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Alliance of groups moving to reform Dallas bail system

By David Wilfong
NDG Contributing Writer

Throughout the public forums held for judges' races in the Dallas County Democratic primary, the issue of bail reform was constantly raised by candidates seeking election. Outside the political arena, two separate efforts are underway to address the matter; one challenging the current system, and one seeking to provide relief to those incarcerated under the current rules.

The complaint about the current bail system is the fact that being able to post bail prior to trial creates an unfair hardship for poorer defendants.

The newest movement for change comes from a local organization calling itself the Community Bail Fund of North Texas. Headed by Chairperson Manuel Valles Tellez, the group seeks to provide grants for economically disadvantaged citizens who find themselves under arrest and unable to make bail on their own.

Tellez grew up in the small panhandle community of Borger, and dreamed of coming to Dallas as he saw it as the "Big City." Working in marketing, he says he loves Dallas life, but began to notice disparities between the different local populations. The difference is especially



An arrest for even a misdemeanor or low-level felony can be a life-changing catastrophe for low income defendants who cannot afford to bail out of jail. (Photo: Elvert Barnes / Flickr)

stark in the area of criminal justice.

"It's set up really to punish people who are poor and especially people who are minorities," Tellez said. "Whether you are talking about sentencing or the way cops conduct themselves, but especially when it comes to the bail system. The way the bail system is currently set up is that if you have money, or access to money, or know someone who has money, then you'll be hauled into Lew Sterritt and as long as the crime you commit isn't too, too serious; you are able to get out within a reasonable amount of time."

Normally those short on cash would turn to a bail bond company, but Tellez points out those compa-

nies are looking to make a profit, so they naturally gravitate towards cases with a higher bail amount than some minor offenses receive, leaving a window of need that is too often unmet. Too many times, Tellez said, defendants take a guilty plea just to get out of jail and get back to their jobs and lives.

"The down side to that is that they have a conviction on their record," Tellez said. "The flip side to that is they can wait to fight it out in court. The unfortunate thing is that if you're working to pay bills, chances are your employer isn't going to wait around a week, or two weeks,

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READERS SOUND OFF!!!

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



Oprah Winfrey

The staff and volunteers at Minnie's Food Pantry are excitedly awaiting the delivery of Oprah Winfrey's new food line, O That's Good.

On Monday, March 26, 2018, the national non-profit will welcome this delivery of healthy soups and sides made with a nutritional twist. With Oprah Winfrey confirmed as the keynote speaker for Minnie's Food Pantry's 10th Annual Feed Just One Gala on April 3rd, it's fitting that their clients will receive her food as well.

Albertson's/Tom Thumb, Fossil, Toyota and a host of other companies, have joined forces with Minnie's



Food Pantry to support the 10th Annual Feed Just One Gala. Albertson's/Tom Thumb is the title sponsor and Fossil Group is the premier sponsor for the event. Toyota is the presenting sponsor of the event and the Minnie Ewing-Legacy

Award. 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. This year's honorees for the Minnie Ewing-Legacy Award are 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.

Other sponsors for the 10th Annual Feed Just One

Gala include Jersey Mike's Subs, Rembert Custom Builders, H-E-B, Central Market, O'Neil Wysocki P.C., GXA Network Solutions, Dr. Venus Opal Reese, Dr. Pepper Snapple Group, IBB Design, K. Rashae, Sandy Nachman, Merrill Lynch, US Trust, Cawley Management, TJX, At Home, Rent A Center, Flexpress Digital, The Real McCoy's, Wells Fargo and Ideal Dental. Literary agents, Jan Miller and Jeff Rich and former major league baseball player, Torii Hunter and his wife, Katrina, will serve as the honorary chairs.

This star-studded, black-tie event will be held on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 in Collin County, Texas. The

red-carpet will start at 5:30 p.m. and the dinner and program will start at 7 p.m. The 10th Annual Feed Just One Gala will bring Hollywood to Texas, with numerous celebrities confirmed including Hollywood actress, Brely Evans, who will serve as the red-carpet host; New York Giants linebacker, Keenan Robinson and his wife, Lauren; megachurch pastors Bishop T.D. Jakes and Mrs. Serita Jakes, Joel and Victoria Osteen, and John and Averter Gray; NFL Hall of Famer Emmitt and Pat Smith; and boxing legend, Floyd Mayweather. The gala will include performances by Grammy award-winning gospel recording artists, Israel

Houghton and Donnie McClurkin. Kevin Frazier of Entertainment Tonight will host the event and Oprah Winfrey will be the keynote speaker.

The evening will include dinner, a live auction, remarks from Oprah Winfrey and other surprises to be announced.

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

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Jackie Crenshaw-Young

By Jazlyn Mercer
NDG Staff Writer

Jacquelyn Crenshaw-Young, known as Jackie, has learned how to stop and try again, with a smile on her face.

Jackie is a certified nurse aid for Right at Home of Dallas. She takes care of elderly families with tasks such as bathing clients, help to get them dressed, assisting them as they get up and down and administering medicine for each client's specific daily needs. Jackie



has learned the art of patience, she says.

It's not rare for clients to refuse her help. She stops, redirects the situation, and tries again. The smile never

wanes, and her help never fails to extend.

Her kind heart is infectious, according to testimonies by her clients. Jackie goes above and beyond to ensure her clients are taken care of. Her kind heart is so large that she was listed as a family member on one of her client's obituaries.

The care she gives has not gone unnoticed. This year Jackie won the Caregiver of the Year award amongst all of the Right at Home franchises throughout the U.S. and seven other countries.

Every year each office from over 500 franchise lo-

cations has the opportunity to nominate their own caregiver of the year. Once nominated, a committee based in Omaha makes the decision based on client testimonials on who will win the highest achievement of caregiver of the year. Jackie was the winner of the entire central region.

Jackie can handle any challenge, according to Harley Cohen, the owner of Right at Home of Dallas franchise.

"She has such a huge heart, she can adapt to every client, she has a fun loving way," said Cohen. "She

knows how to connect with them, and when it gets really hard she never gives up."

Cohen has been the owner of the North Dallas Right at Home for 13 years. In all his years, he has never had a caregiver win this award. Jackie has been at Right at Home on and off since 2006.

She couldn't believe it when she was told she won the award. "It's a blessing from God," she said. "I cannot even believe it."

Jackie says that the reason she takes such good care of her clients is the fact she keeps in mind that one day she and her husband will

need someone to care for them.

"When someone has to take care of us, and clean our bottoms and make us meals we want someone who is happy," she said.

Jackie works long 12-hour shifts. She believes the only way she can do it is to have a good spirit and to stay uplifted. She has learned how to meet the individual needs of her clients and to do it while staying positive.

Right at Home North Dallas hosted a celebratory dinner March 22 in honor of Jackie and her new award.

NDG Readers Sound Off...

It's All About the Money: Stats on African American Progress are Sobering

Excellent article full of facts/statistics/science.

EPI economic analyst Janelle Jones said "Solutions must be BOLD and to SCALE, which means we need structural change that eliminates the barriers that have stymied economic progress for generations of African American workers."

While certainly policy and social changes need to occur, an underlying and

foundational "individual health and mental competence issue" needs to be addressed. By this statement, I mean that African Americans are "deliberately" being targeted to have poor health, lower I.Q. and to have behavioral problems like ADHD, or violent tendencies, or fatigue and lethargy.

African Americans are deliberately being poisoned by the Fluoride based substances which the Dallas City Council has chosen to add to the water. The science is very clear. The science is abundant. There is not one scientific study

which says that swallowing these fluoride chemicals is safe for everyone. The Dallas Council refuses to show any science safety study.

Many problems with health, expected lower I.Q. and unwanted behavior problems more profoundly affect the African American community than their Caucasian counterparts. By 4-6 times the effect. Or more.

Agencies like the EPA or CDC have been hiding these facts. The documentation is there. The science is there. In fact, currently the EPA and citizens are suing the EPA. You heard that right. The EPA is suing

the EPA because of the harmful effects.

See how the CDC has a long history of harming African Americans. Deliberately.

Scroll down the website to the "North Dallas Gazette" feature on this website...

<http://www.DallasForSaferWater.com> also known as <http://www.dogsagainstfluoridation.com>.

- TomT

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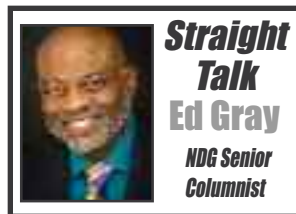


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From Boys to Men: A journey to feminism



Straight Talk
Ed Gray
NDG Senior Columnist

As a man, it's always hard to write about women. It shouldn't be; however, you risk the chance of not knowing what to say. More than likely you will say too much or not enough.

With that being the challenge, let me begin by saying men have heard the roar of an empowered sisterhood. I grew up in an unrepentant sexist world in the sixties and seventies. As a young man, I was influenced by the rights and privileges borne to me as a boy.

Let's face it, as a boy you could be called "mannish," and people would laugh at you, because it is expected that boys were little men with all their flaws. I could be loud and abrasive as a boy, and people would say,

"Boys are just being boys." But assertive girls were told to be more ladylike. Girls were taught that boys were to be aggressive and assertive and girls were to defer to boys — even if the girls came in first place. To be a girl, you were taught to defer to the boys.

looked first for promotions. It was said that women couldn't handle the stress due to their menstruation cycles. Yeah it's true. That's the word in the suites of corporate America as men had another drink. "Women just couldn't measure up," they said. That was the

times but in my role as a father and protector. I could not protect them as I sent them into a world dominated by patriarchy. Would they enter a workforce where they would be valued by their intelligence and hard work? Would they be limited by being too intelligent for those men who were not as talented? Would their physical attractiveness make them unwilling targets of unwanted sexual advances? These are not the issues my son would ever encounter.

