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MLK50: Fifty years after Kerner and King, racism still matters

By Derrick Johnson
President and CEO
National NAACP



“Segregation and poverty have created in the racial ghetto a destructive environment totally unknown to most white Americans. What white Americans have never fully understood but what the Negro can never forget—is that white society is deeply implicated in the ghetto. White institutions created it, white institutions maintain it, and white society condones it.”

— Report by the Kerner Commission, 1968

Fifty years ago, the nation was rocked by the brutal and public assassination of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Eerily echoing the title of King’s final book “Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?”, his murder sent a powerful shock wave through the soul of America resulting in urban rebellions springing up in over 100 cities and placing the nation at a political and social crossroads.

As cities burned with rage at King’s murder, most of America had already dismissed and forgotten the damning and prophetic report published only a month earlier by the presidential commission chaired by Illinois Governor Otto Kerner. Officially called the National Advisory Commission on Civil

Derrick Johnson, the president and CEO of the NAACP, says that today, many of America’s Black communities bear the sustained scars of physical and economic injuries. (NNPA)

Disorders, the Kerner Commission identified systemic racism and poverty as the causes of the major Black rebellions in both Newark and Detroit the previous summer. The report warned that America was “moving toward two societies, one black, one white – separate and unequal” and offered concrete suggestions for confronting immediately this “deepening racial division.”

However, the Kerner Report’s recommendations for reconciliation and progress were never heeded; in fact, they were actively disregarded. Despite commissioning the report, President Lyndon B. Johnson went out of his way to suppress the spread of its findings. The consequences have

been severe: “Whereas the Kerner Commission called for ‘massive and sustained’ investment in economic, employment and education initiatives, over the last 50 years America has pursued ‘massive and sustained’ incarceration framed as ‘law and order,’ while the ‘war on drugs’ has failed,” says a new book, “Healing Our Divided Society,” co-edited by former Sen. Fred Harris, the sole surviving member of the Kerner Commission.

Today, many of America’s Black communities bear the sustained scars of physical and economic injuries. Even in Baltimore, the headquartered

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Elizabeth Alexander



Dorinda Walker

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!!!



Elizabeth Alexander

By Alex Kekauoha
Stanford University

Writer, poet and memoirist Elizabeth Alexander has been named as speaker for this year's Baccalaureate. The multifaith celebration led by graduating students will take place on Saturday, June 16, at 10 a.m. in the Main Quad.

Alexander is president of the Mellon Foundation, a philanthropic organization for higher education and the arts. Her writing, which addresses topics such as race, gender, politics and mother-



hood, has been published in numerous journals, including the Village Voice, Prairie Schooner and Paris Review. Her 2005 book of poems, *American Sublime*, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

In 2009, then President-elect Barack Obama asked Alexander to compose and read a poem for his inauguration. The poem, "Praise Song for the Day," was recited before an international audience and later published.

A native of Harlem, New York, Alexander grew up in Washington, D.C. Her father, Clifford Alexander, was the former U.S. Secretary of the Army and the first African-American to hold the position. She received degrees from Yale and Boston universities before earning her doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania.

The Rev. Professor Jane Shaw, dean for religious life at Stanford, called Alexander a supremely talented and thoughtful poet, essayist and memoirist whose advocacy of the arts is vital in today's world.

"Her ability to articulate the importance of the arts and humanities, as well as a sense of the sacred, for reaching beyond ourselves and connecting to others makes her voice an important one for our graduating students as they go out into the world," Shaw said.

As Baccalaureate speaker, Alexander will provide graduates and their friends and families with in-

spirational words acknowledging the spiritual contribution to their education.

Since 2005, the Office for Religious Life has hosted a student speaker contest. A graduating senior offers reflections into their own spiritual journey during their time at Stanford, including hopes and dreams for the future for the entire class. Finalists are chosen from the pool of submissions and auditions are held before a winner is selected.

A bookend to students' Opening Convocation held four years earlier, Baccalaureate at Stanford is a multi-faith celebratory gathering for graduating seniors,

graduate students, and professional students, as well as their families and friends.

It is a student-led commemoration acknowledging the spiritual contribution to the education of the whole person, organized under the auspices of the Office for Religious Life (ORL). In addition to lively music from culturally diverse backgrounds, the program includes readings from different communities and perspectives which represent the wide range of religious traditions represented within the ORL by over 30 organizations of Stanford Associated Religions (SAR).

Dorinda Walker

Dorinda Walker, increasingly one of the most sought-after motivational speakers in the country, is bringing her women's empowerment tour, "Protected By Purpose" to Dallas on Friday, April 6, 2018, from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. at Urban Specialists, 1401 S Lamar St, Dallas, TX 75215. Named after her new book, "Protected By Purpose", the tour brings together thought leaders around the country who, like Walker, also have inspiring stories of how they turned set-backs and circumstances to purpose.

Dallas is the first stop on the nationwide tour and will



feature Sheryl Brady, pastor of The Potter's House of North Dallas; Dr. Cortney Baker, gender equality expert and award-winning entrepreneur; Sheena Payne, director of community out-

reach with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas; Sederrick Raphiel, pastor and creative director with The Design Factory; and Eydie Robinson, author, speaker and transformational coach. Entertainment will be provided by Fayth Jefferson. Admission will include an autographed copy of Dorinda Walker's new book, "Protected by Purpose."

Tickets to the "Protected By Purpose" Empowerment Experience in Dallas can be purchased at eventbrite.com.

In "Protected By Purpose", published by Timothy and Titus, a Minneapolis-based publisher of books from one-of-a-kind business

leaders, Dorinda Walker, who is currently a vice president for a Fortune 50 company, details how she overcame enormous challenges, including the trials of a dysfunctional childhood, domestic abuse and her own struggles mental health issues to becoming an inspirational community change agent and an award-winning business leader.

In the book, her first, Walker gives a dramatic firsthand account of being born into a dysfunctional family, suffering the consequences of her parents' drug addiction, her father's battle with AIDS, surviving domestic violence, mental ill-

ness and overcoming crippling low self-esteem. Walker experienced challenges that could stop many in their tracks, but instead it served as a catalyst to success for her.

"I want people who read this book to see that no matter how bad their life-circumstances are, they still have the power within to change it all," says "Protected by Purpose" author Dorinda Walker. "My message is about the power of transformation, and through this book I hope to especially inspire those who have lost all hope. I am living proof that you, too, can win."

From a drug dealer on the

streets to a corporate executive, Walker transformed her life and now serves as a role model, mentor and inspiration to all who encounter her thought-provoking messages that challenge the status quo.

"At Timothy and Titus, we're always on the lookout for business leaders who have incredible and uniquely human stories to tell," says Scott Petinga, founder of the book's publisher, Timothy and Titus. "To witness Dorinda's rise from an oppressive childhood to corporate vice president and then motivational speaker is simply incredible. We knew we had to help get her story out to a larger audience."

NDG Readers Sound Off...

Ed Gray, NDG Senior Columnist: Open Letter to Governor Abbott

Very well said.
-- Carolyn Maxie

April 5 Community Briefs

@QuikTrip thank you for your sponsorship and for being a #safeplace for our youth and I thank @NDGEditor for your community event mention of this event. #ItTakesAVillage

--@SharlaWooten via Twitter

Is Dallas water too dangerous to drink?

Salt fluoridation is the issue that really got me interested in researching the whole practice. Before I had visited Costa Rica and witnessed firsthand the impossibility of finding salt which had not had raw Sodium/Potassium Fluoride [though advertised as addition of F- ions] added DIRECTLY to the sea salt, I didn't think twice about fluoridation.

Come to find out- Costa Rica practices salt fluoridation, UNIVERSAL salt fluoridation to be particular. (illegal to import non-

Fld. salt) SF was originally purported as a rural alternative to WF- but has come to be practiced at the national level across the globe.

However controversial water fluoridation is, no current commentaries have effectively detailed Salt Fluoridation, the practices (dosage assumptions, actual social outcome [amount of sodium fluoride consumed]) and groups which purport the practice.

