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Beto campaign gets enthusiastic reception at DeSoto town hall

By David Wilfong
NDG Contributing Writer

Sometimes it pays to just throw an idea out there.

DeSoto City Councilperson Candice Quarles was perusing Facebook when she saw a post regarding the campaign schedule of Democratic Candidate Beto O'Rourke. While Beto would definitely be visiting the DFW metroplex a few times before the election, Quarles was determined to bring the campaign a little closer to home.

"I said, 'No, you need to come to DeSoto!'" Quarles recalled emphatically. "And they responded. Their team got back with me, and they found a venue and made this happen."

So the campaign of one of America's most talked-about senatorial candidates made a swing through the city situated in Dallas County's southern corridor on March 29, holding a town hall meeting at the Chocolate MINT Foundation, and drawing more than 300 spectators on a Thursday afternoon.

After a roundtable discussion held with local Black faith leaders (see story on Page 16), Beto made the short trip from Disciple Central Community Church to the town hall location.

Beto had the opportunity to lay out his priorities for the audience; ranging from universal healthcare to



U.S. senatorial candidate Beto O'Rourke visits with DeSoto City Councilperson Candice Quarles at Disciple Central Community Church prior to departing for the town hall meeting. Quarles challenged the Beto campaign to make a stop in DeSoto, which led to the town hall happening. (Photo: David Wilfong / NDG)

the end of marijuana prohibition, the future of the Veterans Administration, gun control and more. One theme that emerged repeatedly between the faith leaders meeting and the town hall as well, is the feeling a person can feel "out of the way" and smaller communities like DeSoto can feel unheard.

Coming from El Paso, which shares space with Ciudad Juarez – once the most dangerous city in the world – Beto assured the audience he understood perceptions and how they can be skewed from reality.

"We're not a war zone," Beto said. "We're nothing to be afraid of. I'm raising my family there. In fact,

we happen to be the safest city in America, because we are a city of immigrants."

He also emphasized the value of compromise, adding it had become "a dirty word" in Washington, D.C. Recalling a veteran's bill to extend medical benefits to veterans with less than an honorable discharge, he joined a Republican in writing the bill and worked with Republicans to get it into a form likely to pass the House. Then he had to work to get it through a primarily Republican Senate, before being signed into law by President Donald J. Trump on

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Pamela Pujo



Kevin Daley

READERS SOUND OFF!!!

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

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



Pamela Pujo



By Sister Tarpley
NDG Religion Editor

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is a public service organization founded in 1913 on the campus of Howard University to pro-

mote:

Academic excellence; support the underserved; educate and stimulate participation in the establishment of positive public policy; and to highlight issues and provide solutions for prob-

lems in communities nationwide.

Today, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority has more than 250,000 members and more than 1,000 chapters worldwide.

The North Dallas Suburban Alumnae chapter, chartered in 1996, continues the sorority's tradition of sisterhood and service by implementing programs in response to identified local community concerns.

They offer free Saturday workshops for area youth that are fun-filled educational opportunities.

Youngsters initially walk into Willie B. Johnson Recreation Center in Hamil-

ton Park Community at the prodding of parents who have enrolled them in one of five youth programs hosted by the North Dallas Suburban Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

And, they return because the Saturday programs, Delta Academy, Delta GEMS, EMBODI, Project SEE and R.A.F.T. are packed with educational activities wrapped in high energy fun. Each program has a distinct focus and the curriculums are appropriate for participants aged 5 to 18, said North Dallas Alumna Chapter President Pamela Pujo.

"And, because Delta Sigma Theta is a public service organization, all the workshops include a component that teaches the value of giving back to the community. We have been hosting these youth workshops for over twenty years and Sorority members value the opportunity to teach the children much-needed life skills," Pujo added.

"North Dallas Suburban Alumnae's youth programs are always free to participants and while some have limited space, all are encouraged to apply," she said.

Delta Academy is geared toward pre-teen and teen girls and focuses on building

self-esteem.

Girls are introduced to concepts of leadership, exposed to the arts and other cultural activities within the Metroplex and often meet community leaders who impart knowledge and wisdom to encourage personal growth.

Delta GEMS, (Growing and Empowering Myself Successfully) focuses on academic excellence and girls aged 14-18 are introduced to goal setting along with life-skill techniques that will sustain them as they complete their educations and move on to successful careers. The goal of the program is to

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Kevin Daley

City Men Cook announced today that former Harlem Globetrotter and National Speaker, Kevin Daley will join the City Men Cook roster of celebrity chairs at what is fondly nicknamed - the largest Sunday Dinner in North Texas.

City Men Cook is scheduled for Father's Day, Sunday, June 17, 2018, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. CST, at Gilley's Dallas, at 1135 S. Lamar St., Dallas, TX 75215.

City Men Cook is an annual culinary event, deemed



as one of the largest Father's Day celebrations in the country. It is been aptly nicknamed as the largest Sunday Dinner in North Texas.

Kevin Daley is an inter-

nationally renowned 10-year veteran and former captain of the World Famous Harlem Globetrotters, a Guinness Book of World Record holder, and the author of the award-winning inspirational autobiography "I Never Stopped Smiling" and the very popular goal-setting workbook "Never Stop Your Goals".

While leading the Globetrotters, Kevin assisted in development and then spearheaded the organizations bullying prevention program, a topic close to his heart after facing much adversity on his own journey to success. His goal is to

reach as many children as possible with his very own "S.T.O.P the Bullying" prevention program.

"Kevin's national presence and expertise in anti-bullying is perfect match for City Men Cook and our mission to create change in the community," says Terry Allen, Event manager.

"We are overjoyed to execute our first Mentor program in DFW with Kevin, we are asking for 150 men to show up and help mentor young men," Allen added.

"Our mission is clear and what remains most important is that we continue our commitment to fathers and

father figures in our families and communities through this showcase of men, mentors and leaders. We are an official FedEx Cares event. I could not think of a better way to celebrate Father's Day," said Allen.

FedEx, US Virgin Islands, Inc., and others have returned as sponsors of the event helping to commemorate this new chapter. City Men Cook looks to instill community empowerment events with the following initiatives:

- Expanding the MBK-modeled culinary mentoring program to include

school based workshops for area young men teaching essential coming-of-age techniques while enhancing overall father/son relationships.

The City Men Cook mentoring program is a part of President Barack Obama's My Brother's Keeper initiative's network.

- Pairing with Kevin Daley to create a Day of Mentoring to empower champions utilizing the MBK pathways method.

To cook, sponsor or participate in City Men Cook go to www.citymen-cook.com and/or call 214-233-6199.

NDG Readers Sound Off...

Texas publishers: Kroger ignores the African American community

How Sad. That Corporate American can treat the Black community any way .yet we still go spend our Money. With them. In Houston Texas. Over the last 20 years they have Closed every store in our Communities. Black Folk wake up.

-- Rodynie Powell

Caregiver's positivity earns her highest award

I frequently hear about this company, Right At Home, on NPR. I was



Ebert Barnes / Flickr

thrilled to read about "Jackie" and her commitment to her clients. It takes a lot of grit and love to smile through the rejection of clients. Great job, Jackie!

-- Mesia D

Alliance of groups moving to reform Dallas bail system

Wouldn't it be a damn

shame if NY missed the boat on this! NY sets bail for fare jumping. It's FARE jumping and typically bail will be requested. DAs in Manhattan and the boroughs have instructed their staffs not to request bail in these cases. However the DAs are finding other minor things to get the person on so that the judge has no choice. Follow @Court-

WatchNYC

-- @KathyMorse0914 via Twitter

Free HIV and STD testing offered today by DCHHS

Some universities do not even supply STD testing.