Women have come a long way since 1980. When I entered the workplace, there were some jobs in my industry women didn't do. Now they run entire departments, divisions, and companies. My daughters have fought battles in which I won't have to say "me too." They have made it through the fire. However, it's a new day and I wonder what fires my granddaughter will have to fight.

“The evolution of man probably began with a woman telling a caveman not to play with fire. My true evolution as a man began with having four daughters.”

As I transitioned from being a boy to man, not much changed. In the hiring of employees, young men were hired first over young women because employers feared lost production. It was believed that because women bore children, they would become a liability. As we both, young men and women climbed the corporate ladder, men were

labor force I entered in 1980. The evolution of man probably began with a woman telling a caveman not to play with fire. My true evolution as a man began with having four daughters. As I got older I wondered what type of workforce they would enter. My sensibilities changed not necessarily with the

A responsible budget

By Congresswoman
Eddie Bernice Johnson

The recent passage by a bipartisan Congress of a \$1.3 trillion spending bill was a clear victory for proponents of justice and fairness in our country, and a decisive rejection of President Trump's attempt to eliminate funding for proven programs that are vitally important to the American people.

Clearly disappointed, Trump signed the legislation saying that he wanted to ensure that the military was properly funded. It was! If the president and his financial advisors had their way many of the programs that have provided safety nets for those in need of assistance, for seniors, students, and small business owners would have been gutted.

The budget that the president proposed was limited by its lack of vision and its heartlessness, because it was designed to carry water for the wealthiest Americans,



On March 23, 2018 Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson hosted her 15th Annual Math and Science Lecture Series with keynote speaker Captain Barrington Irving.

leaving the middle class and the poor in dire straits.

The budget that the Congress passed rejected the administration's attempts to scale back or cease successful programs and policies in the Department of Education.

The president's education secretary, Betsy DeVos, wanted to eliminate two programs that serve k-12 students. One of the programs provides funding for after-school activities for nearly two million school children.

A second educational program that the administration

wanted to abandon provides mental health and violence abatement programs in public schools.

While Ms. DeVos and President Trump wanted to slash spending on education, the Congress actually increased the department's budget by approximately \$4 billion.

As lawmakers we understand the importance of programs that enrich the American experience. As a result we rejected attempts by the administration to eliminate funding for the National En-

dowment for Humanities and the National Endowment for the Arts. We allocated \$153 million for each entity.

Proposed cuts by the president in the areas of foreign aid, the environment, aid to historically black colleges and universities and to the State Department were also rebuffed.

The president had requested a \$6 billion reduction in the budget for the Department of Housing and Urban Development run by Dr. Ben Carson.

Among the programs he wished to eliminate was one that repaired public housing infrastructure.

It would have been devastating if he had gotten his wish. Yet, emboldened and compassionate members of Congress stood up to the president and said no.

We then provided our nation with a reasonable and responsible spending program designed to assist our nation and its people.

Pen-like device that detects cancer takes a top prize at South by Southwest

A University of Texas at Austin professor and her team were honored with a prestigious SXSW Interactive Innovation Award for the MasSpec Pen, a device that will allow surgeons to identify cancerous tissue in seconds.

"This is special for our team because South by Southwest is an Austin event, and the MasSpec Pen is something that we developed in Austin," said Livia S. Eberlin, an assistant professor of chemistry who led the team that created the MasSpec Pen.

Eberlin and her team won in the Health, Med, and Biotech category, beating out competitors from Georgia, Virginia, California and Austin.



Jialing Zhang demonstrates using the MasSpec Pen on a human tissue sample. Vivian Abagiu/University of Texas at Austin

The MasSpec Pen is a handheld instrument that gives surgeons precise diagnostic information about what tissue to cut or preserve during cancer surgery. Currently awaiting clinical trials in humans, it is projected to improve treatment and reduce the chances of cancer recurrence. It works like this: A surgeon gently touches the tip of the pen to the tissue during surgery. Within the tip, a tiny drop of water is exposed to the tissue. All living cells, healthy or cancer-

ous, produce small molecules called metabolites. Each type of cancer produces specific metabolites that act like a fingerprint. The water droplet at the end of the pen captures these metabolites and pulls the molecules up through a tube to a mass spectrometer that can analyze the molecules and return results in about 10 seconds. The current state-of-the-art method for diagnosing cancers and determining the boundary between cancer and normal tissue during surgery is pathologic evaluation, a process that can be subjective and takes closer to 30 minutes for completion.

Eberlin and her team say the new innovation would expedite cancer surgery and

thus reduce risk to cancer patients of infection and negative effects of anesthesia. And because for some types of cancers, the pathology evaluation yields unreliable results in as many as 10 to 20 percent of cases, the MasSpec Pen is also needed to ensure effectiveness: In tests on human cancer tissue, the MasSpec Pen was accurate in 96 percent of cases.

Eberlin and her team are currently preparing for testing in clinics at Dell Medical School, MD Anderson Cancer Center and Baylor College of Medicine. Other scientists representing the MasSpec Pen team at SXSW are Jialing Zhang, Marta Sans, Noah Giese, Aydin Zahedivash, and

Nitesh Katta.

The MasSpec Pen beat out several other pieces of technology to win the award including an exoskeleton vest for construction workers that reduces fatigue and injury, an augmented reality physical therapy device and an Austin-based project to use music to help people walk again.

"We're thankful that the judges and the public are excited about this technology," Eberlin said. "The MasSpec Pen could have a huge impact on how we treat cancer and cancer patients. We believe it has what it takes to become a medical device that will improve patient care and human health."

Johnson & Johnson, Be The Match, and DoSomething.org team up with Duo Ayo & Teo for Give a Spit About Cancer campaign

NEW YORK -- According to the American Cancer Society, in 2018, there will be an estimated 1,735,350 new cancer cases diagnosed. Of that figure, an estimated 10,590 new cancer cases will be diagnosed among children 0 to 14 years of age. 70% of patients who need a bone marrow transplant rely on a complete stranger for a life-saving donation, but black patients only have a 23% chance of finding a donor match. That's why DoSomething.org, one of the largest organizations for young people and social change, and Johnson & Johnson are teaming up with brother duo Ayo & Teo for "Give a Spit About Cancer," an effort to get more young and diverse people to join the Be The Match Registry as potential bone marrow donors.

When it comes to needing a bone marrow transplant, white patients have a 77% chance of finding a matched donor, however black patients only have a 23% chance of finding a donor match. The goal of this year's campaign is to get as many young people as possible to join the national bone marrow registry. The more diverse the registry, the more of an increase in potential donors there will be for all patients.



Courtesy photo

"We're excited for the opportunity to join forces with Johnson & Johnson once

again," said Dezmon Gilmore, Head of PR & Talent Relations at DoSome-

thing.org. "We've helped

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1807	Super Loteria Overall Odds are 1 in 3.77	\$5	5/23/18	11/19/18
1855	Cowboys Overall Odds are 1 in 3.99	\$5	5/23/18	11/19/18
1856	Houston Texans Overall Odds are 1 in 3.99	\$5	5/23/18	11/19/18
2000	Día De Los Muertos Overall Odds are 1 in 3.52	\$5	5/23/18	11/19/18

For detailed odds and game information, visit texaslottery.com or call 800-375-6338. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. The Texas Lottery supports Texas education and research. PLAY RESPONSIBLY. For help with a gambling problem, call supportmg.org. © 2018 Texas Lottery Commission. All rights reserved.

TEXAS LOTTERY

Texas urged to sue Trump over the 2020 Census questionnaire decision

AUSTIN - Late Monday, the Trump Administration through the Commerce Department, announced its decision to include a question about citizenship on the 2020 U.S. Census. The inclusion of the citizenship question is expected to adversely impact states with high immigrant populations, such as Texas.

"Texas stands to gain from a full and accurate count of ALL Texas residents. The 2020 Census is also vitally important to the future of our local communities. The data gathered will determine funding for vital local services, such as education, health care and transportation, and it will also affect

representation at all levels of government," Rep. César J. Blanco said.

It is expected that a citizenship question will lead to a substantial undercount in Texas' population, especially along the Texas-Mexico border. Trump's census citizenship question threatens Texas' political representa-

tion, apportionment, and federal funding for critical infrastructure and services. A citizenship question has not been included in a U.S. Census for almost 70 years. In response to the Commerce Department's announcement, Texas State Representative César Blanco is urging Governor Abbott and Attorney

General Paxton to sue the Trump Administration to block the inclusion of the citizenship question.

"Today, I am calling on Governor Abbott and Attorney General Paxton to stand up for Texas and sue the Trump Administration to block the inclusion of the citizenship question. Texas is a

fast growing state with growing needs and is also poised to gain up to 3 new congressional seats. Any decision by the Trump Administration that dilutes Texas' political representation and reduces future federal funding hurts our communities, businesses, and working families," Rep. César J. Blanco

AARP Texas helps taxpayers avoid IRS imposters and related scams

AUSTIN, TX – As tax time approaches, AARP's Fraud Watch Network and AARP Texas are joining in efforts to help Texan taxpayers avoid criminal imposters who aim to defraud them. The problem is serious, with the Federal Trade Commission reporting that tax fraud ranked second in 2017 in types of identity theft reported, as over 82,000 reports were made last year. But a new poll from AARP, which surveyed 1,005 Americans by phone, reveals that people may have a false sense of security, as three-fifths (62 percent) report they're either extremely confident or very confident in their ability to detect fraud.