<http://iris.paho.org/xmlui/bitstream/handle/123456789/736/9275116156.pdf?sequence=1>

"Promoting Oral Health- The Use of Salt Fluorida-

tion to Prevent Dental Caries"

-- James Hargon

Beto campaign gets enthusiastic reception at DeSoto Town Hall

@BetoORourke and I look like we were in training together all day & we just posted the same petty meme in GroupMe. "Hey Bestfriend!" Thank you @NDGEditor for sharing!

-- @CandiceQuarles via Twitter

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Progress vs. the Black Farmer

By Sharon Ewell Foster
NDG Special Contributor

In the name of progress, TxDOT is expanding the highway and promising a freer flow of traffic, right through the birthplace and homestead of my aunt, late activist, and long-time DISD board member, Yvonne Ewell.

As we whiz over roads, stopping at convenience stores, motels, and gas stations—none of them owned by people who look like me—we seldom consider poor farmers who have sacrificed their land, especially poor black farmers threatened with extinction and economic disaster. While others get rich, the poor get poorer as the highway devours land, like my grandfather's, with no consideration of the impact on future generations.

According to the Federation of Cooperatives Land Assistance Fund, Black land ownership peaked in 1910 at around 15 million acres, most of it in the South.

But, according to a 2001 Associated Press story "Torn from the Land: Black Americans' Land Taken Through Cheating, Intimidation, Even Murder" Black land ownership had dropped drastically, two-and-a-half times that of poor White farmers.

Authors Todd Lewan and Dolores Barclay state, "Today, blacks own only 1.1 million acres of farmland and are part owners of another 1.07 million acres." My family is set to be part of that statistic—a statistic that leaves the African American community poorer and with less access to resources, like education.

In 1942, jazz songstress Billie Holiday sang, "Them that's got shall get, them that's not shall lose ..." We've read stories of developers and scammers purchasing land scheduled for



Yvonne Ewell was an activist, and long-time DISD board member, whose birthplace is in the path of TxDOT expansion. (Courtesy photo)

"Right of Way", and flipping it in order to reap huge, quick multi-million-dollar profits while men like my grandfather are offered pittance for land they've

“Now the highway is expanding, gobbling up my family’s history and prosperity. The land assessment doesn’t account for the land’s importance to the community’s development, but it should.”

farmed for generations.

Like other black farmers land ownership was both a symbol of freedom and a promise of opportunity. Now, so TxDOT can acquire the land for pennies, they seek to devour it in bite-sized chunks.

My own great-grandfather was born into slavery. Against all odds, he acquired the land TxDOT will soon take. The land has been owned by my family more than 100 years and it did mean prosperity. My grandmother earned a degree and became principal of the segregated local school. Because of the land and my grandfather's hard work, all three of their surviving children earned degrees.

One aunt was a school teacher married to a senior Army officer. My own father became a Deputy Assistant Secretary of the

Army. My eldest aunt, Yvonne, according to the Texas Historical Commission, was a trailblazing educator, an important Texas Woman. A Dallas magnet school is named in her honor. None of my parent's generation would have been educated or been able to serve had it not been for the land.

While White land flippers earn millions, land owned by Blacks is under-valued. Under-valuing black-owned property and land means an inability to get loans, like those denied black farmers by the Department of Agriculture, and the inability to

ther's advice. I also remember a man speaking to my grandfather in threatening tones because my father, who had relocated to Illinois, had come to visit. I remember.

Blacks have lost land because government entities have grabbed it, they've been swindled, or victims of violence.

It was dangerous for Blacks, like by great grandfather to be land owners. "Many of those lynched were property owners," says Ray Winbush, professor at Morgan State University. "If you are looking for stolen black land," he says, "just follow the lynching trail."

Now the highway is expanding, gobbling up my family's history and prosperity. The land assessment doesn't account for the land's importance to the community's development, but it should. Why is a transient convenience store more important than land that fed hungry people?

And in addition to being a principal, my grandmother built a schoolhouse on the land so that she could teach illiterate adults. Bigots burnt a cross in front of it to discourage her service.

Though the highway has already been broadened, TxDOT still wants more land; they have not been forthcoming about why. Pavement will cover our land, our legacy, and the education of future generations. We should be treated fairly. After over 100 years, we deserve a fair accounting and a fair price.

Sharon Ewell Foster is the author of "Abraham's Well", a Trail of Tears novel that, in part chronicles her family's arrival in Texas. She is also author of "The Resurrection of Nat Turner", 2012 winner of the Civil War Institute's Michael Shaara Prize for Excellence in Civil War Fiction.

'Re-gifting' of previously transplanted kidneys extends life for new recipients

(UCLA) Sometimes, the gift of life can be "re-gifted."

That is, a kidney previously donated to one person can be re-donated to a new patient after the initial recipient dies, saving yet another life. Procedures in which people receive previously transplanted kidneys are virtually unheard of, but the surgery could save the lives of hundreds of people in the U.S. each year — people who might otherwise die while waiting for a traditional kidney transplant.

Typically, previously transplanted kidneys are lost to future use when the first recipient dies. But Dr. Jeffrey Veale, a transplant surgeon at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center who has performed the rare surgery three times, maintains that re-donating previously transplanted kidneys should



Dr. Jeffrey Veale with (from left) Linda and Eva Maldonado and Ver-tis Boyce, the recipient of a re-donated kidney. (UCLA Health)

become standard practice.

One beneficiary of the surgery is 70-year-old Ver-tis Boyce, a Las Vegas resident who was freed from the limitations of dialysis in July 2017, when she received a re-gifted kidney from the family of Beto Maldonado.

After suffering from kidney disease for most of his life, Maldonado received a kidney transplant in 2015. But he died in an auto acci-

dent two years later. Rather than discard the still-usable kidney, his family agreed to donate the organ.

For Boyce, the power of the "gift of life" was no less meaningful because it was a re-gift.

On March 5, when she met Maldonado's mother, Eva, and sister, Linda, the trio barely spoke. Instead, they exchanged hugs. Eva reached out and held her hand over Boyce's ab-

domen and let it linger there, tears flowing from her eyes.

"Mi hijo," Eva said softly — "my son" in Spanish.

Said Boyce of her new kidney: "I'll take good care of myself so I can take good care of this."

Veale sums up the re-gift this way: One kidney helped three people live.

"In the United States about 25 percent of those who receive a donated kidney die while their kidney transplant is still functional," said Veale, director of the UCLA Kidney Exchange Program. "Re-gifting that viable organ to another patient on the waiting list gives new hope to patients who otherwise may not be considered for a transplant."

With a re-gifted kidney, people who had been reliant on dialysis for years could live normal lives, spending

time with their loved ones, traveling or doing anything else that people who aren't on dialysis may take for granted.

Each year in the U.S., less than 20 percent of patients on the United Network for Organ Sharing kidney transplant waiting list will receive a transplant, and 13 people on that list die each day. If transplanting kidneys a second time were standard practice, it would open up a currently unutilized pool of donors.

Linda Maldonado said it had never occurred to the family to donate her brother's kidney to someone else until a health care provider asked her about it. She thought about the fact that Beto had more time with his family than he would have otherwise, thanks to the gift of a kidney from a teenager the Maldonados had never met.

"We just thought, 'They gave him that gift, why ... not give that gift to somebody? Why not help another family if we can?'" Linda said.

Boyce is overwhelmed and grateful. In fact, thanks to the "re-gifted" kidney transplant she recently flew to her nephew's wedding, where she saw family members she hadn't seen for nearly a decade because of her need for regular dialysis.

"It's just like a blessing," Boyce said. "That's the best way I can explain it. I feel freer, and I know I'm on the road to a more fulfilled life. I have a 6-year-old grandbaby that I thought I wouldn't live to see grow up. I think I will be there now."

Learn more about the immunity, inflammation, infection and transplantation research theme, or I3T, at UCLA.

Pfizer partners with Sickle Cell disease community on new digital platform

By Freddie Allen
Editor-In-Chief
NNPA Newswire

People living with sickle cell disease (SCD) fight a lifelong, uphill battle against severe pain, isolation and a medical establishment often ill-equipped to offer compassionate, informed care.

That's why Pfizer Inc., partnered with the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America (SCDAA) to create, oneSCDvoice, a digital platform that provides access to resources designed to increase knowledge, emotional support, and help empower people living with SCD, according to a press release about the new platform.

