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Future direction of cities and schools at stake in upcoming May elections

By David Wilfong NDG Contributing Writer

Voters are heading to the polls locally twice in the month of May. First up is the elections on May 5 for several city council and school board seats in Dallas and surrounding cities. Then on May 22 voters will select the final winners in runoff races from the March 6 primaries including governor and congressional seats. NDG will spotlight those races in our upcoming edition.

Dallas ISD School Board Trustee, District 9

The race to represent District 9 on the Dallas ISD Board of Trustees features incumbent Bernadette Nutall facing three challengers in Ona Marie Hendricks, Justin Henry and Edward Turner.

Nutall, a graduate of Sam Houston State University, is the cofounder and executive director Circle of Support an organization offering academic and enrichment summer learning program. She touts her achievements to secure funding for four campuses and sponsored initiatives such as college tours and the Lincoln Culinary Arts program.

Hendricks is a grant writing consultant and entrepreneur. She has served as the Vice President of TCW Executive Board, and as the Ambassador for Good Samaritans of Garland Food Pantry. She is an



Voters in Carrollton will decide on four city council seats in May, with similiar elections happening in school boards across the Metroplex as well. (Photo: drumguy8800)

active advocate on issues ranging from youth awareness, parental engagement, domestic violence tasks force, anti-racism, and volunteered with Dallas ISD. Hendricks has previously run for offices with the county and school board.

Henry is a former math teacher in Los Angeles, who later went to law school before returning to Dallas eight years ago. Key issues outlined in his campaign include early child-hood education, racial equity, improving how the district's teachers are recruited, mentored and rewarded. Henry believes community engagement is vital to closing the gap between the classroom and the student's home.

Turner is a native of South Dallas

and graduate of Texas Southern University with a degree in Finance. After seeing the closure of four community schools, Turner decided to leave a career in finance and became a community organizer with a focus on developing and encouraging parental involvement. His focus is early childhood development, community engagement, better preparing students for college or the workforce, and closing the pipeline to prison.

Carrollton City Council

The easiest choice for voters in Carrollton comes in the Place 5 race, as incumbent Glen Blanscet is

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Parkland holds drug buy-back

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Beto visits South Dallas' Bonton Farms

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READERS SOUND OFF!!!

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Judge Lynn Toler

The 55th Annual V. Alvce Foster Trailblazer Awards Luncheon will take place on Saturday, April 28 at the Hilton Anatole Hotel at noon. Judge Lynn Toler, will be the keynote speaker at the

Twelve community leaders will be honored as trailblazers during the event for various fields and community leadership.

Toler is a judge, an actress, and producer of the nationally syndicated and Emmy-nominated hit television show, Divorce Court. She has netted immense popularity on the program



where she has achieved fame as one of television's sternest and most intransigent celebrity litigators.

One of the honorees is Charron Simmons. She is the first African American women in a managerial position at Apple, Inc. Simmons is currently Apple's Fixed Global Process Leader for Fixed Assets, Revenue, General Ledger, and Tax Accounting functions.

She is responsible for The Americas, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, and Latin America. She is also responsible for improving accounting processes in Europe and

Other honorees are:

· Christopher P. Reynolds, the first American American Executive Vice President Corporate Resources and Chief Diversity Officer, Managing Officer, General Counsel and Chief Legal Officer, Deputy Chief Officer,

General Administration & Human Resources Group, TOYOTA.

- Ernestine S. Lacy, M.A., D.D.S, the first African American Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Student Diversity and the highestranking African American administrator in the Office of the Dean of Texas A&M College of Dentistry.
- Desiree Allen, Dallas Independent School District's first female Football Coach.
- Ricky C. McNeal, President of the Garland Unit of the NAACP.
- · Mae Frances Rowlett, volunteer in the Visiting Nurses Association's Meals on Wheels Program.

• Letitia Calhoun Owens recently appointed to the City of Dallas Homeless Commission.