-- Unknown

Thank you to NDG readers for retweeting recent tweets from @NDGEditor: @TuckerPR, @SLR-Phillips, @katherinecraft, @lindaharperbro, @mynewdiggs and @joyceforeman16

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Publisher’s Office:

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

Sales Department:

marketing@northdallasgazette.com
972-509-9049

Editorial Department:

editor@northdallasgazette.com

Online:

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STAFF

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*Jim Bochum
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Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Web Master

Todd Jones

Community Marketing

Nadina Davis

Account Executive

Ana Comacho

Production

David Wilfong

Editor

Ruth Ferguson

Religious/ Marketing Editor

*Shirley Demus Tarpley
 (“Sister Tarpley”)*

Columnist

*Ed Gray
A.D. Jenkins*

Contributing Writers

*Jackie Hardy
Rachel Hawkins
Jazlyn Mercer
Dwain Price
Terri Schlichenmeyer
Nicole Scott
David Wilfong*



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We must never forget Hattie Carroll

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Contributor

Hattie Carroll (1911-1963) was a 51-year-old restaurant server who was murdered by a White aristocrat, 24-year-old William Devereux Zantzinger (1939-2009) who struck her with a cane, because she took too long to serve him a drink, during the Spinsters’ Ball, an event at the old Emerson Hotel in Baltimore. News reports said that she told co-workers that she felt “deathly ill” after the beating. That night, Zantzinger was charged with disorderly conduct. The next morning, Carroll suffered a stroke and died. Zantzinger was then charged with murder; later, the crime was reduced to manslaughter, and he received six months in jail (not prison) for killing a woman, the mother of at least nine children, who was more than twice his age and smaller than his 6’1” husky frame.

Bob Dylan popularized the murder of Hattie Carroll in a folk song, “The Lonesome Death of Hattie Carroll.” He didn’t get all the facts right—Hattie Carroll

didn’t have ten children as he crooned, and Zantzinger was never indicted for first-degree murder. Still, the haunting ballad was a poignant reminder that a rich, powerful White man with a diamond ring on his finger and a cane in his hand got away with killing a Black woman server. More than that, Zantzinger was treated with kid gloves, allowed to “take a break” from his incarceration to make sure his tobacco crop was planted.

Young Naomi Wadler, the 11-year-old speaker at the March for Our Lives rally did not know about Hattie Carroll. Why would she have? The fifth-grader that attends school in Alexandria, Va., was born in 2007, forty-four years after Hattie Carroll died in 1963. Her plea to consider the Black women who do not make headlines might well have been extended to Hattie Carroll, but Naomi Wadler did not know, and we don’t know enough to juxtapose White privilege with Black women’s invisibility.

Without knowing all of the details, Naomi shared that Black women don’t often

make headlines. She knows that her contemporaries could be targets of guns, of police brutality, and that their (our) plights are often ignored. Ms. Naomi knows, along with so many of her colleagues, that Black women are worth more than the shrug of shoulders that Mr. Zantzinger offered, when he was confronted with Hattie Carroll’s murder.

On April 4, we will be reminded that it is the 50th anniversary of Dr. King’s assassination. We will remember Dr. King through our prisms, considering him as a prophet, an evangelist, a social justice advocate, and activist, an educator, an economist, a leader and a martyr. We cannot consider him in any silo though, and we must consider him in the context of the women who supported him, who empowered him, and who were sometimes martyred along with him.

Dr. Barbara Reynolds has written about Coretta Scott King and her major contributions to her husband’s work. The King biographer Clairborne Carson shared private letters between Martin Luther King, Jr. and his

“boo” Coretta, where they clashed and reconciled in exciting prose that illustrated their regard for each other. Did the Kings know that a depraved White man, William Zantzinger, was sentenced to a mere six months for killing a Hattie Carroll on the same day that Dr. King delivered the ‘I Have A Dream’ speech?

Medgar Evers was gunned down in his driveway in Mississippi. Hattie Carroll was caned down in Baltimore’s Emerson Hotel for simply doing her job. Without rank ordering death and pain, it is important to note how incidental the deaths of Black women too often are. We don’t, said young Naomi Wadler, make the headlines. Our stories are too often untold. Yet, if we commemorate the 50th year after Dr. King’s assassination, we must commemorate the women who were slaughtered by racists. Hattie Carroll is one of them. Her tragic story must be woven into our history.

Julianne Malveaux is an author, economist and founder of Economic Education.

If Dr. King were still alive

By Congresswoman
Eddie Bernice Johnson

During this week men, women and young people throughout our nation and the world will memorialize the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. A formidable theologian, orator and Nobel Prize recipient, Dr. King surrendered his life so that others might live, and dream.

At one minute after 6 p.m. on April 4th, 1968, Dr. King stepped out of room 306 at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee. He had traveled there to assist striking sanitation workers struggling for an equitable wage and decent working conditions. As he stood on the balcony he was struck by the bullet of a coward, robbing his widow and children of a husband and a father, and

taking from the world one of the greatest minds of the 20th century.

Dr. King lived only thirty-nine years, and he died without material wealth. Nonetheless, he was rich because his entire being was dedicated to improving the lives of those who lived on the margins of American society, who lived as minorities in a society in which the color of one’s skin determined where one could sit on a public bus, which water fountain one could drink from and where one could live, and obtain an education.

Dr. King’s life and work have been esteemed and emulated far beyond America. There are museums, boulevards, lakes and schools named after him in every part of the world, from the United States to Ukraine;

from South Alabama to South Africa, from Paris to Panama. He is revered, and remembered as a fountain of goodness.

Countless numbers of people have been encouraged to pursue greatness by Dr. King’s example. His oratory spoke about the creation of a world in which people were acknowledged because of the quality of their characters and not their ethnicities, their native languages or their faiths. Dr. King gave people hope, and encouraged them to be compassionate. He called for the creation of a fair and noble society, where all people were treated equally, and given opportunity.

If he were alive today, it is my belief that Dr. King would challenge a culture of indifference and materialism. He would insist upon

social policies that improved the lives of those trapped in poverty, senior citizens, veterans, refugees and the disabled.

Dr. King would demand immigration reform. He would call for a ban on assault weapons. He would urge American participation in international climate control efforts. He would call for the destruction of nuclear weapons, and for the end of war. He would ask that Americans listen to, and respect one another, and end the ruthless abuse that has become commonplace.

He is no longer with us. In fact, he has been gone for some time. Yet, the lessons he taught us are as relevant today as they were a half century ago when he stepped out of room 306 at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis on an April evening.

Workforce crisis impacting quality of long term care in Texas

AUSTIN — A workforce crisis is rocking the long term care industry in Texas, dragging down quality ratings and endangering the lives of the most vulnerable seniors in the state.

The Texas Health Care Association today released a report detailing how significant challenges with recruitment and retention of direct care staffing, resulting from demanding work requirements and low Medicaid reimbursement rates in Texas making it difficult to compete in the labor market. These factors, and others, are leaving long term care facility operators scrambling to fill shifts while working on improving the quality of care.

Texas nursing homes are challenged with one of the lowest nursing home Medicaid reimbursement rates in the nation. With approximately two-thirds of the over 90,000 thousand Texas nursing home residents having care paid for by Medi-



Callieamaneer / Wikimedia

caid, nursing homes don't have the ability to shift costs to other payers or have access to other major sources of revenue. The result is a negative impact on recruitment and retention of direct care staff. And in a booming economy like Texas, alternative employment opportunities result in significant turnover rates as seen in Texas in recent years.

A survey conducted by the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies (TCNWS) showed only 8 percent of the nursing home respondents believed to

have an adequate supply of nursing personnel. TCNWS labeled the hiring of more RNs for nursing homes as an "imperative."

High turnover rates lead negatively impacts direct care hours and can lead to negative outcomes. The resulting impact on quality of care as inexperienced staff constantly replace experienced caregivers. Nursing home providers are forced to spend millions each year in overtime wages and agency staffing to fill empty shifts.

According to CMS Nurs-

ing Home Compare, Texas has one of the lowest overall staff ratings for nursing homes. A further analysis of state's average staffing ratings reveals a correlation with a state's overall quality rating, under the CMS 5 star rating system.

"This data simply proves what anyone involved in long term care already knows — staffing is the key to delivering the kind of long term care you would want for your own family," said Kevin Warren, President and CEO of the Texas Health Care Association. "The more consistent and dedicated the staff is, the more they understand and are able to effectively respond to each individual's care needs. Having the necessary resources to compete in a highly competitive workforce that is already in short supply is critical to meet the needs of all individuals relying on the nursing home community in Texas."

DCHHS reports third pediatric death of the flu-season

Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) is reporting an 11-year-old Dallas County resident with a high-risk health condition has died after complications from the seasonal flu. This is the third pediatric death in Dallas County for the 2017-2018 flu season, bringing the total number of flu-related deaths to 80. For medical confidentiality and personal privacy reasons,

DCHHS does not provide additional identifying information.