SCDAA, is a national organization that has supported the needs of the SCD community since 1971 with 50-plus chapters that provide critical services to the local SCD community, the press release stated.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says

that sickle cell disease occurs in roughly 1 out of every 365 Black or African American births and about 1 in 13 Black or African American babies is born with sickle cell trait (SCT).

Gary Gibson, the president and CEO of Martin Center Sickle Cell Initiative, said that, historically, SCD patients often experience isolation.

Gibson said that, with the advent of social media over the last few years, there has been a tremendous explosion of people that are engaged and communicating about living with SCD. Advocates for people living with SCD wanted to organize those engagements in a way that would create a trusted resource.

"oneSCDvoice was developed to not only motivate advocacy around the disease, but also to help create a more informed and consistent voice for sickle cell disease patients and streamline access to all this information," said Gibson. "So, with oneSCDvoice,

now you have a place that you can trust with information about sickle cell disease. There's a tremendous amount of information on [oneSCDvoice.com] that is curated and is constantly checked to be make sure that it's accurate."

Gibson added that the platform is very user friendly and populated with a lot of information; users can also interact with experts that are a part of the oneSCDvoice community.

"In doing so, they are removed from that stigma of isolation that has been a part of sickle cell for so long, Gibson said. "So, now they can become more comfortable and feel more connected to a community...once they get used to it, they're going feel like oneSCDvoice is better than Facebook."

The platform features a library of links to credible information about SCD, curated by advocates, patients, and medical experts without Pfizer influence; the platform also includes clinical

trial education and a "smart social wall" for community-driven conversations.

Dr. Kevin Williams, the chief medical officer for Pfizer's Rare Disease Unit, said that the smart social wall allows people that are living with sickle cell disease to engage each other and share information about issues that concern them about work or life, in general. The smart social wall also provides information from "the trusted research community" to help focus those conversations.

Williams said that the Black Press plays a major role, as the vanguard for communicating credible, relevant information directly to the Black community.

"I see this as a something that will be critical in raising awareness around not only oneSCDvoice, but also about sickle cell disease, in general," said Williams.

Gibson said that, it's important that people realize that companies like Pfizer have increased their invest-

ments in SCD research and treatment. Gibson said that those increased investments are a sign of hope for people living with SCD.

"Pfizer is investing a lot of money, not only in the development of treatments, but also in ways that will help SCD community members to improve their

lives by providing access to platforms like oneSCDvoice," said Gibson. "This was not true five years ago or even three years ago, but now it's true and it's an example that people are caring and investing more and that's a sign of hope for everyone involved in the SCD community."

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Irving approves additional funding for parks and recreational development

By Rachel Hawkins
NDG Staff Writer

The Irving City Council agreed to approve the \$245,000 agreement between the City of Irving and Halff Associates INC, for the development of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan on Thursday, April 5.

The goals of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan are to cre-

atively work towards a goal of 10 acres of parks and open space per 1,000 residents, renovate inefficient facilities, implement additional practices, update the park system, review existing funding, research potential revenues, and provide a 5-year action plan with a 10-year horizon plan. The planning process was heavily based on Irving's citizens' input. The last update was conducted in 2000 to

the original 1996 Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan.

The Imagine Irving Comprehensive Plan was adopted in July 2017. That plan number one goal was to conduct a park system-wide Master Plan to address recreational priorities, improve the quality of the park system, and evaluate and prioritize potential projects.

The City of Irving's Parks department is in charge of

overseeing: 75 parks and beautification areas, 2,000 acres of parkland, 6 recreation centers, 7 aquatic facilities, 1 senior center, 1 teen center, 33 miles of trails, numerous athletic complexes, 1 skate park, and several rental facilities.

In 2017, a citizen survey was issued to see the level of priority for recreational facilities was needed the most.

High priority: Play-

ground and playground equipment, hiking, biking, and walking trails, picnic shelters, outdoor basketball courts, fishing and canoeing, multipurpose indoor centers and recreation centers.

Moderate priority: Sand volleyball courts, baseball fields, outdoor swimming pools, soccer fields, lighted tennis courts, additional tennis courts, indoor basketball courts, and indoor

swimming pools.

Low priority: In-line hockey rink, lighted in-line hockey rink, lighted soccer fields, softball fields, equestrian trails, indoor tennis, and racquetball courts.

The benefits of this plan could include Irving having modern cutting-edge recreational technology, maintaining eligibility for grants and state funding, and a rep-

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Holmes to speak at special service for St. Luke 'Community' UMC 85th anniversary

St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church is celebrating 85 years of fellowship with a special series of events.

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



Dr. Zan Wesley Holmes
(Courtesy photo)

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 a.m. shotgun start - St. Luke Anniversary Golf Tournament (Keeton Park Golf Course, 2223 N. Jim Miller Road, Dallas). Contact: Allen

Avery at 214-930-0439 April 25 - 7 p.m. - "INNERtainment" featuring

Comedian Marcus Wiley

For more information about St. Luke's anniver-

sary activities, please call 214-821-2970, or visit the website at www.slcumc.org.

No Taxation without Relaxation: Kona Ice to host 5th annual National 'Chill Out' Day

With Tax Day right around the corner, many of us are reaching into our pockets to pay-off Uncle Sam. To relieve taxpayers of the stress associated with meeting the federal deadline, Kona Ice will be hosting its fifth annual National "Chill Out" Day.

The island-inspired truck will be parked at various locations across the greater Dallas area to hand out FREE cups of tropical shaved ice to all who stop by. The refreshing treat will ensure that there is no taxation without relaxation this tax season.

National "Chill Out" Day is one of the many ways Kona Ice is encouraging the nation to take a step back, relax and enjoy a Kona. National "Chill Out" Day is one small, yet powerful, way the brand hopes to put a smile on people's faces. Through partnerships with schools, youth sports leagues and other neighbor-

hood organizations, Kona Ice has given back more than \$50 million to the communities it serves.

You can visit these sites on Tuesday, April 17:

- Firestone Complete Auto Care (600 E. Stacy Road, Allen, TX) // 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

- Klyde Warren Park (Corner of Woodall Rogers & N. Harwood) // 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

- Eules Public Library (201 N. Ector Dr., Eules, TX) // 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

- Chase Bank (3061 W. Camp Wisdom, Grand Prairie, TX) // 12 - 2 p.m.

- Lowes Home Improvement (1000 W. Arbrook Blvd., Arlington, TX) // 12 - 2 p.m.

- Duncanville Chamber (300 E. Wheatland Road, Duncanville, TX) // 12 - 2 p.m.

- Tinsley Park (2617 Anita Dr., Garland, TX) // 12 - 2 p.m.

- Rowlett Chamber of Commerce (4418 Main

Street, Rowland, TX) // 12 - 2 p.m.

- Sam's Club (2900 W. Wheatland Road, Dallas, TX) // 12 - 2 p.m.

- Eastpoint Business Center (5100 Catron Drive, Dallas, TX) // 12 - 2 p.m.

- Chase Bank Building (740 E. Campbell Road, Richardson, TX) // 1 - 3 p.m.

- Old Town Coppell (768 W. Main Street, Coppell, TX) // 2 - 4 p.m.

- Mathnasium Prosper (1040 North Coit Road, Prosper, TX) // 2 - 4 p.m.

- Home Depot (5280 South Hwy. 360, Grand Prairie, TX) // 2 - 4 p.m.

- YMCA (4546 S. Carrier, Grand Prairie, TX) // 5 - 7 p.m.

- David McDavid Honda of Irving (3700 W. Airport Fwy., Irving, TX) // 2 - 4 p.m.

- Firestone Complete Auto Care (4700 Preston Road, Frisco, TX) // 2 - 4 p.m.

- Smith Library (300 Country Club Road, Wylie, TX) // 5:30 - 7 p.m.