- Dr. Frederick D. Lewis, President of the Advisory Council of the Dallas County Democratic Party.
- · Derrick K. Hardin, Junior at James Martin High School in Arlington, and President of the South Dallas B&PW Youth Club for the past two years.
- Patricia B. Maples, an exemplary role model of leadership as the current South Central District Governor of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.

· Barbra Record, a successful business owner in Dallas, and campaign treasurer for several elected officials.

· Viola Black, professional nurse at Parkland Hospital.

The event raises scholarship funds for graduating high school seniors within the community. Contributions make a tangible impact on the financial challenges facing many graduating high school seniors as they pursue their dreams of a post-secondary education.

Tickets for the event are \$70. For more information visit http://www.southdallasbpwc.org.

Tonita Cheatham

Detroit Medical Center (DMC), a leading regional healthcare provider with a mission of excellence in clinical care, research and medical education, recently announced the appointment of Tonita R. Cheatham, as group director of communications. This announcement follows the recent news of restructuring and realignment efforts taking place within the healthcare institution. In her new role as group director, Ms. Cheatham will serve DMC by streamlining all communications needs across the organization's eight hospi-



tals and institutes.

"I am extremely excited and honored to take on this new position as our hospital system continues its patientcentered mission to provide the best possible care," Ms. Cheatham said. "My previous roles have prepared me with a keen sense of how to structure and communicate impactful messaging to various audiences through multiple delivery channels, and I plan to continue that legacy by ensuring DMC communications are timely, effective and transparent both internally and externally."

As an effectual, African American marketing and communications professional, Ms. Cheatham has demonstrated expertise in operational leadership within the highly-complex healthcare organization for more than a decade. Since 2005, Ms. Cheatham served as the director of public relations, marketing and business development for DMC's Harper University Hospital, Detroit Receiving Hospital and Hutzel Women's Hospital.

Throughout the years, she has also showcased a strong dedication to Metro Detroit as a driving force for the implementation and integration of various community programs such as DMC's 61 Day Challenge—a local health campaign focused on fitness, nutrition, health education and commitment to living a healthier life, and RiverWalkers—a senior walking program dedicated to promoting health and wellness, and more. In this new position, Ms. Cheatham will continue to provide guidance from a communications perspective and showcase DMC's firm position as a dedicated community stakeholder.

Prior to DMC, Ms. Cheatham's professional experience has placed her in key marketing and communications leadership roles within media (television and newspaper), finance, political and non-profit organizations. She has also actively volunteered for many professional organizations, including the American Heart Association and the Black Public Relations Society of America, as well as other social and civic organizations.

Ms. Cheatham received a master's of science degree in integrated marketing communications from Roosevelt University in Chicago, Ill., and a bachelor of arts degree in English and journalism from Tougaloo College in Tougaloo, Miss.

A native Chicagoan, Cheatham grew up on the city's South Side. While working in the Chicago area, her first professional job in journalism was as an editor and reporter at Chicago Citizen Newspaper Group, the premier South Side African

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NDG Readers Sound Off...

AD Jenkins: Things I learned in the storm

I love AD Jenkins. I know this setback in this. Democratic Primary election hurt him a lot. I told him that it must have not been God's time for his election this time, but to not give up. I pray he runs again in 2020. To me he is the best person of all who are still running for this office. Very well stated and written oped, AD Jenkins! --Anthony Bond



I am thrilled to see this article! It is ordinary folks who are the real heroes. **OUOTES**



about the community." Babcock said: "...So

until somebody takes it seriously and starts to really challenge the systems that are in place, we're going to continue to have this jacked-up system of people George said: "...it's all who are filled with problems and struggles...." The system is broken.

It is up to us as individuals and communities to challenge the system.

-- TomT

Judge Lynn Toler kevnote speaker at V. Alyce Foster Trailblazer Awards Luncheon

Have watched her Many times on tv! She is my favorite! Bright, Fair & tells it like it is! Great Judge!!