"Flu activity in Dallas County has been extremely active this season," said Ganesh Shivaramaiyer, DCHHS interim director. "This death is an unfortunate reminder that influenza can lead to serious complications and sometimes be fatal."

"All indications show flu

activity is beginning to decrease; however, influenza is still prevalent in Dallas County," said Dr. Christopher Perkins, DCHHS health authority/medical director. "Older adults, individuals with chronic health conditions, pregnant women, young children and infants are more vulnerable to flu illness and should still take precaution."

The adult flu vaccine is

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

PUJO, continued from Page 2

teach young ladies to pursue their dreams regardless of their current circumstances or surroundings.

EMBODI (Empowering Males to Build Opportunities for Developing Independence) is for boys aged 13-18.

The program teaches leadership through modeled behavior and while Sorority

members teach all the workshops, they often invite male community leaders to share insights and life skills with the boys enrolled in EMBODI.

Project SEE (Science and Everyday Experiences) is for boys and girls in 6th, 7th, or 8th grades and focuses on science.

The program is taught on

a college campus and helps expose students to "fun" concepts in chemistry, engineering and mathematics with laboratory experiments. Team challenges and peer interactions that connect learning to everyday life are taught. Participants are selected on the merits of their written application.

R.A.F.T. (Rise and Fly Together) is for boys and girls aged 5 to 10. The children

are exposed to a host of activities that include physical fitness, social skills such as conflict resolution, and academics.

For more information and to download applications for all of the programs as well as other community-based programs that are offered by North Dallas Suburban Alumnae chapter, go to: www.dstnds.org/programs/.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month in Texas for the TAASA

AUSTIN - Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month (SAAPM) takes place in April of each year, and organizations like the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault (TAASA) work to bring awareness and outreach efforts in their communities during this month.

"Although our work is year-round, this month allows us to concentrate our efforts on an amplified, unified message and focus on the root causes of sexual violence and on the realities of rape in our communities," said TAASA's Executive Director Rose Luna.

During this month, TAASA will be hosting its own events as well as promoting the work of other organizations working to raise awareness during SAAPM, including:

The National Sexual Violence Resource Center toolkit

This online toolkit from

a national information and resource hub relating to all aspects of sexual violence provides comprehensive information on SAAPM, including a campaign overview, social media toolkit, infographics, posters, and more.

The Turn Texas Teal Campaign

Starting in 2016, TAASA launched its #TurnTexasTeal initiative, which entails sharing the campaign via Facebook, Twitter, Twibbon, and Instagram to populate social media with everything from survivor stories to calls to action.

Those interested in finding events in their area can contact their local rape crisis centers or visit TAASA's web site to find information about other upcoming events like the "No More 1 in 4" raffle in Gonzalez and other communities across Texas.

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Plano conference to address social and racial injustice in sports

By Rachel Hawkins
NDG Staff Writer

It seems that everywhere we look, sports is always surrounded by the themes of speaking out about social and racial injustices. It's clear that the public has split itself among the two sides, but yet they still have a couple of questions about what it means for them, the NFL, NBA and the entire situation as a whole.

On Saturday, April 14, at Marriott at Legacy Town Center in Plano from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., there will be a conference called Sports and Social Justice – A National Conversation where speakers and the public will be invited to discuss these issues.

These speakers include: Tim Wise, author and activist, Craig Hodges, former NBA player and an author and activist, Mahmoud Abdul Rauf, former NBA player and activist, Dr. Marc H. Ellis, author and professor, Heather Mustain, minister of missions and advocacy, Mustafa Carroll, CAIR-Houston Executive Director and civil rights activist, and Joy Stephens, community activist.

"What prompted the conference was when I read a



book by Craig Hodge called Long Shot," Furqan Sunny Azhar, attorney and partner said. "Craig was a member of the first couple of Chicago Bulls championship teams, so as a fan of the NBA, I was familiar with him. His book is an autobiographical account of his time growing up in Chicago, his experiences with racism and his career in basketball. His story is compelling because he spoke truth to power, and paid the price for it. Having spent time thinking about the success of Kaepernick's movement, and the people that Kaepernick followed (just like Craig Hodges), his book really struck a chord with me."

"As for the athletics it will continue to be tough for them to speak out at times," Azhar said. "As TDR fa-

mously said - "Nothing in the world is worth having or worth doing unless it means effort, pain, difficulty... I have never in my life envied a human being who led an easy life. I have envied a great many people who led difficult lives and led them well." The struggle will continue, but it's important and worth it."

"Since more and more players are speaking out it means that people will be forced to confront difficult and important questions about the society we live in, and the kinds of people that we are," Azhar said. "It's not something that should be avoided. We need to dispel the narrative that sports should be devoid of politics and social issues. Athletes have a voice, and we should support them in exercising that voice."

The goals of this conference are intended to be a "conversation." It will include four sessions, including two panels, but it will also have time after each session to engage the attendees through a Q&A so that they can also be part of the "conversation."

"I want the attendees to leave the conference invigorated and inspired," Azhar said.

The speakers were chosen by Azhar depending on name recognition, and speakers with scholarship on issues related to race and

social justice as well as local community activities and religious leaders.

When considering certain issues it appears that the public can be involved without the "us vs. them". "While politics has become more partisan, and race may be the most divisive issue of them all, we need to avoid tribalism," Azhar said. "By that I mean when we have attitudes that cause us to stick to our group or party, in spite of what other opinions exist, it does little to solve real problems. Our democracy becomes more

viable when we can engage in meaningful discourse."

"This event is so important to the present day because this year marks the 50th anniversary of the death of our social justice champion, Dr. Martin Luther King," Azhar said. "Further, this event is timely because we live in the Trump Era, which means we know now, more than ever, that facts matter, and our history matters."

To register for this event visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/567826723553216>

Omari Hardwick to help uplift black voices in film with return Of Real To Reel contest

LYNCHBURG, Tenn., -- Gentleman Jack Double Mellowed Tennessee Whiskey and Codeblack Entertainment return to support the next wave of African-American filmmakers with Real to Reel. In collaboration with award-winning actor, producer and writer, Omari Hardwick, Gentleman Jack Real to Reel will provide one participating film create the opportunity to screen their short film for an exclusive audience in Miami and win \$10,000 to help further their dreams.

"I am honored to continue

this partnership with Gentleman Jack Real to Reel," says Omari Hardwick. "This initiative is close to my heart as a writer and producer. Real to Reel helps to elevate the progress of Black creativity and stories we see on screen, which fuels true diversity in film and entertainment."

Real to Reel also consists of the Undaunted Striver video series featuring Hardwick and Mullins, and a six-city film screening tour. The events will showcase the works of emerging filmmakers and feature a panel discussion with film experts as

well as Omari Hardwick in select cities. The 2018 Gentleman Jack Real to Reel film screening tour will visit six cities including Dallas. Dates to be announced.

Soul Fire, a short by Atlanta-based filmmaker, Janlaetae Mullins, was selected as the 2017 Real to Reel winning film. The film is a timeless story of love, loss and remembrance. In addition to winning the grand prize, Mullins and her film will be highlighted as part of the 2018 Real to Reel program.

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Eight Garland students named Dell Scholar semifinalists

By Caren Rodriguez
Garland ISD

Eight Garland ISD AVID students are vying for a chance to receive \$20,000, a laptop and ongoing educational support. The high schoolers were recently named Dell Scholar semifinalists due to their academic rigor, ambition and perseverance.

"I am proud to announce that eight Garland ISD seniors were named Dell



Scholar semifinalists," said GISD AVID Secondary Coordinator Jean Greenidge. "The Dell Scholars Program provides students with \$20,000 to put toward their

college education over six years. It also provides support, including technology, mentoring and a network of previous Dell Scholars to assist students through their

collegiate career."

The program is an initiative of the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation, which has gifted more than \$76 million to highly motivated, underprivileged high schoolers since 2004. The Dell Scholars Program considers students who are enrolled in an approved college readiness program, hold a minimum 2.4 GPA, demonstrate a financial assistance need, and will enroll as a full-time college student in the fall.

"Congratulations to these hardworking AVID students and their families," Greenidge stated. "And a thank you to their senior AVID teachers for their extra encouragement and support."

Approximately 400 Dell Scholars will be named April 10. The following GISD students are in the running to earn the esteemed title.