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'Bits and Bites' are a foodie's delights at 10th anniversary El Centro event

Palate-pleasing "Bits and Bites" will be served during a special 10th-anniversary culinary event presented by the El Centro College Food and Hospitality Institute on Sun., April 15. Ten years marks this program of extraordinary dishes that will be served at the Dallas Arboretum's new food and sustainability-focused event space, called A Tasteful Place, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$65 per person and can be purchased online at <https://www.elcentrocollege.edu/cd/dcc/hosp/food-hosp/pages/bits-and-bites-2018-tickets.aspx>. Tickets also can be purchased by mail; make checks payable to the DCCCD Foundation and send to: El Centro College, Cindy Bozelli-Duke,



Business and Public Services, 801 Main St., Dallas TX 75202.

"Bits and Bites" is an annual opportunity for food lovers to taste and enjoy culinary creations made by Dallas-area chefs who are El

Centro alumni, along with current students in the college's culinary program.

The event offers innovative, chef-curated food (in bite sizes), with wine pairings, that tickle the taste buds and give attendees the

chance to support a culinary program that trains and educates the Dallas/Fort Worth-area's food and hospitality workforce.

"Proceeds from the event contribute to a fund established to enhance and expand our Food and Hospitality Institute," said Steve DeShazo, who directs El Centro's FHI. "The event is a chance to showcase the accomplishments of our graduates, who are among the best chefs in the DFW area, and to give our students an opportunity to learn from them."

A few of the presenting chefs include:

- CBD Provisions, Chef Nick Walker
- 3015 at Trinity Groves, Chef Sharon Van Meter

- The Mozzarella Company, Paula Lambert

- Empire Bakery, Chef Meaders Ozarow

- Parigi, Chef Janice Provost

- Grand Hyatt DFW, Chef Jean-Claude Plihon

- Fairmont Hotel / The Pyramid Room, Chef Jared Harms

- The Porch, Chef Adam West

- La Duni, Chef Dunia Borgia

- Café 43, Chef John Maas

- 20 Feet Seafood Joint, Chef Marc Cassel

- Whiskey Cake, Chef Hugh Stewart

- Vestals Catering, Chef Jordan Swim

- Chef Robert Clifford

- The Rustic...and more!

During the event, the insti-

tute will honor Jessie Yearwood, El Centro food and hospitality service faculty member, and founding members of the "Bits and Bites" committee.

More than 150 accomplished chefs in the Dallas area received their formal training at El Centro's Food and Hospitality Institute, including: Richard Chamberlain of Chamberlain's Steak and Chop House and Chamberlain's Fish Market Grill; Nathan Tate of Boulevardier and Rapsallion; Dunia Borgia of LaDuni Restaurants; Marc Cassel of 20 Feet Seafood Joint; and Shari Carlson of Dessert Dreams.

For ticket information, contact Cindy Bozelli-Duke at 214-860-2213 or email bo-duke@dcccd.edu.

Opinion: The HBCU community needs bipartisan support

By Dr. Harry L. Williams
President and CEO
Thurgood Marshall
College Fund

A few months ago, the Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCFF) was proud to welcome the presidents and chancellors from 30 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Predominantly Black Institutions (PBIs) to Washington, D.C. for the second annual HBCU Fly-In held in conjunction with the leadership of Senator Tim Scott (R-S.C.) and Representative Mark Walker (R-N.C.), who are both members of the very important, bipartisan HBCU Caucus.

My experience as a former HBCU president and now leader of TMCFF, working on behalf of our 47 publicly-supported HBCUs, gives me a broad perspective on the federal

government's partnership with HBCUs, as delivered through this event's multiple listening sessions and direct engagement opportunities with members of Congress and senior leadership within the Trump Administration. Thanks to the commitment of dozens of our HBCU presidents and chancellors who attended our inaugural convening and this year's fly-in, we're beginning to see major developments from several federal agencies looking to increase support for HBCUs and to create more opportunities for our scholars.

Thanks to our collective advocacy, several HBCUs that were devastated by Hurricane Katrina in 2005 received total forgiveness of outstanding loans awarded for the restoration of their campuses in the hurricane's aftermath.

Southern University at New Orleans, Dillard University, Xavier University, and Tougaloo College are free of their repayment obligations on more than \$300 million in federal loans, because of direct engagement with and action from this administration and congressional leadership on issues of critical importance to our HBCU's, like this one.

Perhaps the most significant indicator of our growing partnership has been the achievement of level funding in the President's FY' 2019 budget proposal and within the recent Omnibus Appropriations Bills. For example, the FY' 2018 Omnibus Appropriations bill had major wins for HBCUs:

Pell Grant Maximum Award

- FY'17 Funding Level: \$5,920 (per student)

- FY'18 Funding Level:

\$6,095 (+\$175/increase of 2.96 percent).

Title III, Part B and F, Strengthening HBCUs Undergraduate Programs

- FY'17 Funding Level: \$244.6 million

- FY'18 Funding Level: \$279.6 million (+\$34 million/increase of 14.3 percent)

Title III, Part B, Strengthening HBCUs Graduate Programs

- FY'17 Funding Level: \$63.2 million

- FY'18 Funding Level: \$72.3 million (+\$9 million/increase of 14.3 percent)

Title III, Part A, Strengthening PBI Program

- FY'17 Funding Level: \$9.9 million

- FY'18 Funding Level: \$11.3 million (+\$1.4 million/increase of 14.3 percent)

Title VII, Masters Degree Program at HBCUs and

PBIs

- FY'17 Funding Level: \$7.5 million

- FY'18 Funding Level: \$8.5 million (+\$1 million/increase of 14.3 percent)

We are cognizant that many lawmakers in the majority in Congress favor fiscal austerity to address budgetary issues, but in a legislative environment dominated by talks of budget cuts, critical HBCU funding lines were increased, which is a demonstrable return on our collective investment in bipartisan engagement.

Indeed, TMCFF's decision not to resist, but instead engage in a strategic way and bipartisan fashion on behalf of our nearly 300,000 HBCU students who need a voice in Congress and with the Trump Administration has borne fruit at many levels. I am optimistic that

many of our presidents and chancellors departed the nation's capital with a clearer sense of the propriety of this strategy given our mutual goals, and now having the benefit to witness the rewards of this advocacy effort. TMCFF will not stop engaging with all of our federal partners, because bipartisan advocacy with the Congress and engagement with the Trump Administration is paying dividends for our nation's HBCUs.

Dr. Harry L. Williams is the president & CEO of Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCFF), the largest organization exclusively representing the Black College Community. Prior to joining TMCFF, he spent eight years as president of Delaware State University. Follow him on Twitter at @DrHLWilliams.

Expanding robotics program offers opportunities for special-ed students

Dallas ISD "Adaptive Robotics" teams are gearing up to show off their robots and skills during a scrimmage on Friday, April 27.

Students receiving special education services have

the opportunity to explore basic concepts in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Expanding from five teams participating during the 2016-2017 school year, there are nine

participating secondary campuses this year.

In several district elementary specialized classrooms, the robotics experiences are being expanded through the use of robots such as the

Ozobot and the BeeBot. Students will use these robots to solve problems and to participate in academic tasks.

At the first spring semester scrimmage in February

at Loos Field House, students worked on social skills, community involvement, higher level thinking, and problem solving.

The Special Education Department and Dallas ISD

STEM Department continue to collaborate to provide opportunities for students receiving special education services to explore the growing field of STEM.

Minnie's Food Pantry raises \$1.3 million at star-studded gala



Oprah Winfrey, signs an autograph as Cheryl Jackson, Founder of Minnie's Food Pantry, right, watches on the red carpet at the Minnie's Food Pantry 10th Annual Feed Just One Gala on April 3 at the Omni Frisco Hotel in Frisco. (Courtesy photo).

The Minnie's Food Pantry Feed Just One Gala 10th Anniversary celebration was nothing short of magical as global media leader and philanthropist Oprah Winfrey took the stage and inspired a sold-out room of 760 people to pledge a total of \$1.3 million to support the organization in their mission to reduce hunger.

Grammy award winning gospel recording artist, Israel Houghton opened the show with his song, "The Power of One" and Grammy award winning gospel recording artists, Donnie McClurkin, sang "Stand" in tribute to Cheryl Jackson's late mother, Minnie Hawthorne-Ewing, the namesake for Minnie's Food Pantry. Pastor John Gray gave the invocation and Floyd Mayweather greeted the crowd with a welcome, pledging to support Minnie's Food Pantry now and in the years to come.