AARP Texas is participating in the organization's robust antifraud efforts, which currently include a free fraud helpline (877-908-3360). In Dallas and Austin, AARP is hosting a series of free shredding events to help people properly dispose of their personal and financial documents. Other resources include a "Tax ID Theft" tip sheet, and a new podcast series, called "The Perfect



US Air Force

Scam." The series features tips from Frank Abagnale, whose personal story inspired the Spielberg film, "Catch Me if You Can," who now advises the FBI on how to outsmart con artists. Also, the April issue of AARP Bulletin will more broadly examine fraud and scams.

"We see repeatedly that scammers who impersonate the Internal Revenue Service work year round at trying to swindle Texans, and they're particularly relentless in April," said Bob Jackson, state director at AARP Texas. "While there's no simple solution, you can outsmart cons: file your taxes early, before they beat you to it, shred financial documents you no

longer need and beware of high pressure tactics. The IRS will not call and threaten arrest for taxes owed, and they certainly won't ask for a gift card as a form of payment, but imposters will."

In its new poll, AARP found that many consumers are woefully at risk for the onslaught of Internal Revenue Service (IRS) scammers. Key findings include:

- IRS scammers keep calling until they land victims, with one in four respondents (25 percent) receiving a phony call from someone impersonating an IRS agent over the last year.

- Nearly four out of five respondents (79 percent) haven't ordered a free copy of their credit report in the

past 12 months.

- The IRS does not email or text for your information, but more than a quarter of respondents (26 percent) incorrectly believe or are uncertain about whether the IRS can text or email requests for personal or financial information.

Criminals impersonating the IRS often make aggressive threats – of arrest, court action, confiscation of property, or even deportation unless they make immediate payment. The AARP campaign advises consumers that legitimate IRS repre-

sentatives do not:

- Call you to demand immediate payment.

- Call you about taxes owed without first having contacted you by mail.

- Require you to use a specific payment method for your taxes, such as a gift card, prepaid debit card, or ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

- Threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.

For more information about the IRS scam and other tax-related frauds,

visit www.aarp.org/Fraud-WatchNetwork. Consumers who think that they are being targeted by a scammer may call the AARP Fraud Helpline at 877-908-3360 and speak with a volunteer trained in fraud counseling.

"The Perfect Scam" podcast will launch on April 6 and will be available AARP's website and on popular podcasting platforms.

The Dallas and Austin free shredding events take

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County, Texas, 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 through features on national television shows including, Good Morning America, ELLEN, Steve Harvey TV and The Food Network. Through supplemental food assistance, educational resources and sup-

port from the community, Minnie's Food Pantry has changed the stigma associated with hunger and are further reducing hunger by expanding into schools across the country. Over the years, many corporate sponsors and celebrities have joined Minnie's Food Pantry in the fight to reduce hunger including former MLB pitcher Latroy and Anita Hawkins, Dallas Mavericks owner and

business mogul Mark Cuban, Hollywood actresses Meagan Good and Regina King, movie producers DeVon Franklin and Will Packer, pop superstar Rihanna, recording artists Kenny Lattimore and BeBe Winans and now global media leader Oprah Winfrey.

To purchase tables, tickets or sponsorships, please email Zoya@MinniesFoodPantry.org or call (214) 709-4449.



Support staff of DISD urges school board for wage increase

By Jazlyn Mercer
NDG Staff

The Dallas ISD (DISD) school board met Thursday for a regular agenda meeting. During the public forum of non-agenda items, many DISD support staff members came forward to be persistent about a wage increase.

The support staff has asked before at previous meetings; however, the board has not addressed their concerns.

Shawna Washington, an administrative assistant at the Northeast Maintenance



Craigclark / Pixabay

Quadrant, urged the board to make it their priority to give support staff a three percent wage increase. She went on to tell the board and community members about how support staff are the

lowest paid employees, often resulting in the employees forced to work multiple jobs.

“In many cases, these employees are single parents with children who at-

tend schools, here in DISD, when we consider paying DISD employees a livable wage we must consider both the employees and the example we are setting for other districts to model,” Washington said.

Rosario Zamudio, a teacher assistant at Nathaniel Hawthorne, also stood up to speak at the public forum. She, too, urged the board to make compensation for support staff a top priority in next years’ budget. She believes the same respect should be given to all employees of all levels in the district.

“You may say we sound like a broken record, but to be fair, support employees have been promised and left out when it comes to compensation for the last couple of years. We are taking home less every year because of increase premiums, yet we still show up and do our jobs because the kids are worth it,” said Zamudio.

With the support staff that represented DISD at the school board meeting, other organizations joined with them in support of an increased compensation for DISD support staff. A member of the American Federa-

tions of Teachers (AFT), and members of the Democratic Socialist of America, the North Texas chapter, voiced support for improved pay for the staff.

Andrew Kirk, a member of AFT as well as a DISD teacher, believes the DISD support staff is underpaid, yet they are a necessity for the district.

“They do a lot of work that isn’t recognized, and I think that there pay should be commensurate with the value that they generate for the schools. I think the schools work because they do,” said Kirk.

TalkStem hosts second annual Pi Day at AT&T Performing Arts Center

On Wednesday, March 14, hundreds of students and families from around the Dallas-Fort Worth area experienced real-life applications of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) while participating in the “Pi Day Math Festival” at Sammons Park on the AT&T Performing Arts Center campus in the Dallas Arts District. The Pi Day Math Festival was organized by the non-profit organization, talkSTEM in partnership with



Stevan Koye

the AT&T Performing Arts Center.

The Pi Day Math Festival took place Wednesday in

Sammons Park from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. It featured almost 20 organizations from the DFW area showcasing

how math is an important tool that they use to achieve their purpose. The Dallas Zoo, Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Dallas Museum of Art, SMU, UT Southwestern Medical Center, KERA, Dallas Love Field, DISD Environmental Center and others were in attendance. Each festival exhibitor engaged attendees in math-related activities.

This year, talkSTEM again offered attendees an opportunity to participate in their walkSTEM program –

customized “math walks” of the Dallas Arts District, developed in partnership with Glen Whitney, founder of the National Museum of Mathematics in New York City. talkSTEM also introduced a new experience that you can take with you: the walkSTEM T-shirt. Designed to be a wearable conversation starter, this tee comes with a guide to the learning opportunities symbolized by the images a wearer of the walkSTEM t-shirt literally has on their

sleeves.

“We are excited to partner with AT&T Performing Arts Center this year to bring together diverse organizations and highlight the universality of math across a wide range of activities. Connecting STEAM to the real world around students and diversifying STEAM is central to making sense of otherwise abstract concepts”, says Dr. Koshi Dhingra, Founder and Director of talkSTEM.

Dreams to Seams: El Centro College Fashion Show 2018

With an eclectic group of students whose influences range from street style to feminine flare, El Centro College will be presenting its annual fashion show “Dreams to Seams.” Ten Sophomore designers will be presenting their final collection of the Fashion Design

program of El Centro. Students have designed and executed all construction on their garment pieces with knowledge gained from their education in the program. The show will be held on April 27, 2018, at 7 p.m. in the El Centro Performance Hall.

Tickets are available for

\$10 at the El Centro Cashier’s Office on 2nd floor of A Building, from April 19-26. This annual fashion show sells out quickly each year so we recommend buying tickets early.

The “Dreams to Seams” fashion show is a collaboration between the Fashion De-

sign and Fashion Marketing departments of El Centro College, located in downtown Dallas. El Centro is continuously opening doors for students to present their talents and apply the education they have gained from the college.

The fashion show will in-

corporate the final collections and debut different projects the fashion students have worked on through their time at El Centro. These designers are the future of the Dallas fashion scene and are eager to exhibit their dedication and dreams.

Guests are invited to ride

DART (all lines pass through the West End Station across the street) or can Uber to the college. Paid parking lots are also located around the campus.

The Food and Hospitality Institute will also be hosting a reception at 5:30 p.m. before the doors open for the show.

ATEC course recycles technology for creative art projects

(UT-Dallas) A happy accident provided Andrew Scott, associate professor in the School of Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication, with the opportunity to secure tens of thousands of dollars’ worth of projectors needed to teach a class this semester for a fraction of the cost.

In the class, Projection Mapping Lab, UT Dallas

students explore artistic expression by projecting images onto objects and spaces. They can take advantage of what Scott calls an immersive grid image along with taped patterns on a solid wall that provide a foundation for the projected artwork.

“The grid becomes projected artwork, and it’s absolutely beautiful,” Scott

said. “This project pushes the creative envelope of the class.”

But making the class a reality required planning and a large number of expensive projectors. Scott went searching for solutions in 2015. He didn’t have to search far.

At the time, the studio was a third of its current size and shared a wall with media

services, which provides technical solutions for the University’s classrooms. Scott was developing the idea for the projection mapping class, inspired by his first projection-mapped piece, “Reliquary,” which features videos of black men who died during police encounters projected onto a sculpted mask.

“(Projection) is perfect

from both the artistic and commercial side, which speaks directly to the unified field of ATEC,” Scott said.

His search eventually brought him to Inventory and Property Services, the University department responsible for removing and storing unneeded equipment from classrooms and offices. There, among the printers, monitors, chairs and desks,

were some projectors perfect for what Scott had in mind.

The equipment had belonged to the media services team and was moved only days before. Scott remained friendly with the team, even after they relocated and his studio absorbed the extra space. So when the team heard news of more projectors being removed from

See ATEC, Page 9

Liberty Rec Center hosts block party for residents on April 21

Enjoy free food, music, games and giveaways at the Liberty Recreation Center Block Party and Open House. We want to thank you for supporting the Center and want to invite others to explore the center and meet the staff. The event is indoors and outdoors on Saturday, April 21, 2-5 p.m. Stop by vendor booths to

learn about other City departments (police, fire, library, neighborhood services, etc.). The Plano Animal Shelter is bringing lovable pets for onsite adoptions. Kids can enjoy face painting and games. Plus, you can watch demos by our Aerobats group.