- Jennifer Cristiano – Garland High School
- Jackeline Estrada –

- South Garland High School
- Marlene Guel-Nino – North Garland High School
- Arturo Hernandez Jr. – Garland High School
- Daniyah Imtiaz – Lakeview Centennial High School
- Cecille Lopez – Lakeview Centennial High School
- Alex Nguyen – North Garland High School
- Edith Perez – North Garland High School

McDonald's offers free breakfast to students and teachers on April 10

To help students prepare for the annual STAAR test (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness), McDonald's of North Texas restaurants will continue its STAAR Free Breakfast program, offering free breakfast

to 3rd – 8th grade students and teachers on Tuesday, April 10 from 5:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Students will receive their choice of an Egg White Delight McMuffin Sandwich or Fruit and Maple Oatmeal,

Apple Slices and their choice of 1 percent low-fat milk or Honest Kids organic apple juice. The offer is only available to those who go inside the restaurant to order and are accompanied by a parent or guardian. Teachers can also

receive the free breakfast offer with proof of a valid school identification card.

"Supporting education and giving back to our local communities is at the core of the McDonald's business," said Joe Jasper, local McDonald's

Owner/Operator. "We're passionate about providing nutritious food options for busy people, and especially proud of our STAAR Free Breakfast program, which can give kids the morning boost they need to achieve greater aca-

demic success."

Before visiting the restaurant for STAAR Free Breakfast on April 10, students and teachers in participating markets are encouraged to check with their local McDonald's for final details.

New free online Stanford course analyzes relationship between sports and universities in the United States

By Alex Shashkevich
Stanford University

The history of athletics at American universities and the issues and opportunities student athletes face is the subject of a new, free Stanford class offered this winter quarter.

Designed for anyone who is interested in college sports, Sports and the University provides students with a broad, comprehensive understanding of the unique relationship between sports and universities.

"As a humanities professor, I'm always looking for ways to help my students to connect deeply and intuitively with ethical scenarios," said Blakey Vermeule, a Stanford professor of English. "Students know and care a great deal about sports. They often speak about sports with tremendous authority, since many of them are world-class athletes. So talking about sports gets all kinds of tough questions on the table very quickly, allowing students to



Stanford freshman football team in 1932, known as the "Vow Boys" after pledging never to lose to USC. (Image credit: Stanford News Service)

debate often very technical ethical and philosophical issues at a deep level."

The class will reopen as a self-paced course in the spring quarter on Stanford Online, which offers free online courses taught by Stanford faculty to lifelong learners worldwide. Most of the interviews and lectures from the class are also available on iTunes.

Vermeule co-developed the course with classics Professor Susan Stephens. The two worked in collaboration with the Office of the Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning (VPTL) as well as with PhD classics student Stephen Sansom and former Stanford PhD student Morgan Frank, who is now a

visiting assistant professor of English at Wesleyan University.

The class is split into six sections that range from the history of ancient athletics in Greece to the tradition of college sports in the U.S. today. Other topics also include the role money plays in sports as well as current issues of race and gender.

The course team developed the idea for Sports and the University about three years ago after noticing that several humanities and social sciences faculty on campus conducted classes on the importance of athletics and its place in culture. Stephens teaches an ongoing classics class, Ancient Athletics, and Vermeule has

taught several English seminars, called Sports and Culture, in recent years.

"Through our own fields of research and teaching about athletics, we've become increasingly fascinated by the very idea of the intersection of these two things – of sports and the university – and the huge issues at stake in that combination," Stephens said in an introductory video for the course. "It seems that every week there are new developments – new findings, new problems, not to mention new scandals – about how athletics are part of college life."

The class, which is made up of audio and video interviews, lectures and various

reading materials, is unusual in bringing together authorities from different fields at Stanford to create an online teaching hub of information on a central topic.

"It is exciting for us to bring together this range of expertise and resources into one place online," said Kenneth Ligda, the VPTL lead on the project. "Discussion is the bedrock of humanistic inquiry, and MOOCs provide a way for universities to offer up their expertise to foster a civil debate around the world."

The course also features interviews with Stanford athletes and with Tara Vanderveer, head coach of Stanford's women's basketball team; Roger Noll, an economics professor emeritus whose research focuses on the economics of sports; Hans Ulrich Gumbrecht, a professor of comparative literature who analyzes the sports experience through aesthetics; the Rev. Joanne Sanders, associate dean for religious life; and other scholars.

As hundreds of people took the online course at the same time last quarter, David Pickel, a doctoral student in classical archaeology, posed questions and moderated discussions to engage learners on different topics addressed during the class.

Pickel said he saw a good share of interesting ideas emerge from the conversations, including a heated discussion about whether student athletes should be paid. One class participant suggested a trust fund, backed by proceeds that either universities or organizations like the NCAA collect, be set aside for those students. The idea took off with other participants, who both challenged and expanded on it, he said.

"Some of these topics definitely engender conflict," Pickel said. "But it was great to see how learners were willing to engage with each other and share their thoughts and perspectives despite their different beliefs."

Irving concert series offers unique outdoor entertainment

Irving's annual concert series showcases live music performances by bands from across the state. The 2018 series brings a variety of tunes to the stage with two exciting themes. In April bring the family out to enjoy 'Vintage Vibes' with music inspired by the sounds of yesterday. Come back in May to groove to the 'Latin Rhythms' of Te-jano and Salsa bands, featuring a performance by the top Selena tribute band in Texas! Gourmet food trucks will be on-site at all shows.

Concerts run from 7 to 8:45 p.m. Parking and admission are free. In the event of inclement weather, shows will be moved to an indoor location. See details on the inclement weather plan at the bottom of the page.

Get on your feet with first responders, firefighters and family members

"Heroes Run – First In, Last Out" will mark the first community event that includes officers from the seven newly-merged police departments which comprise the Dallas County Community College District Police Department.

Heroes Run, also a first-time event for DCCCD, will be held on Sat., April 14, at Brookhaven College. The run, as well as a number of other activities, is open to the public and features the district's first responders.

"DCCCD will premiere its collective police department whose members previously served as seven separate police agencies," said Lauretta Hill, DCCCD's police chief since 2016. "We had seven separate departments, but now we are one, and this is our first event with the community where representatives from every campus will participate."

In addition to DCCCD officers, first responders and community members from throughout north Texas are

Please Note:

- Bring a blanket and/or lawn chair, as seating is not provided.

- Outside food and beverage are permitted, but attendees are encouraged to support the food trucks and area restaurants.

- Leashed, well-behaved dogs are permitted; owners are responsible for removing all pet waste.

- No smoking on the concert lawn.

Concerts are rain or shine events. If inclement weather creates a potentially unsafe outdoor environment, concerts will be moved indoors to the Heritage Senior Center, 200 S. Jefferson St.

Attendees will still enjoy free parking and admission. Seating is provided at the Heritage Senior Center, so please leave your lawn

chairs at home. While food vendors may be on-site in the parking lot, outside food

is also allowed. Note that no pets, alcohol or glass containers are permitted in-

side the building.

If the Inclement Weather Plan is put into effect for a

concert, the listing above will be updated to indicate the change in venue.

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See HEROES, Page 11

Dallas

The Dallas Local Organizing Committee is holding their **17th annual Youth Empowerment Festival** on Sat. April 28 from 1:00 – 5:00 at Kirkwood CME, in Dallas. This event cultural event designed to promote intergenerational fellowship, community unity and to foster intercultural cooperation. There will be musicians, dancers, rappers,

poets, free-stylers and other talented artists at the event. The festival will involve parents, teachers and students in a Talent and Fashion showcase, that will display the talents of individuals of all ages, ethnicities and cultural backgrounds. For ticket information, to sign-up to perform, make a donation or to purchase a vendor's table, contact Wana at (489) 563-4574.

The West Dallas Chamber is presenting their annual Focus on the Future Luncheon **WEST TALKS** on Friday, April 27th from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at 3015 Trinity Groves, in Dallas. This event will celebrate the happenings in West Dallas by discussing a deeper understanding of separate developments and undertakings benefiting healthy economy improve-

ments and enhancements to the quality of life. The talks will feature: Karin Morris, Vice President Community Outreach and Executive Director, Kristina A. Pierre-Louis, Southwest City Attorney and Southwest Community Prosecutor, and Brandon Q. Jones, Assistant Vice President for Community Banking Center Manager. All proceeds will go towards the Future Fund

which will benefit education in West Dallas. To register visit: eventbrite.com.