Joel and Victoria Osteen, pastors of Lakewood Church, presented the Minnie Ewing Legacy Award to 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. 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.

The highlight of the night was Oprah Winfrey, who inspired the audience as she described her life growing up in Mississippi, her grandmother's influence on her life and how she lives her life with intention. "True freedom is waking up in the morning and deciding what you want to do with your life. That is what I wish for each of you," Winfrey shared.

Following her remarks, Oprah Winfrey announced a donation of \$250,000, then charged the room to match her gift. Not only did the attendees rise to the occasion, but they exceeded even Winfrey's expectations, raising more than \$1.3 million dollars in an impromptu fundraising fashion of coming to the stage and sharing their name and donation pledge. Rob and Melissa Wechsler donated \$250,000 and Peter and Tatiana Concro, founder of Jersey Mike's Subs, was a \$100,000 gala sponsor and also committed to an additional \$100,000 annually for the next five years. Mark Burnett and Roma Downey donated \$100,000 and Bill and Vicki Adkins contributed \$25,000 to the event sponsorship and

In addition to the monetary donations, former WNBA star, Fran Harris, who owns Harris Real Estate Partners, pledged to acquire and restore the childhood home of Minnie Hawthorne-Ewing, Cheryl's mother and donate it to Minnie's Food Pantry.

The night was filled with surprises for the guests from the start, including a goody

bag where each attendee received a sub from Jersey Mike's, a commemorative


candle from Brighton the Occasion and K. Rashae, a special 10-year anniversary



bottle of Dr. Pepper and a smart watch from Fossil, valued at more than \$275.

Founded by Dr. Cheryl "Action" Jackson, Minnie's

See GALA, Page 14


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Dallas

The Cedar Valley College and El Cento College are to hold **candidate forums for District 7 DCCCD trustee seat** for two candidates, Charletta Rogers Compton, current chair of the DCCCD board of trustees, and Dr. Micheal Jackson, a retired El Centro College administrator, who are running for a seat on the Dallas Community College District's board of trustees for District 7. They will be held at Cedar Valley College on April 11, in room M233 in the M building, in Dallas at 11:00 a.m., and El Centro College on April 18 in room 100 in the C building, in Dallas at 7:00 p.m.



Judge Lynn Toler

Judge Lynn Toler, an actress and producer of Emmy-nominated hit television show, *Divorce Court*, is to Keynote the **55th Annual V. Alyce Foster Trailblazer Awards Luncheon** on Saturday, April 28, at noon, at the Hilton Anatole

Hotel in Dallas. This event will be hosted by South Dallas Business & Professional Women's Club, Inc, where they will 12 outstanding Trailblazers and Honorees in the Dallas community, and award scholarships to eight graduating seniors.

Texas A&M College of Dentistry students will provide **free dental sealants** at The Asian-American Dental Society's Biannual Dental Sealant and Prophecy Day on April 14 at Texas A&M College of Dentistry, in Dallas from 9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. To receive the free preventive dental treatment, you must RSVP in advance by calling (214) 471-5450 or visiting freesealantday.setmore.com

The Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce - Business Development Corporation (BDC) will celebrate their **23rd Annual Samuel L. Brown Scholarship Golf Tournament** on April 23 at 7:00 a.m. at Cedar Crest Golf Club, in Dallas. 100 golfers, guests, volunteers, plus members of the civic, nonprofit and business community will be invited to this event to watch as golfers raise money for scholarship funds. All proceeds will go towards the Excellence In Education Scholarship Fund. The golf

Local March for Our Lives event organized in Coppell

The Texas District 24 Town Hall for Our Lives was held April 8 at Coppell's Old Town Pavilion, allowing students, parents and other citizens to share their questions and concerns on current and future gun legislation.

Johanna Luza, from Texas Gun Sense, Donna Schmidt, from Moms Demand Action, and Jan McDowell, Demo-

cratic candidate for Texas Congressional District 24, were the speakers for the event.

The panel moderator was Nisha Singh, a District 24 resident and high school junior from Hockaday.

For those unable to attend, more information can be found at www.momsdemandaction.org,

tournament will also feature breakfast and awards luncheon

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center is hosting a **"Meet and Greet"** on Thursday, April 19 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at MLK, Jr. Community Center (Bldg A), in Dallas. To honor of the ongoing MLK beautification project, they will have a rib-

bon-cutting ceremony. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet volunteers, and network with community partners.

The Meadows Conference Center in Dallas is holding a **"Can We Talk"** free workshop on May 30, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

This workshop is available for social services pro-

fessionals who want an opportunity with multi-agencies to connect, network, and share resources. Complimentary lunch will be served. You must RSVP by May 25 by contact: 214-670-8442 or info@dallasm-lkcenter.com

Irving

Toyota Music Factory's grand opening will be held from April 13 to 15 starting

at 7 a.m. in Irving. Attendees will experience live music from local bands, entertainers such as face painters, balloon twisters, magicians, jugglers, and fire breathers, appearances and autograph opportunities from the Dallas Cowboys Rhythm and Blue and the Mavs ManiAACs.








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Courtesy photo

Dallas Black Dance Theater pays tribute to those who were lost

By Rachel Hawkin
NDG Staff Writer

Dancers in sustained motion who embraced their collective strength.

That's the concept audience members took away at the end of the Friday night as they sat captivated, watching dancers glide across the stage with raw emotion and striking talent.

Dallas Black Dance Theater's Encore! performed the debut of *In the Sea of Heaven* from April 6 to 7 at the Moody Performance Hall, in Dallas.

The piece *In the Sea of Heaven*, was part of DBDT: Rising Excellence Series, was created by Japanese choreographer, Takehiro "Take" Ueyama. His dance

was inspired by the earthquake and tsunami that devastated Japan in 2011, as well as the 2017 hurricanes. He described the dance as paying tribute to the victims who are later transformed into angels.

Ueyama modern work brought awareness of the effects of natural disasters. *In the Sea of Heaven* shows strong themes of letting go and moving on but still remember the ones that were lost.

The music to this dance also made its world debut. It took on a unique ambient style that left those who watched in wonder.

Ueyama was born and raised in Tokyo. When he moved to the United States in 1991 he decided to study dance at Juilliard in New

York. He later started TAKE Dance in 2005.

"In Japan, there is a word called 'Ma.' It's a powerful

silence," explained Ueyama. "Sometimes silence can be very powerful. And sometimes physicality

and a lot of activity can be very powerful, so I am combining both of them."

In the Sea of Heaven is

supported by the Japan Foundation through the Performing Arts JAPAN program.



Dallas Black Dance Theater's Encore! performed the debut of *In the Sea of Heaven* from April 6 to 7 at the Moody Performance Hall, in Dallas. (Courtesy photo)

Irving Police program that helps kids needs new building

For 25 years, the Irving Police Athletic League (IPAL) has been serving children in the community.