In addition to our Block Party, the event doubles as a

special Plano Parks and Recreation 50th Anniversary open house, where visitors can take part in or observe

free live fitness demos, pick up some free 50th anniversary swag (including t-shirts) and learn about the

department's history with our traveling 50th anniversary timeline. Similar open house events are happening

at other recreation facilities throughout the year. Liberty Recreation Center is at 2601 Glencliff Dr.



City of Plano

Plano Mayor's Summer Internship 'Training Camp' a success

Fueled with caffeine and with notebooks in hand, approximately 400 Plano ISD teens gathered at the Capital One Conference Center for a Saturday "training camp" as part of the Plano Mayor's Summer Internship Program. The eager students sacrificed their Saturday to prepare for the upcoming Job Fair and the chance to land coveted eight-week paid internships at area businesses and nonprofits.

Capital One, the founding and presenting sponsor for five years spearheaded the rigorous, day-long instructional program. Plano Mayor Harry LaRosiliere


also was on hand to share his unique words of wisdom related to success in business and in life. He also led the students in an impromptu freestyle rap competition where the winner will receive a lunch with him along with a letter of recommendation for college.

"My message to the students is to be prepared and willing to do their best in the moments that can be life-changing opportunities. The Plano Mayor's Summer Internship Program is one of those occasions," said

See CAMP, Page 11




Mayor Harry LaRosiliere takes a break to snap a quick selfie with Plano ISD students. (Photo: James Edwards)



The Neil Simon Festival presents Alfred Uhry's

DRIVING MISS DAISY





**Starring Sheree J. Wilson
as Miss Daisy
& Clarence Gilyard
as Hoke**

Stars of TV's
Walker, Texas Ranger & Dallas

Five Performances: April 12-15, 2018

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Carrollton

Heartland Church, at 4020 Nazarene Drive will drop thousands of eggs from the sky during the **Helicopter Easter Egg Drop** event. This event will take place on March 31 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. This free Easter event will also feature bounce houses, games, food trucks, egg hunts, and more! After the egg hunt, the church will offer a 6 p.m. Easter service.

Dallas

The Adolphus Hotel will host **Easter at The Adolphus** for the first time in a

decade on Saturday, March 31 from 10 a.m to 2 p.m. The event will take place at 1321 Commerce St, in Dallas on the 19th renovated ballroom floor. Guest are invited to enjoy a brunch buffet along with desserts, diners, and live entertainment. Seating is limited, and guests are encourage to make reservations by contacting 214-651-3516. Tickets are \$95 for adults and \$25 for children 10 and younger.

Duncanville

On Tuesday, April 10 the Texas Tech School of Phar-

Frisco

Wooden Nickel TX, a band is hosting **Frisco**

StrEATS Festival on April 14. The event will take place at 6891 West Main St. in Frisco at 5:55 p.m. to 7 p.m. The public will have the opportunity to explore various foods from food trucks in North Texas and hear live music from the hosts.

Garland

The public is invited to celebrate Garland's history at their **Garland Heritage Celebration** on April 14, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. The event will take place in Garland's historic Downtown Square. There will be live

music, free gourmet cotton candy, mechanical bull riding, activities for kids and more! Attendees will also have the chance to experience the newest Landmark Museum's exhibit called Garland Hats. For more information visit www.garlandheritage.com.

Irving

On April 7, **Irving Marathon** will host their 6th annual event from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will take place at the Toyota Music Factory. The event will include a half marathon, 10K, 5K, Fun

Run events and live music. For tickets and more information visit www.irving-marathon.com

Lewisville

On March 31 the Music City Mall Lewisville will host their **Easter Fest** event in the JCPenny courtyard on the lower level from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Families will have the opportunity to get their faces painted, make balloon art, get free gifts, and visit the Easter bunny. Kristi G's Cupcakes and Great American Cookie will show families how create and decorate slime.

Dallas Arboretum celebrates Dallas Blooms, 'A World of Flowers The Americas'

Dallas Blooms "A World of Flowers" celebrates week six with themed activities and international food vendors in the International Crossroads Village in Pecan Grove. A large world map created from more than 2,000 vibrant pansies and three flower houses adorned with hundreds of petunias make a beautiful back drop, perfect for taking photos. Dallas Blooms is presented by IBERIABANK.



reanean inspired ice-cream, available for purchase. (Saturday only)

Week's Highlights:

Saturday, March 31- Friday, April 6: The Americas

Daily tastings in Ruthie Pack's Tasting Plaza at A Tasteful Place

Saturday, March 31 & Sunday, April 1: International Crossroads (Pecan Grove)

Baldo's Ice-cream, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Enjoy Mediter-

VerverWerks: Inspired by the richness of the South American culture and the beauty of centuries-old artisan crafts, designing products with a utilitarian, modern, versatile application, yet an authentic flair available for purchase, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. (Saturday only)

Tazazul Coffee- Enjoy

Central American coffee available for purchase, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Toshani Art-Enjoy Asian inspired art work available for purchase, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Hoffman Family Gift Store, themed items available for purchase, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Main Garden Activities:
Easter Portraits
Friday-Sunday, March 30-April 1 (noon to 4 p.m.) Jon-

sson Color Garden

Café on the Green

Listen to live saxophone music by Rob Holbert, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. (Saturday only)

Listen to live music by guitarist, Tomas Sclar, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. (Sunday only)

Rory Meyers Children's Adventure Garden Easter Activities:

EGG-stravaganza

March 31-April 1, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., throughout the Children's Adventure Garden

Easter weekend is full of egg-straordinary egg-citement and eggs-ploration. Guests can enjoy a weekend full of egg-themed programs like Walking on Eggshells, Egg-citing Science, and an Egg-streme Scavenger Hunt. Stop by the plant lab for a special egg-squisite egg dying egg-sperience using

plant-based dyes. It is sure to be an egg-ceptional time. Appropriate for ages 5 years and up.

A Tasteful Place: April 2

El Centro Cooking Connection, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Enjoy a chef demonstration based on seasonal produce in the garden. Free with paid garden admission.

A Tasteful Place: April 3

Daily Harvest with Preston Williams, 10:30 a.m.

Horticulture Manager Preston Williams harvests veggies right out of the garden in A Tasteful Place. Hear all about what he is harvesting and how he does so.

VerverWerks: Inspired by the richness of the South American culture and the beauty of centuries-old artisan crafts, designing products with a utilitarian, modern,

versatile application, yet an authentic flair available for purchase, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Tazazul Coffee- Enjoy Central American coffee available for purchase, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Grupo Pakal, Mayan Performing Arts Group, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

A Tasteful Place: April 4

Chocolate & Champagne Cooking Class

6-8 p.m., A Tasteful Place Test Pavilion, \$65

Nothing pairs better than champagne and chocolate. Sip on a glass of champagne while watching one of Dallas' premier chocolatiers, Zach Townsend, teach guests the secrets of truffles. Visit <http://www.dallasarboretum.org/a-tasteful-place> to

See FLOWERS Page 16

Texas teens join TxDot to urge young drivers to buckle up

AUSTIN – Texas teens have an important message for their friends and fellow students: Always buckle up. The message is part of the Texas Department of Transportation's annual "Teen Click It or Ticket" campaign, in partnership with high school students, including Dallas/Fort Worth teens, to urge young drivers and their passengers to wear their seat belts every time they're in a vehicle.



Courtesy photo

"In Texas, 42 percent of all teenagers killed in traffic crashes in 2016 weren't buckled up," said TxDOT Executive Director James

Bass. "We know seat belts save lives, but only if motorists use them. We want to make sure this message gets through to teens, and no one knows how to reach teens better than other teens."

Partnering with students from the Texas-based group Teens in the Driver Seat, TxDOT's "Teen Click It or Ticket" campaign will reach teens through radio and TV public service announce-

ments, social media and peer-to-peer outreach at statewide high schools. The initiative kicks off Thursday with an entirely student-run press conference at Memorial High School in Houston.

Teens also will lead interactive events at high schools and sporting events this spring to convince their peers that seat belts are their best defense against being killed or badly injured in a crash. A mangled truck involved in a rollover crash will be on display at each event. Two Texas teens survived that crash with only minor scratches thanks to

their seat belts. The campaign also will offer teens the digital experience of wearing virtual reality goggles to test their reaction times.

Teens gathered at Eastern Hills High School in Fort Worth to urge friends, peers to buckle up on Tuesday, March 27 from noon to 4 p.m.

"Research from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration tells us that new teen drivers are twice as likely to be in a fatal crash as adults," said Bryce Cunningham, co-chair of the Teens in the

Driver Seat national Teen Advisory Board and a senior at Chisum High School in Paris, Texas. "It just doesn't make any sense to not wear your seat belt when you're in a vehicle."

In Texas in 2016, one in five vehicle crashes involved a teen driver. Of the 269 teen drivers and passengers killed in crashes that year, 114 were unbuckled.

Texas law requires drivers and all passengers to wear a seat belt. Unbuckled drivers and passengers — even those in the back seat — face fines and court costs up to \$200.

Eisemann Center presents 'Driving Miss Daisy' for five performances April

RICHARDSON – Eisemann Center Presents concludes the 2017-2018 Theatre Series with The Neil Simon Festival's Driving Miss Daisy playing April 12-15, 2018 at the Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive in Richardson, Texas. Alfred Uhry's classic Pulitzer Prize-winning play is a timeless, searing, funny and ultimately hopeful meditation on race relations in America, told through the complex relationship between two of popular culture's most enduring characters.