Operation Blue Shield, a registered 501(c)(3) will host their **Operation Blue Shield SUPERHERO 5K/10K & Family Mile** event on Saturday, April 7, 2018 from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at Dallas City Hall Plaza, in Dallas. Citizens

across North Texas will be invited to run side by side with first responders and community leaders. This event will also feature:

- Action-packed race venue
- First Responder Vehicle Exhibits
- Superhero costume contest for racers
- First Responder "Kit Run" (racing in full gear)

'Down for #TheCount' provides a voice for women and a spectacle for Dallas audiences

By David Wilfong
NDG Contributing Writer

Bishop Arts Theatre in Oak Cliff is currently running its annual "Down for #TheCount" festival, which is a celebration of women's voices in theater, showcasing one-act plays by various female playwrights. This year's production showcases works by Maryam Obaidullah Baig, Kristiana Rae Colon, Katherine Craft, Tsehaye GERALYN Hebert, Linda Jones and Ife Olujobi.

The performance is divided down between six one-act plays, running the gamut from a monologue (Jones' "The Sound") to a redneck tale-turned-South Asian-inspired dreamscape (Baig's "Jo Chaho Tum"). All of which is carried out by a consistent cadre of performers. The disparate sourcing of material was aligned by a common theme.

"What made the process a little bit easier for me was the through-line the director, Miss Phyllis (Cicero) established at the beginning," said actress Feleceia Benton. "The through-line of the whole show was about the lies that we tell ourselves, especially as women. And so I tried to keep that as the underlying thing that I thought about going from one character to the next. So I tried to find some congruence as I transitioned, to try to shift completely out of one character into the next."

"Down for #TheCount" is not a show for younger audiences. It deals with very real themes such as drug abuse, unplanned pregnancy and racism. The staging is minimalist and the flow of the performance is carried by the strength of the acting performances.

Regular attendees of

See #TheCount Page 11










Ashley B. Jones (left) and Haley Thomas portray two teenage friends dealing with an unexpected crisis in the first act, "DIY," written by Oak Cliff native Katherine Craft.

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Irving celebrates grand opening of Big Beat Dallas

By Rachel Hawkins
NDG Staff Writer

Texans are getting a new playground in North Texas. Big Beat Dallas located in Irving held their grand opening from March 29 to April 1. Their slogan “Where Texas Comes to Play” showcases what the new entertainment center represents. With over seven live music stages, and various restaurants and bars, the entertainment center has something to offer to everyone.

Big Beat Dallas is a concept located in The Pavilion at Toyota Music Factory. The 90,000 square foot area encompasses five different venues: Texas Jam House, Bar Manzanilla, Texas C Bar, Highway 61, and Martini Ranch. All of these venues are structured around the Texas Lottery Plaza, an outdoor stage where musicians will perform.

“Our goal is to create an atmosphere where there’s something always going on,” Jake Thompson, Director of marketing at Big Beat Dallas said. “In the mornings the music is light. The Jam House patio and the retail store it’s one of the only places in Irving where you can get live music during lunch, which is why we programmed the smaller stage for singers, songwriters with lighter music and guitars sometimes.”

“We’re programming the main stage for every day of the year because we want to be able to share different genres with people in a way that’s free and they’re not worried about buying tickets



Above, Texas Jam House, a 24-hour venue serves customers during Big Beat Dallas’ grand opening

At right, Highway 61, a blues inspired restaurant presents their alcohol menu.

(Photos: Rachel Hawkins / NDG)



for a show they may never go to,” Thompson said. “People are able to come and check things out while trying new music and foods.

Big Beat Dallas plans to host live music every day and mix their genres between songs that are consistently heard on the radio to singers many people may not know about. The music on the plaza ranges from country to bluegrass to blues and top 40.

“We want an atmosphere that ties into the overall music factory while creating a work, live, and play environment for the entire Irving community,” Thompson said. “We can hit a different demographic with a different

show every night of the week. There is something here for everyone to see. You can see families of three and four, older, younger, early and late night crowds. It’s a very genuine mix of not only Irving but DFW as a whole.”

There are five different places to eat at Big Beat Dallas. The Texas Jam House is a 24-hour concept with a southern style twist. The menus are inspired by Billy Bob’s sister Wynona’s home cooked recipes. Bar Manzanilla, was inspired when Billy visited Manzanilla, New Mexico when he was

younger. The restaurant decided to go more coastal Mexico fare and take a unique spin on their recipes. The bar’s foods cannot be found in other areas because they wanted to take a different approach from the standard Tex-Mex restaurants.

Highway 61 has barbecue and burgers cooked over a wood grill that gives them their unique flavor that can be changed depending on the type of wood the chef decides to burn and live blues music creating a Memphis-like atmosphere. Martini Ranch is actually a Vegas-style nightclub which cannot be found anywhere else in Dallas. Texas C Bar will offer over 200 types of wines representing 300 vineyards around the world.

There is also a retail store called BB’s Marketplace where they sell merchandise, meats, jams, jellies, and Dallas inspired t-shirts.

The Texas Jam House offers options ranging from family-friendly to later nights where grown folk can

enjoy the shows. Highway 61 is more male-driven since it holds bourbon, barbeque, and live blues. Bar Manzanilla caters to the younger energetic crowd where they have DJs and a dance floor at night. Upstairs in Martini Ranch caters more to the female demographic because of the martinis and the various types of cocktails they offer. Texas C Bar is more of an older demographic that can cater for ages 35 to 70 if their taste is more wine, cigars, and scotch.

“We have a Public Entertainment Facility license that allows us within the fence line to have an open container,” Thompson said. “Within the perimeter, you’re allowed to walk from the various restaurants with your drink. It gives us the feel of the stadium model, but with the roof off.”

Big Beat Dallas will also feature a farmers market which will occur daily from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. that is sponsored by Albertsons.



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NDG Book Review: *The Heavens Might Crack* is a good, painful read

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

One minute.

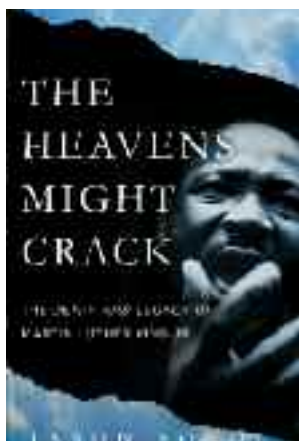
That's all it can take to change history. Sixty seconds, as long as an average TV commercial or two, a few blinks of your eyes and nothing is ever the same. And things can keep changing, as you'll see in the new book "The Heavens Might Crack" by Jason Sokol.

The evening of April 4, 1968 was ordinary, just like many others on the road.

Andrew Young hadn't kept Martin Luther King Jr. satisfactorily apprised of a legal situation in Memphis, and was on the receiving end of a pillow fight. Later, "Young and [Pastor] James Orange shadowboxed in the parking lot" of Lorraine Hotel and, while preparing for the next event, King wondered if he might want a jacket for the cooling air. And then, a "fire-cracker" sound, and King was quiet...

By most accounts, King was prepared for his death. He'd discussed it with friends and family, and they knew that loving him would mean losing him; it had been this way for years but, says Sokol, "the early months of 1968 felt different." White people largely feared and hated King. The FBI told him to "take his own life." And yet, King hadn't once backed down in his ideals.

Shock rolled through the nation following that spring evening. Some wept, and some questioned the need to go on. Others looted, burned, stood against the police in nearly every major city in the country. Many white Americans rejoiced, while Black militancy increased. Gun control, which the Senate had



discussed just hours before King's death, became a political hot-button.

And in the days that followed his assassination, it was feared that King's legacy would be forgotten. Instead, it became sullied: says Sokol, "...the historical King - a courageous dissident who unsettled the powerful - would be replaced by a mythical one."

Because it has been fifty years since Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, it can be assumed that many Americans today are too young to remember it. "The Heavens Might Crack" serves as a good fill-in for them (and for the not-then-born), as well as a look back for those who can recall with great detail.

But beware - it's a painful read, not because of how it's written but because of what's told. Author Jason Sokol picks the scab off old wounds that may've once seemed healed as he puts current events into reverse-perspective: readers might be surprised to see that some issues have softened with age, while others are as sharp today as they were then - and that includes shocking examples of racism, inequality, and violence. He doesn't stop there,


though: Sokol shows how King's birthday became a reluctant holiday, and how his legacy leaves us with a

"duty" to "make clear the substance of his actual teachings..."