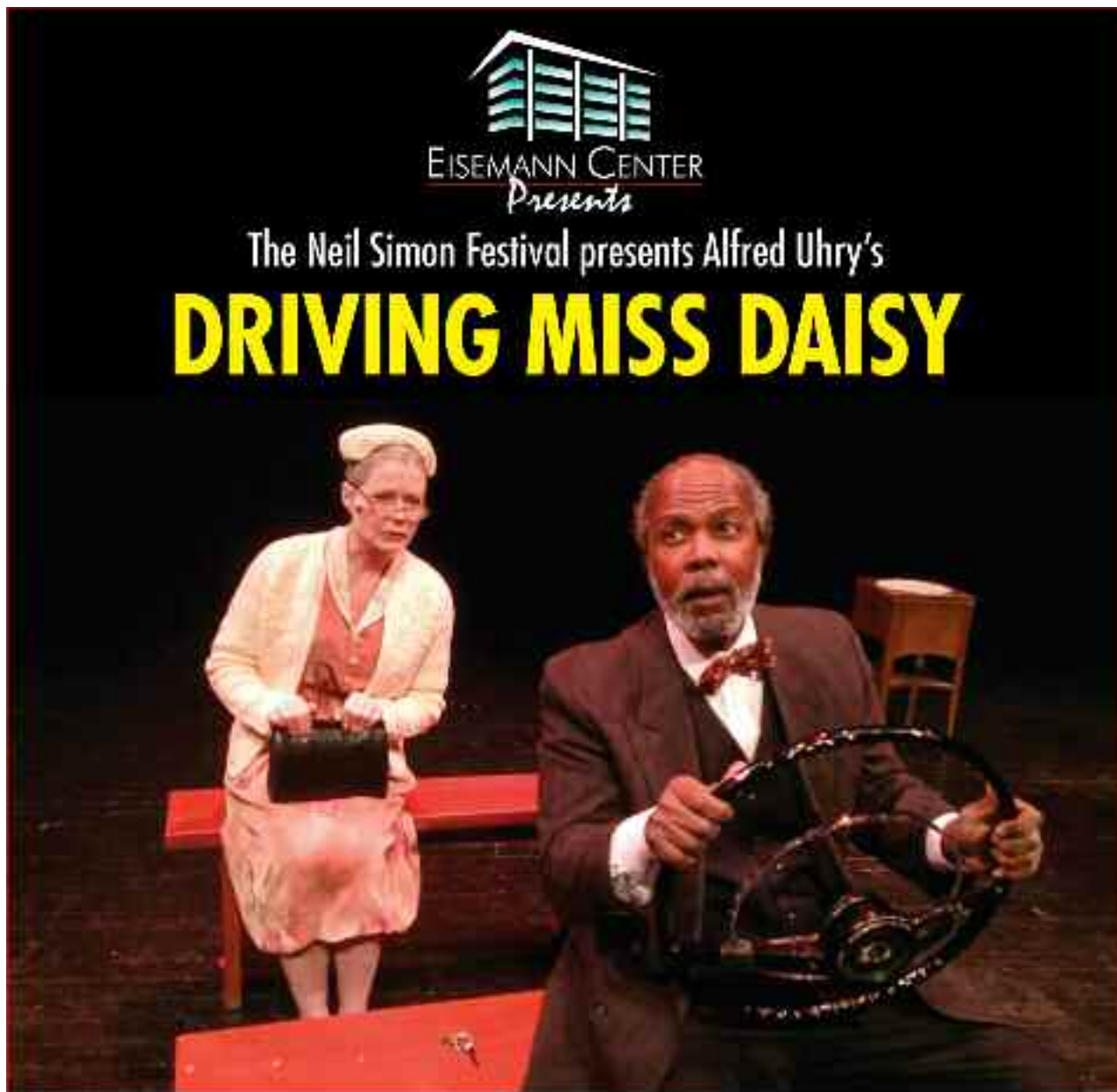
This program began 25 years ago to target at-risk youth when Irving was struggling with gang-related activity and violence. It has continued to grow and offers opportunities to local children who would otherwise not be able to participate in activities of this caliber.

The IPAL is in desperate need for a larger and safer facility to instruct and train. The State of Texas graciously awarded the IPAL a sum of approximately \$202,000 with the condition that matching funds are raised by August 1, 2018. The funds we raise this year will enable IPAL to ren-

ovate a historic building the City of Irving currently owns, giving us the much needed training space required to offer services to more children as well as the addition of classroom space for tutoring, mentoring, and workshops, positioning us to better serve the youth of the community for years to come.

The non-profit has been awarded \$202,000 by the state, but to keep the money the organization must match it by August 1. Recently, the 2018 Class of Leadership Irving-Las Colinas raised more than \$20,000 during an event hosted to kick-off this effort.

To learn more about the program and ways to give visit their GoFundMe page.



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Trump-appointee makes changes to help companies, not consumers

By Charlene Crowell

In 1959, the late Dinah Washington (1924-1963) won a Grammy Award for her R&B hit song, "What a Difference a Day Makes". The song tells the story of how a blossoming romance dramatically changed life – for the better. Its last lyrics, conclude that "the difference is you".

When I consider the steady stream of changes at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), I would alter those lyrics to "What a Difference a Director Makes".

Mick Mulvaney, the illegally appointed acting director of the CFPB has indeed radically changed the Bureau. Central to these changes is his perspective that there is no need for the CFPB to carry out its mission to serve as the consumers' financial cop on the beat -- defending and protecting against deceptive, unfair and illegal practices in the financial marketplace.

For six years, America's consumers had a Bureau that won significant victories in the name of financial justice. CFPB was so effective that 29 million consumers received nearly \$12 billion. In the aftermath of the housing crisis that devolved into a deep recession, a federal law assigned authority to accept complaints, investigate and when warranted, take enforcement actions against bad financial actors. Rules affecting financial transactions as large as mortgages and as small as payday loans were finalized after extensive public hearings where lenders and borrowers alike were afforded the opportunity to share their respective views before any decisions were reached.

The bottom line for CFPB was to act on the law's requirement to implement financial rules of the road to protect both consumers and lenders. Addi-

tionally, CFPB was to seek restitution for the victims of predatory and illegal practices.

Now as CFPB's Acting Director, Mulvaney has systematically implemented a series of changes that so far have weakened the Bureau's mission statement and taken steps to handicap the Bureau's Office of Fair Lending that is charged with countering financial discrimination. He has also begun steps to rewrite the long-awaited payday lending rule that requires lenders to ensure that borrowers can afford to repay these small-dollar loans that come with big costs.

Even worse: he's not yet done with rolling back consumer protections, particularly when it comes to payday and other small dollar loans. A series of CFPB investigations conducted before Mulvaney's appointment are now in jeopardy. Instead of holding businesses accountable for debt trap loans and harassing debt collection practices, Mulvaney has reportedly dropped an investigation against National Credit Adjudicators and may do the same with respect to Cash Express LLC, Security Finance, and Triton Management Group. If allowed to proceed, these investigations could together return an estimated \$60 million to harmed consumers.

It's almost as if CFPB now stands for Companies' Financial Protection Bureau. Companies are being asked to advise Mulvaney of what they think financial regulation should look like. Instead of investigations and enforcements, Mulvaney wants to emphasize information and education while predatory lenders pick the pockets of unsuspecting consumers.

"The CFPB is supposed to create a level playing field for consumers," said Joanna Pearl, a former enforcement attorney in a recent article by Reuters. "I'm

not sure Mulvaney sees it like that."

Some Members of Congress are even joining Mulvaney in trying to turn CFPB into a toothless tiger.

On March 22, South Carolina Senator Lindsay Graham introduced a resolution that would deny consumers the protections in CFPB's payday rule that has yet to take effect. Graham's actions follow a similar resolution offered in the House of Representatives. Should both chambers vote down the payday rule on a simple majority vote, 300 percent interest lenders would emerge as winners and consumers as losers.

"The consumer bureau's rule would help free people from this suffocating debt trap, and its efforts are supported by people across this country including veterans' groups, faith leaders, civil rights organizations, consumer advocates, and many more," said Scott Astrada, the Center for Responsible Lending's Federal Advocacy Director.

A day later, on March 23, Kansas Senator Jerry Moran introduced another resolution that would put an end to CFPB's auto lending guidance aimed at preventing racial discrimination. Fifteen Senate colleagues joined Moran as cosponsors.

Auto finance has been an area of consumer lending that has led to more than \$218 million in fines and restitution through multiple and joint enforcement actions taken by the Department of Justice and the CFPB. In a series of cases from 2011-2017, consumers of color -- Asian, Black, Latino, and Pacific Islanders -- were all found to be charged higher interest and/or markups than were similarly-situated White borrowers.

Corporations involved in these settlements included: Ally Bank, Honda Finance Corporation, Toyota Motor Credit, and Santander, a

firm specializing in subprime auto loans.

Nationwide, auto loans represent the third highest category of consumer debt. And as a recent report by the National Fair Housing Alliance (NFHA) found, the color of your skin has a lot to do with how much debt is incurred.

Discrimination in Auto Lending, the NFHA report, found that despite federal laws banning credit discrimination by race or ethnicity, race remains a key factor in the cost of financing auto loans.

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

"Years of data make clear that racially discriminatory

treatment of consumers is a significant problem in the auto lending industry," said Rebecca Borne, a CRL Senior Policy Counsel. "The CFPB has found discriminatory pricing in the auto financing market and should have the ability to use the full range of its regulatory tools and authority to address it."