Jewish widow Daisy Werthan and her African-American chauffeur Hoke Colburn slowly find trust and friendship with one another before and during the



From left: Sheree J. Wilson and Clarence Gilyard. Photo: The Neil Simon Festival

Civil Rights movement. The story takes the audience on a moving journey through the years and worlds of these two very different people who find ways to bridge their differences to become close companions. Walker, Texas Ranger stars Clarence Gilyard and Sheree J. Wil-

son star in this exceptional play about race and humanity.

Clarence Gilyard is best known for his roles as Jimmy Trivette on TV's Walker, Texas Ranger and as Conrad McMasters on Matlock. Clarence is also known for such films as Die Hard, Top Gun, and The

Karate Kid, Part II. As a character actor, Clarence has made guest appearances on TV shows such as Different Strokes, The Facts of Life, 227, Simon & Simon, and Riptide. In 1982-1983, Gilyard was cast in the final season of the NBC TV series CHiPs as Officer Benjamin Webster. He costarred with Jim Carrey in the 1984 NBC sitcom, The Duck Factory. In 2003, he took a professional sabbatical and earned his MFA in theater performance at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX.

Sheree J. Wilson has gained worldwide recognition starring in two enormously popular long-running television series. Appearing in the hit series Dal-

las for five seasons playing opposite Patrick Duffy, and then for the entire eight year run of Walker, Texas Ranger opposite Chuck Norris. Currently, Ms. Wilson has starred in and produced two feature films, Easy Rider: The Ride Back, a prequel to the cult favorite movie Easy Rider, and The Gundown. She also coproduced a zombie/comedy called Dug Up.

Performances of Driving Miss Daisy are April 12-14, 2018 at 8:00 pm with matinees on April 14 and April 15, 2017 at 2:00 pm in the Bank of America Theatre. Tickets are \$49-\$59 and are available online at www.eisemanncenter.com or by calling the Eisemann Center Ticket Office at 972-

744-4650. Group discounts for 10 or more are available at 972-744-4650.

The Charles W. Eisemann Center is located at 2351 Performance Drive in Richardson, Texas. The Eisemann Center is accessible from Highway 75 North taking the Galatyn Parkway/Renner Road exit going north and the Galatyn Parkway/Campbell Road exit going south, or from the DART light rail station at Galatyn Park. Eisemann Center Presents 2017-2018 sponsors include: The Dallas Morning News, WFAA-TV, UT Dallas School of Arts & Humanities, Altrusa International of Richardson, Inc., Methodist Richardson Medical Center, State Farm and Raising Cane's.

Soul Rep Theatre Company presents Ramona King's farce, STEAL AWAY

Soul Rep Theatre Company's SOUL POWERED 11th season of plays continues with Ramona King's STEAL AWAY, a play deemed both a folktale and farce. The production is directed by Soul Rep company member, Dee Hunter-Smith, and will run April 5 – 8 and April 13 – 15 at the South Dallas Cultural Center, where Soul Rep is the resident theater company.

STEAL AWAY, set in 1930's Chicago, evolves around five upstanding churchwomen who raise funds to send young Black women to college by holding bake sales. In spite of the Great Depression, they



(Left to right) Anyika McMillan-Herod, Yolanda Davis, D'Lisa VaShawn, Kenja Brown, Tonya Holloway and Guinea Bennett-Price in STEAL AWAY. (Photo by Dee Hunter-Smith)

aspire to offer more scholarships to promising women in their community. What lengths will they go to in an effort to keep their noble venture alive – hold a church fundraiser, bake more pies, or rob a bank?

"Through humor, STEAL AWAY, shows when sisters unite, nothing is impossible," says Hunter-Smith. The production boasts a dynamic cast that includes Soul Rep's co-founders – Guinea Bennett-Price,

Anyika McMillan-Herod, and Tonya Holloway – who haven't shared a stage in over a decade, along with company member, Yolanda Davis, and newcomers Kenja Brown and D'Lisa VaShawn.

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 PM and Sundays at 3 PM. A "pay as you can" preview performance is scheduled for Thursday, April 5.

For more information, please visit www.soulrep.org or email soulreptheatre@gmail.com.



Co-Founder/Co-Artistic Director, Guinea Bennett-Price as "Stella" in STEAL AWAY. (Photo by Anyika McMillan-Herod)

ATEC, continued from Page 6

classrooms during regular updating, they immediately thought of Scott.

"The moral of the story is get to know your neighbor," Scott said, laughing.

He retrieved an additional 15 projectors from surplus. Scott estimates the retail cost at \$19,000 each. He only paid a moving fee.

"It was the happiest \$100 I ever spent," Scott said.

"Although the equipment may not be state-of-the-art for current classroom presentation, it is effectively being used for both classroom instruction and artistic exploration."

Students in the class are learning to overlay several

images at once and blend the edges of images to create a vast panoramic. Eventually, the class will take the projectors outside the classroom to partake in artistic "interventions" around campus.

"These are temporary installations that arise, transform a space or object, then leave it as we found it," Scott said.

Additionally, the students will display their art at a dedicated installation on April 27 at the Plano Artfest, a public event built around artistic inclusiveness, creative curiosities and cultural connection.

"It will be a real-world project outside of the University," Scott said. "I want to make people aware of (the students') creativity."



It may only be gridlines on the wall now, but students in associate professor Andrew Scott's Projection Mapping Lab will fill the studio and other parts of campus with their artistic creations. (Photo: UT-Dallas)

Enter to Win! Ticket Giveaway

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

Enjoy the Spring weather with free Bluebonnet tours

Scheduled Saturdays through June 2, the George W. Bush Presidential Center is again offering its tremendously popular, docent-guided Bluebonnet Tours.

Along with the stunning bluebonnets, the Native Texas Park on the grounds of the Bush Center features other seasonal wildflowers, native Texas grasses, tree-

shaded lawns, and clearings providing habitats for butterflies, birds, and other wildlife. Visitors can explore native Texas environments such as Blackland Prairie, Post Oak Savannah, and Cross Timbers Forest.

"This 15-acre urban park reflects President George W. Bush and Mrs. Laura Bush's longstanding com-

mitment to environmental conservation and restoration," said Brig. Gen. Patrick X. Mordente, director of the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum. "Case in point, they landscaped with the native prairie grasses that once flourished right here in this part of the state. In addition, they had nearly 930

trees planted, including a wide range of native species such as pecan, Texas redbud, chinkapin oak, Eve's necklace, and rusty blackhaw viburnum."

The free tours of the Native Texas Park are offered every Saturday at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., weather permitting. Usually lasting between 30 and 40 minutes,

visitors are guided through the winding network of walking trails. Space is limited and tours are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

To book a large group, call 214-346-1650 or email bush43visitors@nara.gov.

Self-guided tours are an option for visitors with time constraints, available from

sunrise to sunset every day of the year. Comfortable shoes are recommended for walking the trails. Each season brings beautiful changes to the prairie landscape. Brochures and scavenger hunt materials for the Native Texas Park are available on the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum's website.

Dallas Black Dance Theatre continues dance tradition at St. Paul United Methodist Church Easter Service

Two historical institutions located in the Dallas Arts District will continue a cherished Easter tradition. For more than a decade Dallas Black Dance Theatre has performed to the songs of the St. Paul United Methodist Church Choir during Easter Morning Celebration. The

service will take place 7:00 a.m. Sunday, April 1, 2018 at the church, 1816 Routh Street, Dallas, Texas 75201.

All five Dallas Black Dance Theatre performing companies and ensembles will take part in the Easter service. This includes the 12 professional dancers of

DBDT, the eight dancers of the semiprofessional company DBDT: Encore!, the talented youth dancers in the Dallas Black Dance Academy premier ensemble Allegro, as well as the Senior Performing Ensemble and Junior Performing Ensemble.



Sharen Bradford

The 9th Southwest Black Art Show will be held April 6-8

The Southwest Black Art Show (SWBAS) is committed to the exclusive presentation of original art produced by artists of African and African-American descent. This year's show will have over 20 African American artists, including emerging artists Desmond Blair, a Dallas based painter who creates amazing portraits and Nychelle Elise a painter and tattoo artist who hails from Dallas, Texas. Included as this year's featured artists are, Fanta Celah, a world renowned artist, jazz vocalist, model and jewelry designer and Mark Crow a self-taught artist who works with several different mediums to create his one of a kind pieces using oil and acrylic paints on paper, canvas and wood.

Organizers have taken two bold steps to elevate the show. The first step was creating a theme "We Are Who We Are", linking all artist together regardless of genre or mission without melting their independence. The second step is to embrace African American female artist who are grossly under-



represented and have them as 50% of the artist exhibiting, increasing their visibility by 75% from previous years.

"The Southwest Black Art

Show is a show that brings some of the brightest artists throughout the country to the Dallas area. This gives the DFW community a chance to see some renowned artists

such as Jonathan Romaine and Najee Dorsey, as well as have an opportunity to purchase some of their works. The show's theme "We Are Who We Are" allows us to

think about how we can project our community into our art and how we see ourselves, how the world sees us and at the same time it makes a statement about art,

and Black America today," said Dr. Harry Robinson, Jr., President/CEO of the African American Museum,

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DeVos gets pushback on attempt to preempt state consumer protection

By Charlene Crowell

Beginning with a controversial nomination that ended in a tie-breaking Senate confirmation vote and continuing throughout her tenure as Education Secretary, Betsy DeVos has faced unceasing criticism. While Administration officials would be inclined to give her the benefit of the doubt, many across the country would argue that she is not serving the public's interests.