This is a history book, to


be sure, but it also feels quite meditative, making it the perfect read for those who remember and those who can't.

"The Heavens Might Crack" is highly recommended. You'll be grabbed by it in the first minute.



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REEL, continued from Page 5

"I am very grateful for the opportunity that Real to Reel has provided to me and many other filmmakers," says Jan-latae Mullins. "It's important for us to continue to drive the conversation of diversity in film forward; and I'm excited to continue the effort with Gentleman Jack."

The Gentleman Jack Real to Reel contest is open to individuals who have created,

directed and/or written a film in which they own the rights.

Entrants must be 21 years old or older at the time of submission. Entries close on May 8, at 11:59 p.m. ET. Submissions will be judged by a panel of industry experts, based on the following criteria: screenwriting, production quality and entertainment value.

Fair housing's unfinished 50-year journey

By Charlene Crowell

(NNPA) Although golden anniversaries are often considered milestone moments accompanied by festive celebrations, two such observances in April 2018 are bittersweet memories for much of Black America. One took the life of an unparalleled preacher, orator, author, activist and Nobel Peace Prize laureate. The other marks the enactment of what many would argue is the strongest of the civil rights laws enacted during the 1960s: The Fair Housing Act.

As observances begin across the country, now is an appropriate time to recall how fair housing was a key issue for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In fact, Chicago became his chosen battleground for fair housing, bringing a national spotlight to the multiple ills of segregated and sub-standard housing. In early 1966, Dr. King moved his family into one of the city's ghetto apartments to dramatize how people were forced to live.

On August 5, 1966 during a march through an all-White neighborhood, a riot exploded with racial taunts and hurled bricks. Remarking on the hostility encountered, Dr. King said, "I have seen many demonstrations



Seattle Municipal Archives / Wikimedia

in the South; but I have never seen anything so hostile and so hateful as I've seen here today."

By the time Dr. King's life was snuffed out by a sniper's bullet in Memphis on April 4, 1968, the cause of fair housing was also on the minds of Congress. The same day Dr. King was martyred, the U.S. Senate passed a fair housing bill and sent it to the House of Representatives for further consideration. On April 10, the House passed the measure.

With a signing ceremony the following day, President Lyndon B. Johnson's signature enacted a federal law that banned discrimination in the sale, rental and financing of housing.

Legally, no longer could people be rejected due to their race, religion, or ethnicity.

In his remarks, President Johnson said in part, "With this bill, the voice of justice speaks again. It proclaims that fair housing for all--all human beings who live in this country--is now a part of the American way of life...We all know that the roots of injustice run deep."

Unfortunately, 50 years of legal roots supporting fair housing has failed to deliver full justice. For many Blacks and other people of color, fair housing today remains just as elusive as it was in 1968.

A year-long analysis of 31 million records by the Center for Investigative Re-

porting found that:

The homeownership gap between Blacks and Whites is now wider than it was during the Jim Crow era. Another independent research report by the Economic Policy Institute found that the difference in Black homeownership between 1968 and 2018 is virtually the same – 41.1 percent (1968) compared to 41.2 percent (2018);

In 61 metro areas across the country, Blacks were 2.7 times more likely than Whites to be denied a conventional mortgage loan;

As the number of non-bank mortgage lenders rise, these businesses are not required to adhere to the Community Reinvestment Act that requires lending to

low-income borrowers and in blighted areas.

Each year, the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL) releases an analysis of the annual Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, the most comprehensive mortgage lending report, and the only one that includes data on lending by race and ethnicity. CRL's most recent analysis found that in 2016, conventional mortgage lenders continue to serve white and wealthier borrowers. Despite broad support for large banks following the most recent housing crisis, Blacks, Latinos, and other borrowers of color are mostly accessing government-insured mortgage programs such as FHA or VA. Even upper income Blacks are overrepresented in FHA.

In plain English, that means fewer banks are offer mortgage loans to average Americans and talks about the future of mortgage lending fail to provide for greater access. Once again, the same communities that suffered the worst losses during the Great Recession remain at a financial disadvantage. Homeownership is still a solid wealth building block. As home values appreciate, financial gains are achieved. But for those shut out of these opportunities,

the chance to safely build family wealth is denied.

Further, a recent report by CRL and the National Urban League analyzing a proposed draft of legislation from Senators Bob Corker (TN) and Mark Warner (VA) to reform the nation's housing finance system found it will harm access to affordable mortgage loans and the overall housing market. The proposal removes key affordability mechanism such as the broad duty to serve, including affordable housing goals. It also weakens fair lending enforcement under the Fair Housing Act by inserting business judgment protection for guarantors' decisions on access – despite the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that such claims are permissible under the Fair Housing Act.

Just as President Johnson stated 50 years ago, "We have come some of the way, not near all of it. There is much yet to do."

Despite the passage of a half century, our journey towards fair housing remains unfinished.

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

HEROES, continued from Page 7

CareFlite is expected to make a landing. Farmer's Branch Citizens on Patrol, a volunteer service group, will help demonstrate the importance of driving while sober.

And participants also can try on gear from a variety of first responder units – including tactical police and firefighter gear. They also can take 22 steps that honor and represent veterans who

are lost to suicide in the U.S. every day.

KEGL 97.1 The Eagle will do a remote broadcast from Brookhaven College and kick off the 5K race that morning.

Funds from the event will be used to stock college

food pantries and help meet the needs of DCCCD students so that their lives can be a little more stable throughout the year, Ethington said.

Brookhaven, Cedar Valley, Richland and Mountain View colleges support food

banks on campus to assist food insecure students. North Lake's Blazer Store is a place where students can obtain food, clothing and other items. Other DCCCD colleges help students who struggle with food insecurity, too, officials said.

The district's "Heroes Run – First In, Last Out" will become an annual event and will rotate among all seven DCCCD colleges. This year's sponsor is Sam Pack Auto Group. Food will be provided by Chick-fil-A and Chuy's Restaurant.

#THECOUNT, continued from Page 8

Bishop Arts Theatre will see familiar faces like the powerful Ash'lee L'Oreal Davis and Kenne Earl (both veterans of Bishop Arts' production of "Ruined"), as well as newcomers like Ashley B. Jones, who opens the first

act of the show.

For those who have never attended, the Bishop Arts Theatre Centre provides Dallas with an Off-Broadway-style intimate venue for taking in live theater performances in the heart of

the growing North Oak Cliff district. In particular, the "Down for #TheCount" festival is a fast-paced flood of vignettes which is both thought-provoking and visually stimulating. It showcases up-and-coming playwrights, with a special emphasis on local talent.

"I wanted to make sure that every playwright was valued," Cicero said. "In my production values, in my acting, in my directing; that every single playwright was a unit that was their own. However, I wanted a through-line for my audience. There needed to be a

through-line, so that when we talk about women's issues, we don't go all over the place. We're not scattered. It's not an explosion. It is a through-line, and one of the through-lines that kept coming to me was lies and illusions.

"Now that could be taken

negatively. I did not. There are lies we tell every day. There are illusions that we create. Some of them we create and maintain for years. There are situations that we either lie our way out of or elude. And that's human beings. That's not strictly women."

NAACP sues President Trump over 2020 census

By William J. Ford
The Washington Informer
NNPA Member

(NNPA) The NAACP announced that the group has filed a lawsuit against President Donald Trump, the U.S. Census Bureau and Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross, “to combat the imminent threat that the 2020 Census will substantially undercount African Americans and other people of color in communities throughout the United States,” a press release about the lawsuit said.

Prince George’s County, the NAACP’s Prince George’s County branch and two county residents (branch President Bob Ross and Elizabeth Johnson), also joined the suit. Prince George’s County experienced one of the highest undercounts in the nation at 2.3 percent during the 2010 Census, according to the suit. The figures are based on counties with a population of at least 100,000.

“Such a dramatic undercount will especially dilute the votes of racial and ethnic minorities, deprive their communities of critical fed-



NAACP President and CEO Derrick Johnson (at podium) talks about the NAACP’s lawsuit against President Donald Trump, Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross and the U.S. Census Bureau over management of the 2020 Census, during a recent press conference at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. Elizabeth Johnson, (left) a resident of Prince George’s County and Rushern Baker, the county executive for Prince George’s County also delivered remarks. (Freddie Allen/AMG/NNPA)

eral funds and undervalue their voices and interests in the political arena,” the suit alleges.