If these developments make people feel like they must become involved, there are multiple ways to productively oppose these developments:

Federal lawmakers are currently on recess. During such times, many schedule district forums. If a town hall or public meeting is held in your area, attend and let your representatives know how you feel.

Whether as individuals or as local organizations, call and and/or write both Senators and Members of Congress to directly advise op-

position to these actions; While the CFPB is asking for public input on a series of topics and concerns, weigh in with your perspective of what financial protection should be pursued by the Bureau. A list of the specific requests with links to their due date and how to respond are available on CFPB's web.

The framers of our Constitution made our country a participatory democracy. If you or your family, neighbors or colleagues believe that government should serve the people instead of companies, register your concerns with those entrusted to represent and lead.

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

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Civil Rights progress isn't just about breakthroughs

By Clea Simon
Harvard Correspondent

"I want to make a case for the small," said Danielle Allen, James Bryant Conant University Professor and director of Harvard's Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, for "the things that build a life of commitment."

Giving the keynote address for the Hutchins Center Symposium on Martin Luther King Jr. at the Harvard Kennedy School on Friday, Allen began by noting that although the Civil Rights leader "painted on a canvas that feels big," she and many of her colleagues find themselves advocating smaller-scale activism — and worrying that they are not making a difference.

Frequently citing King's writings, Allen noted, "Through our scientific and technical genius, we've made of this world a neighborhood, and yet we've not had the ethical commitment



Moderator Peniel E. Joseph (left) looks on as Danielle Allen delivers the keynote address during the Hutchins Center symposium on Martin Luther King Jr., in which she lauded the many seemingly small steps towards justice and equality. (Stephanie Mitchell / Harvard Staff Photographer)

to make it a brotherhood."

In a talk that referred frequently to colleagues, many of whom were present and who had spoken earlier at the daylong symposium, Allen shared that she was not initially a fan of "the small," preferring instead to focus on broad issues concerning domination, attacking the social and economic implications of racial injus-

tice head-on.

However, in response to Harvard President Drew Faust's entreaties, she had spent much of the last two years managing a task force on University inclusion and belonging. With data revealing that the population of African-American scholars in some Harvard programs had slipped, she confessed, "There came a certain point

last fall where, in all honesty, I was pretty tired" of the effort.

But even though, she said, she worried that her energies were being frittered away on trivialities, she did find bright spots. For example, she found that the Office for Diversity Inclusion and Community Partnership at the Medical School was doing important work, "changing how students are experiencing the campus," said Allen. She went on to credit that office's dean, Joan Y. Reede.

"It's the Civil Rights Movement," Allen said Reede told her. "It never ended."

That conversation gave Allen pause. "You might think working on something like inclusion and belonging at one of the most elite places in the world doesn't really count as participating in the Civil Rights Movement," she said. What she realized was that these

smaller, seemingly discrete efforts are all part of a larger whole — that even work toward progress at a university like Harvard will have implications for society.

"What we are building here are halls of power," she said. "And the halls of power are connected to the guns and the prison watch towers. It's never just about us here at places like Harvard."

The challenge she threw out to the Harvard community audience was simple: "How do you put together the opportunity and a context like this with the basic inequality that plagues our world?"

Paraphrasing Cornel West, professor of the practice of public philosophy at the Divinity School and the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, who was seated near her, she rephrased her challenge: "It's a question of whether or not as a professional you stay a warrior or

as a professional you become a conformer."

The ways in which that challenge can be answered vary, and some methods can seem, if not small, then quixotic. As an example, Allen cited the work of Bryan Stevenson, M.P.P./J.D. '85, a social activist and attorney who has long campaigned against bias in the courtroom. Stevenson, Allen noted, realized that the issue underlying the racism of some judges and juries was often simply rooted in ignorance. His answer has been to work to establish the Memorial to Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Ala., opening this month, which documents the more than 4,000 lynchings of black people in the South.

"What he was doing was establishing a foundation for the creation of the ethical commitment to brotherhood. It's not just about policy, it's also about the intellectual paradigms."

New Census Bureau population estimates show Dallas-Fort Worth has largest growth in the United States

The Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington metropolitan area's 146,000-population increase last year was the most of any metro area and Maricopa County, Ariz., saw a population increase of nearly 74,000 — the most of any county last year — according to the U.S. Census Bureau's July 1, 2017, population estimates released today. The statistics provide population estimates and components of change for the nation's 382 metropolitan statistical areas, 551 micropolitan statistical areas and 3,142 counties.

"Historically, the Dallas metro area attracts large numbers from both international and domestic migration. Many of the other largest metro areas in the country rely mostly on international migration and natural increase for growth," said Molly Cromwell, a demographer at the Census Bureau.

Among the nation's counties, the top 10 with the

largest numeric growth are all located in the South and the West. The 10 largest counties in the country all maintained their rank compared to last year.

From July 1, 2016, to July 1, 2017, six of the top 10 largest-gaining counties were in Texas — Bexar, Collin, Dallas, Denton, Harris and Tarrant. The remaining four counties on the list were Maricopa County, Ariz.; Clark County, Nev.; Riverside County, Calif.; and King County, Wash. Most of the nation's 3,142 counties grew, with 57 percent gaining in the last year.

Many of the top 10 metro areas with the largest numeric increases in 2015-2016 were also in the top 10 in 2016-2017, with the following notable exceptions: Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-Va.-Md.-W.Va., climbed to 5th in 2017 from 11th in 2016, and Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, Calif., jumped to

7th in 2017 from 13th in 2016.

In 2017, the Baltimore metro area was now the 20th most populous metro area, up from 21st place in 2016.

Net domestic migration is the driving factor behind all of the top 10 fastest-growing metro areas that rose in rank — St. George, Utah; Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; Greely, Colo.; Lakeland, Fla.; and Boise, Idaho.

Out of 382 metro areas, 87 (22.8 percent) saw population decreases between 2016 and 2017.

The metro areas that dropped in rank within the top 10 fastest-growing metro areas, between 2016 and 2017, did so because of decreases in net domestic migration. Those areas are Bend-Redmond, Ore.; Provo-Orem, Utah; The Villages, Fla.; Cape Coral-Fort Myers, Fla.; and Austin-Round Rock, Texas.

Presented by U.S. Census Bureau

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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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www.garlandpurchasing.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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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 15, 9:45 a.m.
You're invited to our "Prayer and Meditation" at 9:45 am. You will be blessed and inspired. You don't want to miss this as we celebrate service to God, our community and all mankind.

April 18, 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 a new book study with "The Red Sea Rules" by Robert J. Morgan, 10 God-Given Strategies for Difficult Times, 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

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; and, don't forget to put it on your calendar for our Grand Entry Service on May 13th.

April 15, 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 18
Join us in our Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day Live, Prayer and Bible Study class and/or our Wednesday Night Live, Prayer and Bible Study at 7 p.m. to learn more about God's Word. Be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and His glory; and most of all; be prepared to grow.

April 29, 9:30 a.m.
You are invited to our VIP Sunday Worship Service at Story Elementary in Allen, Texas. It's for our Friends and Family. You are special to us.

May 13, 9:30 am
You are invited to our Grand Entry Sunday Serv-

ice. Mark your calendars! We are glad that God is blessing us and we want you to share our blessings.

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 13, 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 15, 10 a.m.
You are invited to join us for our Morning Service as we celebrate of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

April 16, 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 15, 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 18, 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 15, 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 18, 7 p.m.
Join us at our Wednesday's Intercessory as we pray to God for others. Call the church for details.

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

SHILOH MBC IN PLANO (WHERE COMMUNITY BECOMES FAMILY)

Come and connect to God through Shiloh; grow in Christ through the study of God's Word; and Serve God

through service to each other and to the world. John 12:26.

April 15, 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.
You are invited to join us as we celebrate our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ this Sunday. We would love to have you at our services.

April 18, 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.

April 20, 6:30 - 9 p.m.
April 21, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Men, you're welcome to our Annual Men's Conference to hear speakers, panel discussions and workshops for men and young men (ages 12 and older). We will look for you.