--Judith Young via Facebook

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Things I Learned in the Storm



Jenkins

I'm fresh off a tough fought campaign defeat for State Representative in House District 105 which includes parts of Irving and Grand Prairie. I will describe my experience as a storm in the heart of Texas. Even though I was working in the rain and unbearable winter, I'm speaking of the psychological storm you must endure. I will attempt to share my insight on this process.

You cannot run this type of election alone. It takes help and support from voters from every race, color, language, age, belief, culture and per-

spective. You must learn to listen more than wanting to talk about your platform. I have come across a few confidants who are there every step of the way and will be with you unconditionally. I have met many constituents who are with you because of a common cause. They will stand by you as long as you are what they are for. Also, I networked with many comrades who are against what you are against. My point is your team needs to include individuals as described above to run a respectful campaign.

The most qualified person will not always win, therefore, your track record does matter in some cases. This is more of a candidate's challenge more so than a voter's issue. Targeting and voter identification is invaluable at this level of politics. This is where your heart and compassion must meet the voters. The cliche fits perfectly, they don't know how much you care, then they don't care how much you know.

The elephant in the room is convincing voters local elections are as important as voting for the president of our country. It's not that we are a red community or blue community, but we a nonvoting community. I personally knocked on countless doors, spoke with many potential supporters face-toface and held plenty of conversations over the phone. The challenge is persuading each person their one vote counts and is extremely important. Twice as many people voted in this past election as in the 2014 midterm, however, we are still missing the mark when it comes to voter turnout.

Lessons learned during the storm: blessing and burdens are related. If you cannot handle the burden of hard work, disappointments and setbacks, do not expect the blessings of community approval and success at the

My motto is to get over it and go knock on the next door.

A.D. Jenkins serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Irving Independent School District. The views and opinions expressed herein of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Irving ISD, its Board of Trustees or its employees.

Opinion: Facebook continues to fail the Black community

By Derrick Johnson President and CEO, NAACP

"Mr. Zuckerberg, would you be comfortable sharing with us the name of the hotel you stayed in last night?" That was a question Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL) posed to Facebook founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg's congressional hearing in which the latter responded with an awkward "no." It is likely that Mr. Zuckerberg found this question too intrusive, yet when 87 million users lost their privacy under Facebook's neglectful watch; its CEO doesn't bat an eye, offering only an insubstantial, "I'm sorry."

The Cambridge Analytica hack is just one of many transgressions by Facebook, in which an apology will simply not suffice. Facebook's laissez-faire attitude toward privacy protection is not just a betrayal and insult to its user base, but it is compounded by its lack of vigilance to protect one of the platform's most vulnerable user demographics—African Americans.

For example, late last year, Facebook hosted Russian sponsored ads that portrayed African Americans in a less than flattering light. The ads

had political motives and aimed to sway viewers to vote for then-presidential candidate Donald Trump. Another example arose just this month when the news broke that the largest Black Lives Matter group on the social media platform was in fact a fraudulent page, created by a White man in Australia designed to discredit the youth-based civil rights group.

Either of the above examples is enough to seriously question the general disposition and integrity of the social media juggernaut. However, Facebook's lack of transparency, reliability, and accountability in these two situations also substantiates the increasing doubt regarding the fairness of the 2016 presidential election. Specifically, Cambridge Analytica worked with the Trump campaign, and among the data it misused were pictures, profiles, and even direct messages between users. This data mining-which used the personal information of 87 million people without their consent—was used to develop techniques for the firm's work on the Trump campaign. Swaying voters toward one candidate based on racially exploitative lies

smacks of a type voter suppression that, while more insidious, is not unlike the voter ID laws that currently attempt to suppress the Black vote.