During a press conference about the lawsuit at the National Press Club in Northwest D.C., Bradford Berry, general counsel of the NAACP said that this lawsuit is unique, because the plaintiffs seek action before work on the 2020 Census begins.

For instance, the suit claims the federal govern-

ment has decreased resources and manpower for the 2020 Census and “cancelled crucial, pre-Census field tests and is rushing to digitize the Census without adequate cybersecurity protections, thus undermining public confidence in the privacy of Census data” the press release said.

The lawsuit also states that the Census Bureau doesn’t have sufficient staffing; the agency’s acting director, Ron Jarmin, was

also named as a defendant in the suit.

On Capitol Hill last week, the U.S. House of Representatives approved \$2.8 billion for the bureau, an increase more than double the amount of the Trump administration’s request of \$1.1 billion.

“Proposing a bill and passing a bill are two different things,” said NAACP President Derrick Johnson. “Once the final bill passes, we would like to evaluate to see if it’s sufficient. We simply need the political will to make sure we have an accurate count for this [upcoming] Census.”

Prince George’s County Executive Rushern L. Baker III said his jurisdiction has lost about \$200 million in federal money, because of Census undercounts. The Maryland jurisdiction of nearly 900,000 people borders Washington, D.C., with 65 percent of the population African American.

Federal law requires that citizens are counted in a decennial census that not only helps redraw political boundaries, but also for counties and states to receive federal money for improvement of schools, roads and other needs.

Critics have argued that a

proposed citizenship question in the 2020 Census will deter legal immigrants from responding and decrease the number of people counted in those communities. The Hispanic population in Prince George’s County stands at about 18 percent.

“What’s more frightening about this Census count, more than in the past, is the rhetoric from the Trump administration,” Baker said after the press conference. “With a growing Latino population in the county, this is a direct assault on those folks participating in the Census. If it’s happening here, then it’s happening everywhere.”

William J. Ford is a staff writer for The Washington Informer. You can follow him on Twitter @jabariwill.

The Washington Informer is a member publication of the National Newspaper Publishers Association. Learn more about becoming a member at www.nnpa.org.

BFTS Museum presents the Inspirational Tuskegee Airmen Story April 4-8 in Terrell

TERRELL -- The story and legacy of World War II’s famed Tuskegee Airmen – America’s first black military pilots and their support personnel – is vividly told in “Rise Above: Red Tail Triumph Over Adversity”. The Commemorative Air Force’s traveling exhibit will be located at Terrell’s No. 1 British Flying Training School Museum April 4-8.

Housed in a climate controlled 53’ semi-trailer with expandable sides, the 160 degree panoramic screen allows visitors to experience the feeling of being in the cockpit soaring about the clouds in a P-51C Mustang during the movie. Each showing lasts 30 minutes and the theater can accommodate 30 guests. Visitors can enjoy visiting the BFTS Museum before or after their movie

experience.

None of the World War II heroes were experienced pilots, though all had some college education. What they had in common – and what made them ultimately succeed – was the ability to recognize that all the obstacles they faced could be overcome with hard work and dedication. WWII was the era of military segregationist policies where many believed that blacks were inferior and would never be capable of learning to fly or contribute to the war’s air power efforts.

These timeless lessons were reflected in their six guiding principles – Aim High, Believe In Yourself, Never Quit, Be Ready To Go, Use Your Brain, Expect to Win. Each visitor will receive a dog tag emblazoned

with these guiding principles.

The Commemorative Air Force (CAF) honors the men and women who built, maintained and flew airplanes during World War II. The CAF ranks as one of the largest private air forces in the world as they collect, restore and fly vintage historical aircraft. The CAF’s Red Tail Squadron maintains a fully restored P51-C Mustang whose paint scheme, with its distinctive red tail, represents the four squadrons that made up the famed 332nd Fighter Group.

Located at 119 Silent Wings Blvd. Terrell, the exhibit will be open from 10 am – 6 pm Wednesday – Sunday. For information or group reservations, call 972-551-1122 or visit www.bftsmuseum.org.



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Upcoming DFW area job fairs

April 14 The Heights Workshop

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

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 www.theheights.org/job-seekers/

The Heights JobSeekers Ministry serves the community by assisting jobseekers with tools, resources, net-



working 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 Cholula Porch.

Open positions include: hospitality, food services, security, housekeeping, and entry level management opportunities. 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>.

April 26 Dallas ISD Public School Choice & Special Programs Job Fair

Dallas ISD is hosting a job fair from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Alfred J. Loos Sports Complex, in Addison.

This event will be geared toward any campus that falls under the Public School Choice umbrella: Transformation and Innovation, Personalized Learning, Magnet, Montessori, Vanguard, Collegiate Academy, Choice Programs, Two-Way Dual Language etc.

For this event you will need your registration ticket and your certification or Statement of Eligibility. Check-in will start at 4:30 p.m. to register for this event please visit: eventbrite.com.

April 28 Career Expo and Job Fair Grand Prairie

Grand Prairie Libraries is providing a Career Expo and Job Fair from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There will be over

20 job representatives at this expo. Some employers will hold interviews on the spot so make sure to bring plenty of resumes! Space is limited so be sure to register at 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.



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

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BETHEL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP, CARROLLTON (A PLACE TO BELONG)

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

April 8, 9:45 am
You're invited to our "Prayer and Meditation" at 9:45 am. You will be blessed and inspired. You don't want to miss this as we celebrate service to God, our community and all mankind.

April 11, 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.

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

FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH IN ALLEN "THE SHIP"

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

April 11
Join us in our Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day Live, Prayer and Bible Study and/or our Wednesday Night Live, Prayer and Bible Study at 7 p.m. to learn more about God's Word. Be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and His glory; and most of all; be prepared to grow.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed. D. Senior Pastor
1609 14th Street
Plano, TX 75074
Future Building location is 2450 K Avenue #300
Plano, TX 75074
972-379-3287
www.theship3c.org

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

April 8, 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 11, 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.

April 12, 7 p.m.
Join us in Monday School as we grow in God's Word and learn what God has to say to us.

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

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

April 8, 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 11, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study class; you will learn what God has to say to us. Come to be encouraged by God's plan for your spiritual growth and His glory.

Dr. Sam Fenceroy, PhD Senior Pastor and Pastor Gloria Fenceroy
300 Chisholm Place
Plano, TX 75075
972-633-5511
www.mocop.org

NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH (Abiding in Christ)

April 8, 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 11, 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
nmzbcofdallas@aol.com

SHILOH MBC IN PLANO (WHERE COMMUNITY BECOMES FAMILY)

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April 8, 8 am & 11 am
You are invited to join us to praise and worship of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ for His goodness to this world. We would love to have you in morning worship.

April 11, 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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St. Luke 'Community' United Methodist Church Celebrates 85 Years

Dr. Zan Wesley Holmes, Jr., St. Luke Pastor Emeritus, will be the speaker at the 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship celebrations Sunday, April 22, for the church's 85th anniversary.

The anniversary theme is "Honoring Our Legacy—Pursuing Our Destiny." The church is located at 5710 East R.L. Thornton Frwy., Dallas.

The community is invited to join members at multiple activities planned April 18-



25 to celebrate the church's legacy.

April 18 - 7 p.m. - "St. Luke's Got Talent."

April 22 - 8 a.m. & 11

a.m. - Worship Services.

April 23 - 11 .am. shotgun start - St. Luke Anniversary Golf Tournamen (Keeton Park Golf Course,

2223 N. Jim Miller Road, Dallas), Contact: Allen Avery @ 214.930.0439 April 25 - 7 p.m. - "INNERtainment" featuring Comedian Marcus Wiley For more information about St. Luke's anniversary activities, please call 214.821.2970, or visit our website at www.slcumc.org.

Read about the history of St. Luke Community United Methodist Church at www.slcumc.org.

Be patient, God has something better for you



Sister Tarpley

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

On a mountaintop, three trees dreamed of what they wanted to become when they grew up.

The first tree looked at the stars and said, "I want to hold a treasure; be covered with gold and filled with precious things. I'll be the most beautiful treasure chest in the world."

The second tree looked at the small stream trickling by on its way to the ocean. "I want to travel mighty waters and carry powerful kings. I'll be the strongest ship in the world."