A recent interview on CBS' 60 Minutes, provided an opportunity to address the nonstop criticism before a national audience. Instead, it prompted a new wave of critiques from viewers and news outlets alike.

More important than these recent headlines, however, is the Department's attempt to stop states from holding student loan servicers and collectors accountable. Claiming that state consumer protection laws "undermine" federal regulator requirements, a non-binding memo is yet another assault on the 44 million Americans who together struggle with a still-growing \$1.5 trillion in student debt.

It was about this time last year that Secretary DeVos withdrew three memos that would have required loan

servicers, in their renegotiated contracts, to provide more intensive "high touch" servicing for borrowers threatened with default. Then late in the summer of 2017, she withdrew inter-agency working agreements between the Department and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) com-

"Secretary DeVos can write as many love letters to the loan servicing industry as she wants, I won't be shutting down my investigations or stand by while these companies rip off students and families."

**- Martha Healey
Massachusetts Attorney General**

monly known as Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs). Prior to her joining the Education Department, these same MOUs led to a series of major enforcement actions against for-profit colleges like Corinthian and ITT Tech, as well as the nation's largest student loan servicer, Navient.

With rollbacks in oversight and enforcement, the Education Secretary must think the department is doing a great job serving student loan borrowers that states should just butt out. A new departmental memo claims as much.

In response, Massachusetts Attorney General

Martha Healey, who filed a lawsuit earlier this month that alleged overcharges to students by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency was just as direct as she was quick to speak up.

"Secretary DeVos can write as many love letters to the loan servicing industry as she wants, I won't be

shutting down my investigations or stand by while these companies rip off students and families," Healey said in a statement to The Intercept. "The last thing we need is to give this industry a free pass while a million students a year are defaulting on federal loans."

Thank goodness for state AGs like Healey. Federal enforcement of consumer protection is currently at a real low.

When Mick Mulvaney was named Acting CFPB Director, a change of direction from consumer enforcement to education and information was promptly announced with a series of

and even a funny moment or two.

Other high points included Capital One executives leading presentations on topics like "Selling Yourself: A Strong Resume and a 60-Second Elevator Pitch" and "Developing Your Professional Persona." A Plano ISD leader also lent her insights during a session called "Behavioral Interviewing."

After enjoying the lunch generously provided by Kroger, students gathered their courage and took part in mock interviews with executives from Ericsson, PepsiCo/Frito-Lay, Liberty Mutual, Capital One and Plano ISD.

The interns will soon put this knowledge to the test as

more changes. In Mulvaney's view, CFPB would no longer use aggressive enforcement to hold financial service providers accountable. On his watch, consumers have basically been told not to expect much from CFPB, while businesses have been catered to and even asked to advise Mulvaney and company of what appropriate regulation looks like.

So, if the Department of Education is not going to work with CFPB to resolve complaints and CFPB is not interested in consumer enforcement, why try to tie the hands of states who only seek to protect their own residents?

Whitney Barkley-Denney, a policy counsel with the Center for Responsible Lending, addressed the impacts to consumers of color. "Due to racial disparities in income and wealth, the consumers hardest hit by these debts are consumers of color. While the federal government continues to find ways to placate these companies, states are ready and willing to serve the best interests of borrowers and taxpayers."

The National Governors Association (NGA) agrees with Barkley-Denney.

In a related statement, the

they prepare for the Job Fair on Friday, April 20, from 3-7 p.m. at Collin College's Spring Creek Conference Center. With resumes in hand and elevator speeches polished, all 400 students will undergo interviews with the participating companies.

The Plano Mayor's Summer Internship Program runs June 11-Aug. 3, and students will earn a minimum of \$9 per hour working 20-to-40 hours per week.

Mayor LaRosiliere is still seeking businesses to participate in the program. For more information, go to planomayorsinterns.org or contact Vicki Wait at vicki@vwaitgroup.com or 214-577-7975.

NGA said, "Last week's declaration on student loan servicing from the U.S. Department of Education seeks to preempt bipartisan state laws, regulations and 'borrower bills of rights' currently in place and under consideration in more than 15 states.... States have stepped up to fill the void left, we believe, by the absence of federal protections for student loan borrowers, from potential abusive practices by companies servicing student loans."

Randi Weingarten, President of the American Federation of Teachers was even more candid.

"With this move, she [Secretary DeVos] has castrated any state legislators and attorneys general from providing meaningful oversight of student loan services, yet she continues to fail to do so herself," said Weingarten.

In 2017, a CFPB report showed that during the past

five years, more than 50,000 student loan complaints were filed. Additionally, more than 10,000 other related debt collection complaints were filed on both private and federal student loans.

Where these complaints originate is equally eye-opening. In just one year, from 2016 to 2017, the growth in the number of student loan complaints exceeded 100 percent in 11 states: Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington State and West Virginia.

It's enough to make one wonder, "Who is our federal government actually serving?"

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

CAMP, continued from Page 7

Mayor LaRosiliere. "This program, which is fully embraced by our business and nonprofit community, offers students a chance to learn, grow and make connections that could significantly change the trajectory of their future."

Matthew Hemsley of Capital One community affairs and Ty Phelps, project manager in general counsel, co-mceed the event. They led the mock interviewing sessions and guided the 50-plus business and community volunteers who shared their knowledge and advice with the teens.

"Capital One believes in empowering our present and future workforce," said Paul

Littlejohn, Market Executive, Capital One Bank, NE Texas District. "As part of our Future DFW initiative, we will be funding five interns this summer and continuing our teacher externships, which provide experiential learning to our educators who can bring meaningful results for students and their careers."

A highlight of the day included a panel discussion with 2017 interns who worked at Ericsson, Baylor Scott & White - Plano, The Samaritan Inn, Plano ISD, the City of Plano and Girl Scouts of North Texas. The eight students shared lessons learned, valuable takeaways, favorite memories

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EEO

New 'Firestarters' book reveals innovator, instigator, and initiator insights to help ignite your own life and career

What is the difference between those bold enough to pursue their dreams and others who never get comfortable enough to ignite their lives? The doers are "Firestarters" and, because of them, the world is a much different, and often, better place.

No matter if you are moving up the corporate ladder, starting your own company, or championing a profes-

sional cause, chances are that there are times you ask yourself: "Will I make a difference?" "Can I ignite myself and others?" "Can I fuel the passion and drive that will lead me to success?"

The answer to these questions is an emphatic "yes," as exemplified by those who are already lighting up the world. More than 40 of these individuals are profiled in a new book called "Firestarters:

How Innovators, Instigators, and Initiators Can Inspire You to Ignite Your Own Life" (Prometheus Books, Amherst, NY).

In it, notable Firestarters share advice on what it takes people to start, create, and even disrupt in order to achieve their dreams. Their stories, along with psychological, organizational, and business research from The Firestarters Framework, pro-

vides unique insights into what makes some people just fan the flames, while other spark the fire and realize success.

To wet your proverbial whistle, Palokoff, along with her co-authors Dr. Paul Eder, organizational effectiveness researcher; and Raoul Davis, Jr., CEO brand strategist, offer these three insights on how to become a Firestarter:

1. Ignite, fuel, and acceler-

ate success. There are factors based on personality, situations, and environment that you need to recognize in yourself and optimize to be successful. For example, what igniters trigger an "aha moment?" Is it freedom, passion, talent or something else? What fuels such as prestige, opportunity, luck, or money can you use to propel an idea, business, or cause?

How can factors including

collaboration, mission, and competition help accelerate you to the next level?

2. Replicate accomplishments to gain confidence. Look for connections between seemingly disparate events, learn what works across situations, and generalize this knowledge to other activities. By looking for patterns of achievement,

See **IGNITE**, Page 14

BAIL, continued from Page 1

or even a month or two to wait for you to get out and continue paying you in the meantime. So you end up losing your job."

For an innocent defendant without economic means, there is no good choice.

The Community Bail Fund began in November with a collection of individuals ranging from concerned citizens to justice system professionals. Through funds received from SMU and a GoFundMe campaign, the Community Bail Fund of North Texas has raised more than \$10,000 and is looking to give defendants

an opportunity to fight their case "from a place of freedom."

The organization has worked out an assessment system based on points to determine who will receive help with bail. This is based on practices from other parts of the country, and Tellez said the group is looking to start bailing out defendants in the May-June time frame.

The other effort underway seeks to shed light on the process of setting bail itself.

Currently bail proceedings in Dallas County are held behind closed doors, which many allege makes it

easier to apply higher bail requirements. To those ends, a lawsuit has been filed against Dallas County, alleging the current bail system is unconstitutional. Social justice organizations Faith in Texas, the Texas Organizing Project Education Fund, Civil Rights Corps, the Texas Fair Defense Project and the ACLU of Texas are plaintiffs in the suit.

"Matthew 25 teaches us that it is our duty as Christians to help the hungry, the thirsty, the sick, the weary, and those in prison," said Rev. Edwin Robinson, executive director for Faith in Texas. "As people of faith we believe it's not just our responsibility or our legal

right, but more importantly it is our faithful calling to be with our sisters and brothers in every place of human need. Being denied access to bail proceedings is not just a hurdle, but a brick wall preventing us from living out our sacred calling of caring for our neighbors."

The local organizations now have legal heavy-hitters behind them with the addition of the ACLU.

"Faith in Texas and Texas

Organizing Project Education Fund are doing tremendous work pushing to end mass incarceration in Dallas County," said Kali Cohn, staff attorney for the ACLU of Texas. "As plaintiffs in this lawsuit, they are standing up once again to demand that the public has the tools to hold decision makers accountable."