As a pioneer in the tech industry serving 1.4 billion users each day, Facebook has a moral and ethical obligation to protect those most vulnerable on its sites, including minors, women, and LGBT, Brown and Black communities. These communities cannot be satiated with an apology, but rather require a clear and thorough plan of defensive and offensive action. More care needs to be taken by Facebook and its tech industry peers to ensure that in connecting people with one another, these connections are positive—a sentiment which Mr. Zuckerberg said his company strives to achieve.

Moving forward, companies like Facebook can take a greater stance against those who wish to use online spaces to corrupt. First, they must be on the offense, not just deleting but reporting and perhaps even fining advertisers with such ill intent. Second, they should also be more aggressive on the defensive front, removing the burden of reporting hate

speech from the user and instead placing it on themselves. Additionally, these resources must include hiring more people of color across all levels of the company an initiative that would address Silicon Valley's failure to take real steps towards embracing diversity. This is an issue brought up on Day 2 of Zuckerberg's hearing, when Rep. G.K. Butterfield mentioned that the company's Black representation has only risen from 2 percent to 3 percent. Furthermore, while 67 percent of African Americans are Facebook users, the company's C-suite remains entirely White.

Lastly, in a "clear and concise" manner, users should be made aware of their privacy terms, including instances when their information will be shared and how the information will be used. Facebook may or may not feel a moral imperative to protect the users that allow it to exist, but that does not mean it should not be held accountable for its actions, inactions, and indifference to user pri-

Derrick Johnson is the President and CEO of the NAACP. Follow him on Twitter @Derrick-NAACP and @NAACP.

Parkland hosts Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on April 28

Unwanted, unused and expired medications in our homes can cause poisonings, other health problems or end up in the wrong hands. In an effort to prevent accidents and improper disposal of these potentially dangerous substances, Parkland Health & Hospital System and the Dallas County Hospital District Police Department are participating in the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. Parkland's drop-off sites will be open Saturday, April 28, from 10 a.m. − 2

Medications can be dropped off at the following



Parkland locations:

• Simmons Ambulatory Surgery Center, 4900 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas 75235

• Hatcher Station Health Center, 4600 Scyene Road,

Dallas 75210

• Bluitt-Flowers Health Center, 303 E. Overton Road, Dallas 75216

• Garland Health Center, 802 Hopkins St., Garland 75040

- Southeast Dallas Health Center, 9202 Elam Road, Dallas 75217
- deHaro-Saldivar Health Center, 1400 N. Westmoreland Road, Dallas 75211

"Organizations from across the country are coming together to help keep left-over prescription drugs from being misused," said Miranda Skaaning, Parkland Sustainability Manager. "It's important that we provide this opportunity for our community members so they can properly dispose of their unused and expired medication."

During the two Prescription Drug Take-Back Days hosted in 2017, 103 pounds of medications were collected at Parkland drop-off sites and 30,338 pounds of medications were collected statewide. Skaaning said there are numerous reasons to drop off medications at this event, including.

- Unwanted medications may result in unintentional poisonings to children and pets
- Unused medications can make your home a target for theft by drug abusers
- Improper use of medications, such as antibiotics, can

contribute to drug-resistant bacteria

"During the event individuals can drive into the parking lot and hand the medications to a law enforcement officer, no questions asked," Skaaning emphasized. No intravenous materials, such as solutions, tubing or syringes, will be accepted at the event.

For more information about the proper way to dispose of prescription and over-the-counter medication, contact the poison experts at the North Texas Poison Center, 1-800-222-1222 or visit www.poisoncontrol.org.

Taking the necessary steps to help prevent colon cancer

By Dr. Sarah E. Laibstain

Colon cancer is the third most commonly diagnosed type of cancer in the United States, and one of the most preventable. It is important to understand the reason for colon screenings and identify ways to lower your risk of developing colon cancer. Most colorectal cancers start as a growth on the inner lining of the colon or rectum, called polyps. Not all polyps are cancerous, however these growths are commonly linked to the development of colorectal cancer. It is important to understand the benefits of screening and healthy lifestyle habits to adopt to keep your colon healthy and lower your risk of colon cancer.