The third tree looked at the valley below where busy men and women worked in town. "I don't want to leave the mountain top at all. I want to grow so tall that when people look at me, they'll raise their eyes to Heaven and think of God. I'll be the tallest tree in the world."

Years passed; the rain came, the sun shone and the trees grew. One day three woodcutters climbed the mountain.

The first woodcutter looked at the first tree and said, "This tree is beautiful, it's perfect for me."

With a swing of his ax,

the first tree fell. "Now I shall be made into a beautiful chest, I shall hold a wonderful treasure!"

The second woodcutter looked at the second tree and said, "This tree is strong, it's perfect for me."

With the swing of his ax, the second tree fell. "Now I shall sail mighty waters," thought the second tree. "I shall be a strong ship for mighty kings."

The third tree's heart sinks when the last woodcutter looked her way. She stood straight and tall and pointed bravely to Heaven. But the woodcutter never looked up. "Any kind of tree will do for me," he muttered. With a swing of his ax, the third tree fell.

The first tree rejoiced when the woodcutter brought her to a carpenter's shop. But the carpenter fashioned the tree into a feed trough for animals. The tree was not covered with gold nor filled with treasures. She was coated with saw dust and filled with hay for farm animals. The second tree smiled when she was taken to a shipyard, but no mighty sailing ship was made that day.

Instead the once strong tree was hammered and sawed into a simple fishing boat. She was too small and weak to sail an ocean, or even a river; instead she was taken to a lake.

The third tree was confused when the last woodcutter cut her into strong beams and left her in a lumberyard.

Many days and nights passed; then one night, starlight poured over the first tree as a young woman

placed her newborn baby in the feeding trough. Suddenly the first tree knew he was holding the greatest treasure in the world.

One evening a tired traveler and his friends crowded into the fishing boat. The traveler fell asleep as the

boat quietly sailed on the lake. Soon a thundering and thrashing storm arose.

The tree shuddered; she knew she did not have the strength to carry so many passengers safely through the storm; the tired man was awakened, He stood up and said, "Peace, be still!" The storm stopped as quickly as it had begun. And the second tree knew he was carrying the King of Kings.

One Friday morning, the third tree was startled when her beams were taken from the woodpile. She was carried through an angry jeering crowd.

The soldiers nailed a man's hand to her; she felt ugly, harsh and cruel. But on Sunday morning, when the sun rose and the earth trembled with joy beneath her, the third tree knew that God's love had changed everything.

It had made the third tree strong. And every time people thought of the third tree, they would think of God. This was better than being the tallest tree in the world.

The next time you don't get what you want, sit tight, be patient and be happy because God has something better to give you!



Dr. Genice Nelson, specializing in Comprehensive Sickle Cell Disease Program at Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas.

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NDGtv

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

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

Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com

LIFE

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Beto spends as much time listening as speaking during campaign stop in DeSoto

By David Wilfong
NDG Contributing Writer

Election season is underway, and with it comes the excitement of public appearances, speeches and rallies. But Senatorial candidate Beto O'Rourke spent much of his time in DeSoto during Thursday's campaign visit in a small church conference room surrounded by a small group of Black faith leaders from the southern sector of Dallas County.

O'Rourke told the small gathering he was not there to convince them to vote for him. He was primarily at the meeting to listen.

"I want to be sure that I'm listening to everyone's story and that those stories comprise this campaign, and what we're able to do serving in the Senate," O'Rourke said. "That's the



Rev. Frances Cudjoe Waters (at left) shares her perspective with Congressman Beto O'Rourke while (to the right) Elder Manolito Norman, Rev. Dr. Michael Bowie Jr., Rev. Marcus D. King and Pastor Bryant X Phelps listen on during a roundtable discussion held with local faith leaders at Disciple Central Community Church prior to his town hall meeting on Thursday afternoon. (Photo: David Wilfong / NDG)

opportunity that you, Pastor (Marcus D.) King, have given me today. So I just want to tell you I'm grateful, and I want to be true to this opportunity and I want to make sure I don't talk too

much more and have a chance to listen, and respond to the great ideas that come forward."

The ideas came.

O'Rourke was given a brief synopsis of the history

of DeSoto and the Best Southwest area. The community representatives lamented the lack of public transportation in the area, which was a holdover from the days when DeSoto was

a primarily white city, and opting out of the opportunity to join the DART service area was seen as a step in preventing minorities from coming in.

Community development was another key issue, with a special emphasis on how certain companies seem to avoid minority-majority areas. Also brought up was the subject of bail reform and the legalization of marijuana.

O'Rourke revisited the subjects later when he appeared before approximately 300 local residents at the DeSoto town hall meeting.

King, the senior pastor at Disciple Central Community Church where the meeting took place, came away from the discussion with an optimistic view of the upcoming electoral battle.

"I studied a little bit about him before I came to the meeting today," King said. "And actually hearing him, hearing his heart, I think he's a person who's open for change and a person who's ready to make change. That's what we need in Texas, and we need in the senate. So I'm very excited about that."

"I think right now, the numbers from the election that just took place, that's very promising. I think also because of the climate of America right now, and Ted Cruz being connected to the president – even though he ran against him – I think Democrats in Texas really want to rise up and get some changes taking place. I think right now the momentum is there. There's a good chance that he can actually unseat Ted Cruz."

BETO, continued from Page 1

March 22.

One of the primary differences between his campaign and his opponent, a source of pride he shared in his DeSoto visit, was he had out-raised U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz despite not taking any money from political action committees or corporations. Beto reported he had received an average of \$25 per donation from more than 185,000 individual donors.

The event included questions from the audience, many of which gave Beto

the opportunity to reiterate some of his stated positions on a wide variety of issues. There were, however, heavy concerns raised by two attendees to the town hall.

The first said she had researched Beto's website and was disappointed. She said the campaign had "white-washed" the most important issues facing African Americans, and she needed to know the person she voted for was going to address issues "head on." She also pointed out that while DeSoto is 80 percent Black, the

crowd gathered for the town hall meeting was primarily white.

"I needed to hear everything you just had to say," Beto responded, "I want you to know, I understand some of the structural barriers, the way that this is baked into the system that helps to explain some of the otherwise confounding results. We just learned about recently a study that looked at young white boys and young Black boys born into wealth. Parents have the same income. Born on the same block. And chances are that white boy will be a

wealthy white man. Chances are that Black boy will be a poor Black man. Why is that?"

The other speaker stated that, as a Christian Black woman, she felt the Democratic party was ostracizing and attacking anyone who did not fall in line with the preferred position on each and every issue. In her case specifically, she opposes abortion and felt attacked by Democrats every time she raised it. The voter admitted she did not vote for the office of president in 2016 because neither candidate represented her.

"I couldn't agree more with the premise of your question," Beto told her. "It's got to be all of us and not just Democrats. There are a lot of Independents and even some Republicans ... who we need to be listening to if we have any hope of representing them, or earning their vote to get in a position of trust to represent them in the first place. With the cotton growers in Lubbock, Texas, I don't ask them if they are Republican or Democrat. There's a good chance that they are Republicans. But I'm learning about farming



Congressman Beto O'Rourke greets the waiting crowd after being introduced for a town hall meeting held at the Chocolate MINT Foundation in DeSoto on March 29. Beto is working to hit all Texas counties during the campaign to unseat Sen. Ted Cruz. (Photo: David Wilfong / NDG)

issues, and what it's like to grow up in Lubbock, Texas."

He shared the fact his mother was a conservative Catholic who also opposed abortion, and while they differed on the abortion issue itself, they found common ground in ways to reduce the demand for abortion through effective family planning.

"I'm not going to turn my back on her just because she doesn't see things the same way that I do," Beto said. "Democrats used to win statewide in Texas because Democrats would show up and listen to people statewide."

The town hall ended with a group of four children being given the opportunity to ask their own question, the last of which was a child asking how he could make sure children could feel safe in their classroom.

Beto's position on the issue which has consumed the country in the past few weeks is an advancement of universal background checks. He also stated he wanted to ban the sale of the AR-15 rifle. And he lamented that his own children are having to face questions about what to do if a shooter entered their school.



More than 300 people showed up at the Chocolate MINT Foundation to see Congressman Beto O'Rourke, who is challenging Republican incumbent Sen. Ted Cruz for one of Texas' two seats in the senate. (Photo: David Wilfong / NDG)