Tellez said he has received support from both sides of the aisle on the

issue of bail reform, and it is a subject that has too often been "crowded out" locally by other issues. It is a subject which affects all Dallas County residents, from the poor who are incarcerated to the rich who pay taxes to keep defendants in jail.

"Our justice system is based on the presumption of innocence until proven guilty," Tellez said. "But that isn't always the case."

GIVE, continued from Page 4

thousands of young people join the registry over the years, and we're excited to engage even more to be life-saving advocates in 2018."

Since 2011, Give a Spit About Cancer has added 8,000 young people to the bone marrow registry through Be The Match. Of those, 50 have already gone on to give potentially life-saving donations to patients in need.

Brother duo Ayo & Teo, most known for their viral dance challenges and hit single "Rolex," have helped raise awareness to young people through recording a PSA and encouraging their fans to complete the #SwabChallenge and get on the registry!

"We love engaging with our fans on social media, and we've seen how much they love competing in our dance challenges," said Ayo & Teo. "We're excited to join forces with DoSomething.org and Johnson & Johnson for the #SwabChallenge, to get more young people aware of their power to defeat cancer."

Through April 30, young people can host their own bone marrow registration drives in their local communities, or on college campuses. People can register for the national bone marrow registry through Be The Match by filling out a 15 minute online form. From there it's simple, Be The Match sends a swab kit.

All you have to do is swab some spit from your cheek (following the detailed instructions and then mail it in with the prepaid envelope provided. From there, Be The Match will notify people if they are a potential match.


Another way to support the "Give a Spit About Cancer" campaign is by downloading the Donate a Photo app available on the iTunes App Store and in Google Play. For every photo taken in the app before May 27, Johnson & Johnson will donate \$1 to DoSomething.org to offset the costs associated with joining the Be The Match registry.

To participate in Give a Spit About Cancer, text SPIT to 38383 or visit DoSomething.org/spit.

COLLABORATE



LEARN & GROW




THRIVE



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Special Education Teacher



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Upcoming DFW area job fairs

March 29 Custodial Fair

Diverse Facility Solutions is a janitorial service which provides staff with high profile clients.

Applicants must be able to pass a Federal Background check. Receive a \$100 bonus after completing 100 days of employment. The job fairs are each Thursday in the month of March at 5005 W. Royal Lane, Suite 156 in Irving.

March 29 CCA/Goodwill Hiring Fair

CCA and Goodwill Job Connection host a hiring fair from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Come dressed for success and bring at least 20 copies of your resume. There will be on the spot interviews. Some of the companies present include Nebraska Furniture Mart, Waffle House, Target, the University of North Texas and more. The hiring fair will take place at the Lewisville Library, 1197 W Main St in the Community Room.

For more info, please visit <https://www.eventbrite.com>

April 3 Health Workshops

SMU Health Professions Spring Swing will provide interested applicants an opportunity to gain medical



experience with PhysAssist Scribes. With more than 300 facilities close to colleges across the country, they provide students access to real-world learning. They offer full- and part-time positions with flexible schedules, allowing students to achieve the work-school-life balance they need to excel. For more info visit iamscribe.com.

April 14 The Heights Workshop

Richardson church to host all-day workshop for the unemployed and underemployed

A free Job Search Workshop by Career Transition Ministries will be held 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Saturday, April 14 at The Heights Baptist Church, 201 W. Renner Rd. at US-75 in Richardson.

Free lunch and materials are provided. The all-day workshop will teach proven job search skills, including:

- finding your job focus
- resume critique and development
- using the Internet and Social Media for job search

- effective networking skills
- creating a 30-second elevator presentation
- interviewing techniques
- developing a 2-minute verbal resume and more.

Doors open at 7:45 a.m. Check-in begins at 8 a.m. in the Mezzanine. Pre-registration is required due to limited seating. Register online at <http://www.theheights.org/jobseekers/>

The Heights JobSeekers Ministry serves the community by assisting jobseekers with tools, resources, networking opportunities and workshops. For more information, email jobseekers@theheights.org or call 214-536-8111.

April 14 Teacher Job Fair

Dallas ISD hosts a Teacher Job Fair at Ellis Davis Field House 9191 S. Polk St. from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Dallas ISD gives talented educators a chance to become one of those teachers and make a difference for kids in the Dallas

community. Dallas ISD invites you to join the team and teach where you're needed most, in Dallas. Make sure to bring plenty of resumes!

April 20 PetSmart Hiring Event

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

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

April 26 Texas Live! Job Fair

Texas Live! is hosting a job fair from 2:00 p.m. to

7:00 p.m. at Globe Life Park, 1000 Ballpark Way. The event will take place inside Cholulu Porch. Open positions include: hospital- housekeeping, and entry level management opportu-

nities. Make sure to bring plenty of resumes!

Pre-registration is required for this event. For registration and more information, please visit <https://texaslivejobfair.eventbrite.com>.



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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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church this coming
Sunday!**

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

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

April 1, 9:45 am

This is no April Fool's Day. We will have Communion; and, Bethel's pastors and members invite you to join us as we celebrate the glorious Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on this Easter Sunday. Our Total Praise Team is doing a special production with Dance Choreographer Helena Webb; you don't want to miss this special praise dance.

April 4, 7 p.m.

Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Senior Pastor

Woodson, Pastor Larry Gardner, Pastor Bernadette, and others conducting finishing a 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.

April 7, 10 am - 12 Noon
Ladies, join our Women's Ministry monthly meeting. W.O.R.T.H (Women of Reconciliation, Truth and Hope) we will continue our discussion on the War Room book.

Dr. Terrance Woodson,
Senior Pastor
1944 E. Hebron Parkway
Carrollton, TX 75007
972-492-4300
www.bethelbiblefellowship.org

**FELLOWSHIP
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April

You are invited to look at our Church Demo on our website to see progress on the new building sight as we prepare for the future.

April 1, 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.

April 7

Join us in our Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day Live, Prayer

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

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed. D.
Senior Pastor
1609 14th Street
Plano, TX 75074
Future Building location is
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www.theship3c.org

**INSPIRING BODY OF
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MATTHEW 4:19**

March 30, 7 p.m.

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

April 1, 10 a.m.

You are invited to join us for our Easter Service as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We will have Communion.

April 2, 7 p.m.

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

Pastor Rickie Rush
7701 S Westmoreland Road
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972-372-4262
www.Ibocchurch.org

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(Uniting the Body of
Christ Among Nations)**

April 1, 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.

April 4, 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)**

April 1, 7 a.m.

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

April 4, 7 pm

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

Dr. Tommy L. Brown, Ed. D.
Senior Pastor
9550 Shepherd Road
Dallas, TX 75243

214-341-6459
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April 1, 8 am & 11 am

You are invited to join us as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday. We would love to have you at our services.

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

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

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IGNITE, continued from Page 11

Firestarters replicate their success, which then creates an overall sense of positivism and confidence.

3. Plan for inevitable extinguishers. People are often unaware of how bumpy the road to success can be and

how inevitable extinguishers can crush them. You can avoid obstacles, however, by actively planning to reduce their impact. Successful people expect extinguishers and develop mechanisms to cope with discouragement and

mistakes. One important way is to have a life filled with supporters who can nurture, protect, and even challenge.

Use this pragmatic advice to ignite the qualities that will lead you toward pursuing and realizing our own dreams. Today is as good a day to start as ever.

Branding, business and entrepreneurship success pundit, Merilee Kern, MBA, is an influential media voice and lauded communications strategist. Follow her on Twitter here: [witter.com/LuxeListEditor](https://twitter.com/LuxeListEditor) and Facebook [Facebook.com/TheLuxeList](https://www.facebook.com/TheLuxeList).

Church Happenings is a weekly calendar of religious services produced by the North Dallas Gazette. To make additions or corrections to the calendar, contact: religion@northdallasgazette.com

Closing out Women's History Month



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

2018 Theme:
NEVERTHELESS SHE PERSISTED: Honoring Women Who Fight All Forms of Discrimination Against Women

The 2018 National Women's History theme presents the opportunity to honor women who have shaped America's history and its future through their tireless commitment to ending discrimination against women and girls. The theme embodies women working together with strength, tenacity and courage to overcome obstacles and achieve joyful accomplishments.

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

A nonprofit educational organization founded in 1980 to bring women's stories and contributions to the fore. The project was the force behind getting Congress to designate Women's History Month officially.

It's design to celebrate strong women who have made, or who are making a difference/ I will highlight facts about Black women

and their contribution to mankind this month.

The project was the force behind getting Congress to designate Women's History Month officially.

It's design to celebrate strong women who have made, or who are making a difference.

Lucy Craft Laney, (1854-1933): She was born a slave in Macon, GA. She became Founder/Principal of Haines Normal Institute in GA.

Laney was taught to read and write at the age of four by her master's sister, who helped her attend Atlanta University.

When funds promised from the Presbyterian Board of Missions for Freedom did not materialize for a private school for Blacks, Laney raised the money herself.

Her school was opened in 1886. In 1975, it had grown to a prospering educational community of over 1,000 students.

Ella Baker, a civil rights activist, was a driving force in the creation of the country's premier civil rights organizations.

After graduating as valedictorian from North Carolina's Shaw University in 1927, Baker moved to New York City during the depression.

She was a founding member of the Young Negroes Cooperative League, whose members pooled funds to buy products and services at reduced cost.

In 1957 Baker and several

Southern Black ministers and activists established the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, a major force in organizing the civil rights movement.

Bessie Coleman, the first Black American woman aviator, had a postage stamp issued in her honor in 1995.

Ethel L. Payne was the first Black woman to receive accreditation as a White House correspondent.

Ruffles, fluted collars, and pleats were very popular in

Victorian-era clothing.