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GALA, continued from Page 7

Food Pantry has literally been rolling out the red carpet for more than 10 years as they provide food for families living in low income, food insecure households. An award winning non-profit organization and largest food pantry in Collin County, 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, edu-

cational resources and support 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, actor Jim Parsons, recording artists Kenny Lattimore, Wess Morgan and BeBe Winans and now global media leader Oprah Winfrey.

Disobedience rooted in fear



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

"Then Moses said to them, 'No one is to keep any of it until morning.'" Exodus 16:19

Have you ever seen God do something really good in your life only to find that you have abused the blessing He gave you?

Such was the case of the Israelites as they were traveling through the desert on their way to the Promised Land.

God was providing for them in miraculous ways. Manna was provided each day as their bread. God gave Moses specific instructions as to how this manna was to be eaten.

God said each one was to gather only what he needed for that day. No one was to keep it until the next morning.

"However, some of them paid no attention to Moses; they kept part of it until morning, but it was full of maggots and began to smell. So Moses was angry with them" (Ex. 16:20).

God was teaching the Israelites daily trust in His provision for them. He wanted them to trust Him one day at a time.



The Friends and Singers group, originally called the Fellowship Singer, start performing in 1982, at Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship Church. Some members of the group performed at Bethel Bible Fellowship Church in Carrollton, Texas, Senior Pastor Dr. Terrance Woodson, to minister to the members and many visitors on behalf of First Lady Ve Woodson. It was a stellar performance!

If they tried to hoard, God put a self-destruct feature in the manna. Yet God also told them to gather two days' worth on the sixth day so that they would have manna to eat on the seventh day.

Interestingly, this manna did not stink or have maggots. For many years I gathered manna in business out of fear of not having enough.

One day, the Lord decided that manna should be destroyed in order for me to learn total trust in His provision.

When we operate out of fear, we can expect the Lord to lovingly discipline us in order to help us learn to trust Him.

There is a danger when we seek to "insure ourselves" against calamity. If your actions are born from fear, you can expect God to demonstrate His loving reproof so that you might not live in fear.

Always remember, "For

our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms"

(Ephesians 6:12).



First Lady, Ve Woodson, Bethel Bible Fellowship in Carrollton and Choir Director, Sister Johanna Fisher, both members of Friends and Singers, performed at Bethel, 04-8-2018, wonderful performing group, No Fear Here.

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: Don't procrastinate, read *Soon* now

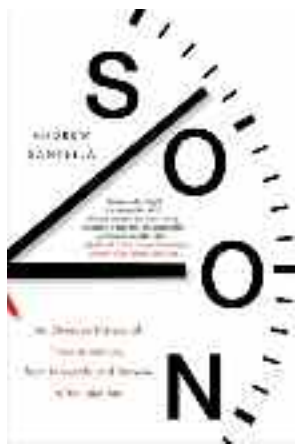
By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Just do it.

That's a demand that comes from everywhere. Sneakers say it, your spouse says it, the law demands it, your diet may say it; your boss does, for sure. Just do it. Buckle down and get it done because, as in the new book "Soon" by Andrew Santella, delaying and dawdling are not so delightful.

Charles Darwin was a terrible procrastinator.

It's true that he got things done: he was an accomplished author, a father, a scientist who studied barnacles almost to the point of



obsession, and his thoughts on what he called "natural selection" had been arranged cohesively and written.

Twenty years went by before it was published.

As he was preparing to write this book on procrasti-

nation – research which he'd put off until he couldn't wait any longer – Andrew Santella began seeing a lot of foot-dragging hidden throughout history. Procrastinators, as it turns out, are in good company: 1 out of 5 of us chronically waits until the last minute to start tasks. Such delay, says Santella, "is one of the oldest stories ever told."

It's also "notoriously difficult to define" and equally hard to eradicate.

Not only do businesses demand on-time productivity, but self-improvement books and classes are filled with anti-procrastination advice. Says Santella, none of

that takes into account "the stuff that makes life such a precious mess..." And it doesn't do anything to eliminate what is believed by some to be the root of the problem, which is that people are ruled by emotions – especially fear.

To try to control time-frittering, remember that "behavior shapes mood." Do that which you're putting off and it "will make you feel better." Keep in mind that there is a good side to procrastination, and that's optimism: tomorrow is always a good day, for a procrastinator. Take a page from Benjamin Franklin, and make a list of things you need to do.

Remember that it's "nearly universal" to fit work into the time it's allotted. Minimize distractions, utilize productivity apps, muster all the self-restraint you have, and remember that you're not alone.

And if all else fails, pray to St. Expedite. He's the patron saint of procrastinators.

Time's a-wastin'. You need a book to help you conquer your habit of lateness but "Soon" isn't it. Even so, it's a great way to kill time because author Andrew Santella says he's exactly in your same position.

As it turns out, so were a lot of famous people – most of them, quite accomplished

in fields of history, literature, and psychology. That, as Santella shows, indicates that even though foot-dragging is stressful and detrimental to one's career, it doesn't always lead to failure or worse. The anecdotes he shares sometimes get a little too deep, but they do provide insight as to why someone might dilly-dally and, if you're willing to dig a little, what can be done about it.

That makes "Soon" a book for procrastinators and for those who aren't, but are irritated by one. Chances are, that's you, and you'll enjoy reading it.

Tomorrow.

KING, continued from Page 1

home of the NAACP, communities are still reeling from the police-custody death of Freddie Gray. The deaths of Black Americans like Michael Brown, Alton Sterling, and, most recently, Stephon Clark—shot eight times by police in his own backyard—remind us we are still not seen as full-citizens by many in our nation.

In our recent Economic Inclusion Reports on Baltimore, Charlotte and St. Louis—three cities impacted by protests and revolts linked to police violence and misconduct—the NAACP noted "similarities between the past economic realities of African Americans during Reconstruction and legalized racism and the current economic realities more than 150 years after the abolition of slavery and promise of freedom."

Our reports expose that African Americans are "still living in highly segregated communities and school districts, comprising the lowest median household income, highest unemployment rate, highest poverty rate, and ongoing barriers to the creation of small businesses." For example, the mid-2000 housing crisis caused by Wall Street excesses led to trillions of dollars in bailouts and the decimation of major portions of African American wealth—wrapped up in their foreclosed homes. This recession removed huge swaths of intergenerational wealth and many families have yet to recover.

As the leader of the oldest and largest civil rights organization, I recognize the temporal connection between America's past and present

identities. Our country has let the pestilent wound caused by a continuing legacy of racism fester. This chronic condition is aggravated by the often-silent progressives who still cannot grasp the stark emotional reality of what partial freedom feels like to a full human being.

In his commencement address to Oberlin College in 1965, King said, "We must face the honest fact that we still have a long, long way to go before the problem of racial injustice is solved."

Half a century after Kerner's report and King's assassination, our government continues to perpetuate an unacceptable level of systemic and structural racism, which permeates our communities and fuels our protest.

As we remember King and Kerner, we will not do so in solemn reflection, but instead

with resolve. We commit to making the social and political healing America has continued to defer become a reality.

The progress for which

NAACP members fight rings in harmony with the Kerner Commission's unapologetic condemnation of White America's failure to make democracy real for all of us.

Derrick Johnson is the president and CEO of the NAACP, America's largest civil rights organization. Follow him on Twitter @DerrickNAACP.

PARKS, continued from Page 5

resentation of what the diverse population actually wants in their community.

From 2000 to 2005, the 2000 Open Space Master Plan recommended 25 parks to be improved for the project. 23,495,000 million was spent out of the total 27.3 million. From 2006 to 2014 Irving completed an additional 44 projects. In-

cluding landscaping, beautification projects, park equipment upgrades, and new construction. A total of 37.7 million was spent.

So far in March 2018 work was started on north Champion Trail in order to connect to Coppell's trail. It is also planned to connect the biking and hiking trail to Irving to Dallas to Fort

Worth. The first phase is expected to be completed in October 2018.

On January 2 Luzon Park started its improvements and is expect to be completed in the summer of 2018. All of its concrete will be replaced, the playground will be expanded wider with swings, a shade canopy with picnic tables, and improved lighting for after-hours security.

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