 to 89 and were residents of Cedar Hill, Dallas, Garland, DeSoto and Rowlett. All patients had high risk health conditions and died after

complications from the seasonal flu. For medical confidentiality and personal privacy reasons, DCHHS does not provide additional identifying information.

“Older adults, individuals with chronic health conditions, pregnant women, young children and infants are more vulnerable to flu illness,” said Dr. Christopher Perkins, DCHHS

health authority/medical director. “With influenza activity on the rise, individuals in these groups should take special precaution as we continue throughout the season.”

“Staying home when you are sick and practicing good health habits like covering your cough and washing your hands helps stop the

spread of germs and prevents respiratory illnesses like the flu.” said Ganesh Shivamaiyer, DCHHS interim director. “If you have a high risk condition, remember to stay away from individuals who have flu like symptoms.”

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends a

yearly flu vaccine for all persons aged 6 months and older, with rare exception. Individuals should discuss flu vaccine concerns with a health care provider. The flu vaccine DCHHS provides is an all-in-one shot that protects against multiple flu strains including the H1N1 virus.

The adult flu vaccine is

given in the adult immunization clinic on the first floor at the DCHHS building located at 2377 N. Stemmons Frwy in Dallas. The children's vaccine is available at all DCHHS immunization clinics. Clinic hours are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information call 214-819-2162

8 Ways You Can Stop the Spread and Prevent the Flu

1. Maintain a healthy lifestyle through rest, diet, exercise, and relaxation.
2. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand cleaner if soap and water are not available. Be sure to wash your hands after coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose.
3. Avoid touching your nose, mouth, and eyes to stop the spread of germs.
4. Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue, or cough and sneeze into your elbow. Dispose of tissues in no-touch trash receptacles.
5. Keep frequently touched common surfaces clean, such as telephones, computer keyboards, door-knobs, etc.
6. Do not use other workers' phones, desks, offices, or other work tools and

equipment. If you need to use a co-worker's phone, desk, or other equipment, clean it first.

7. Don't spread the flu! If you are sick with flu-like illness, stay home. Symptoms of flu include fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit or 38 degrees Celsius), chills, cough, sore throat, runny nose, body aches, headache, tiredness, diarrhea, or vomiting. The CDC recommends that those sick with flu-like illness stay home from work or school until at least 24 hours after they are free of fever without the use of fever-reducing medicines.

8. Get vaccinated against seasonal flu when the vaccine is available in your area.

For more information about priority groups for vaccination, visit www.flu.gov.

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