Susan Knox's fluting iron made pressing the embellishments easier. The trademark featured the inventor's picture and appeared on each iron.

Evelyn Ashford, winner of four Olympic gold medals in 1984, 1988, and 1992. Also won a silver medal in 1988 and was inducted into Track and Field and Women's Sports Hall of Fame in 1997.

Two famous quotations

by Ashford: "I take pride in everything I do. I don't want to be handed anything. I want to earn it."

"I can't run forever. I decided to go back to school for my degree, because I know now there's more to life than track."

Wilma Rudolph, "The World's Fastest Woman," as a child suffered from polio and wore leg braces for years, she won three gold medals in sprint events at the 1960 Olympic Games in Rome, Italy.

Some famous quotations by Rudolph: "Never underestimate the power of

dreams and the influence of the human spirit. We are all the same in this notion: The potential for greatness lives within each of us."

"My mother taught me very early to believe I could achieve any accomplishment I wanted to. The first was to walk without braces."

"The triumph cannot be had without the struggle. And I know what struggle is.

I have spent a lifetime trying to share what it has meant to be a woman first in the world of sports so that other young women have a chance to reach their dreams."



Ethel Payne, correspondent for The Chicago Defender, in Shanghai, China 1973 (Library of Congress)

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

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

Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com

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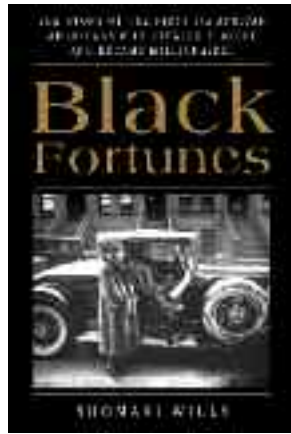
NDG Book Review: *Black Fortunes* may be worth a look

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

A dollar doesn't buy as much as it used to.

Once upon a time, you could get a good steak and a drink for under ten bucks. You could buy a house for less than five figures, and it was big enough to raise a good-sized family in it. A dollar used to stretch farther, last longer, buy more, and in the new book "Black Fortunes" by Shomari Wills, it took fewer dollars to make someone rich.

Growing up, Shomari Wills heard many stories about his uncle, "the millionaire" son of a slave who became a rich man. Such a



tale, says Wills, is an "overlooked subject" in American history.

Strictly speaking, he says, the first Black millionaire in America was William Alexander Leidesdorff, real-estate mogul, philanthropist,

and friend to the powerful, who lived in San Francisco well before the Civil War.

But this book isn't about Leidesdorff.

It's about Mary Ellen Pleasant, who received an inheritance from her late first husband, and parlayed that "small fortune" into a much larger one that she used as an activist. It's about O.W. Gurley who bought land in Oklahoma and built a predominantly Black town that was exceptionally prosperous – especially for Gurley.

It's about Annie Turnbo Malone and her protégée, Sarah Breedlove. After Emancipation, Malone

made it her mission to create hair and beauty products that worked specifically for Black women. Once her business was successful, she hired salesladies – one of which was Sarah Breedlove, who married C.J. Walker and created her own product to rival her mentor.

It's about Robert Reed Church, former slave, favorite son of Memphis, and the richest Black man of his time. Even now, more than a century after his death, his legacy can still be seen in his adopted home town.

And it's about Hannah Elias, who spent most of her life in scandal and built her wealth with the money of

her lovers, then disappeared. To this day, says Wills, nobody knows where Elias landed – or how much of her ill-gotten fortune was intact.

"Black Fortunes" is a good idea in bad need of an editor.

Over and over, I found dates that didn't match, incorrect information, statements that conflicted with other statements, silly repetitions, and a lot of "huh??" moments. After awhile, these errors superseded any information I was gleaning.

Still, author Shomari Wills offers interesting, thoughtful tales that basically show readers how Black entrepreneurs – some

of whom could barely read or write – changed U.S. economics and paved the way for later wealth-builders and, in some cases, for overall equality. Wills admits in his introduction that he brought these stories forth, even though "Few records exist" from his subjects' times, and diaries and letters were largely non-existent.

That would explain the deep novelization of the tales, which is not the bigger distraction; lack of attention and a red pen are more the issue. Even so, with a dose of patience, this book is worth a look. Just be aware that "Black Fortunes" isn't what you may be used to.

FLOWERS, continued from Page 8

register.

Beverages of the World: Thursday, April 5, International Crossroads Village

Gils Catering, 12-3 p.m. Enjoy international wine tastings, available for purchase.

Mozzarella Company, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Assorted cheeses available for purchase in the Pecan Grove.

A Tasteful Place: April 5 Daily Harvest with Preston Williams, 10:30 a.m.

Horticulture Manager Preston Williams harvests veggies right out of the garden in A Tasteful Place. Hear all about what he is harvesting and how he does so.

International Market: Friday, April 6

The Americas: Market Vendors in International Crossroads: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Out of the Blue Bead Works- Out of the Blue Bead Works is a home based business that makes accessories such as jewelry, bookmarks, men's bracelets, jewelry for little girls, vintage 80's hair barrettes, and charm bracelets, available for purchase.

Dad's Chili- Our DAD's Chili mix contains no MSG or salt and each box contains enough seasoning for 8 lbs of chili, recipe is for 2 pounds of chili and can be used with beef, turkey, chicken or venison, available for purchase.

Tamales Over Texas- Proudly provides hometown farmers market with double-stuffed "texican" style tamales all hand rolled with

only the finest ingredients, available for purchase.

MudraImpressions- Creates nature-inspired jewelry and art work by incorporating stone, leather and glass, available for purchase.

Amy's Chocolate Gifts- chocolate and chocolate gifts available for purchase.

A Tasteful Place: April 6 Around the World Cooking Class: Presented by Taste

Buds Kitchen

6-8 p.m., A Tasteful Place Test Pavilion, \$65

Taste of Mexico Cooking Class: Get ready to head south of the border. Visit <http://www.dallasarboretum.org/a-tasteful-place> to register.

For more information about the Dallas Arboretum, call 214.515.6500 or visit www.dallasarboretum.org.

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Dallas.

SWBAS debunks some of the divisiveness occurring in the current global consciousness regarding women and people of color. "I've been a professional artist for over 40 years and I've been in black art shows all over the world. There are a lot of male artists and very few female artist. It's important that we make a change and get more women artists telling their stories" said Frank Frazier, one of SWBAS founders. This directly supports the goal to make the show a destination point where collectors come

to find quality black art.

"We invite you to meet some of the members of the black art creative class. These artists use their creativity as the foundation for communicating their purpose to society. Their understanding goes beyond the surface and taps into the ocean of the human condition intertwined in science, math, engineering, health care, law, politics, business, emotion, and community investment. Join us for an experience," said Renata Cathey, chief organizer of SWBAS. The Show will be held April 6 - 8 at the

African American Museum, Dallas. This show will host a series of workshops for those interested in becoming collectors, but may not know exactly what to look for when viewing a work of art. The Show will feature presentations by tattoo artists, authors, educators, business owners, and leaders who offer broad viewpoints regarding art definition, the art industry, and the role of the creative class. Also there will be hands-on activities for families and children throughout the weekend.

The SWBAS was founded by artist, Frank Frazier, a group of art educators, collectors and curators from

North Texas in 2010. Each year artists compete for one of three prizes. First prize is the "Best in Show" award for a one-person exhibition at the African American Museum, Dallas. Second prize is a one-person exhibition at the South Dallas Cultural Center. Exhibitions will be scheduled within a two-year period at each of the institutions. Third prize is a cash purchase of an art piece at the Museum's discretion.

Located in Dallas' Historic Fair Park, the 38,000 square foot African American Museum is the only Museum in the Southwestern United States dedicated to the collection, preservation

and display of African American artistic, cultural and historical materials that relate to the African-American experience. The African American Museum incorporates a wide variety of visual art forms and historical documents that portray the African American experience in the United States, Southwest, and Dallas. The Museum has a small, but rich collection of African art, African-American fine art and one of the largest African American folk and decorative art collections in the United States. Started in 1974 as a part of the Bishop College Special Collection, the Museum has operated in-

dependently since 1979 under the vision of Dr. Harry Robinson, Jr., Founding President/CEO.

Visit www.aamdallas.org to find the latest information about the Southwest Black Art Show, including the list of current artists and scheduled presentations. Media outlets may contact Sharka Edwards at the African American Museum at sjones@aamdallas.org or 214-565-9026, ext. 304. For sponsorship opportunities, ad information or artist registration please contact Jane Jones at 214-565-9026, ext. 328 or jabjones30@gamil.com.

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place as follows:

April 3: Earth Day Shred Event

11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Brookhaven College
3939 Valley View Lane,
Farmers Branch

April 17: Operation Stop Scams – Shred Day

9:30 a.m. – noon
Jaycee Zaragoza Recreation Center
3114 Clymer St., Dallas,
TX 75212

April 28: Shred Day with ARMA

8:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
ACC Highland Mall
523 E. Highland Mall
Blvd., Austin, TX 78752

May 5: Operation Stop Scam Shred Events

Free Shredding for the

Community

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Marcus Recreation Center, 3003 Northaven, Dallas
Pleasant Oaks Recreation Center, 8701 Greenmound, Dallas

About our survey methodology: AARP con-

ducted a national telephone research study among U.S. adults ages 18 and older on the issues of identity theft, security of personal information, and experience with tax fraud and imposter scams via Alan Newman Research. There were 1,005

telephone interviews (300 via landline telephones and 705 via cell phone) that took place between March 14 and March 17, 2018, with a maximum statistical error of ±3.1 percent at the 95 percent level of confidence.