Colon cancer screening is an important way to prevent cancer as early detection may lead to a better chance of treatment and recovery. A colonoscopy allows your physician, typically a gastroenterologist, to examine the inside of the colon and rectum, looking for polyps or any abnormal growths that could turn cancerous. The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends that adults between the ages of 50-75 get a colonoscopy, but the frequency at which one needs to go through the exam

varies.

Generally, people at high risk or colon cancer require screening every 1-5 years while those at low risk require screening every 10 years.

Colon cancer is the number one type of cancer that may be preventable by diet. Obesity has been identified as a common cause of colorectal cancer, making maintaining a healthy weight through diet and exercise crucial to lowering your risk. High consumption of red or processed meat has been linked to the development of colon cancer, so limiting foods such as bacon, salami, or hot dogs can help decrease your risk. You can lower your colorectal cancer risk by incorporating fruits, vegetables, and whole grains into your regular diet. A plant-based diet in addition to at least 30 minutes of physical activity daily helps maintain a healthy weight and promotes good colon health.

Heavy drinking and smoking are other known risk-factors for colorectal cancer development. Both alcohol and smoking are harmful to your overall health, including your digestive health. It is recommended that men limit themselves to no more than two drinks a day and women consume no more than one. Smoking is a well-known cause of lung cancer, but it has been linked to the development of other cancers too. If you currently smoke or drink excessively, visit your physician for help in identifying ways to quit. Your physician can advise you on ways to help prevent colorectal cancer and provide information on how to adopt and stick with healthy lifestyle habits.

Dr. Sarah E. Laibstain is a general family medicine practitioner at Family Medicine Associates of Texas in Carrollton. She thoroughly enjoys improving the health and lives of individuals ranging from young children to adulthood.

LEGAL NOTICE

These Texas Lottery Commission scratch ticket games will be closing soon:

Game #	Game Name / Odds	s	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
1868	Bonus Cashword Overall Odds are 1 in 3.64	\$3	5/31/18	11/27/18
1894	Texas Lottery® Red Overall Odds are 1 in 4,99	\$1	6/20/18	12/17/18
2019	Fast 50's Overall Odds are 1 in 4.72	\$1	6/20/18	12/17/18
1896	Texas Lottery® Silver Overall Odds are 1 in 3.98	\$5	6/20/18	12/17/18
2007	\$5 Holiday Gift Pack Overall Odds are 1 in 1.00	\$5	6/20/18	12/17/18
1830	50X Super Ticket** Overall Odds are 1 in 3.45	\$10	6/20/18	12/17/18
1852	Wheel of Fortune ⁶ Overall Odds are 1 in 3.44	\$10	6/20/18	12/17/18
2011	\$50 or \$100 Overall Odds are 1 in 8.33	\$10	6/20/18	12/17/18
1832	\$7,500,000 Ultimate Cash Overall Odds are 1 in 2.52	\$50	6/20/18	12/17/18

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Beto breaks for a lesson in urban agriculture between North Texas rallies

By David Wilfong NDG Contributing Writer

In South Dallas, a few blocks further than the final stop on DART's No. 11 bus, lies Bonton Farms. The agricultural oasis is located in the heart of what was once a front line in the violent racism of Dallas' past. The name was originally "Bomb Town," but through time and phonetic alteration, the more pleasant "Bonton" came to represent this largely African American community.

Today a small farm exists that answers a lack of both economic opportunity and food quality in the neighborhood with a few sheds for chickens and goats, and 1.25 acres which currently grows 12 tons of food crops per year. In a community where 85 percent of adult males have spent some time behind bars, it has also presented an opportunity to enter back into the produc-



Senatorial candidate Beto O'Rourke (at right) is shown progress on the construction of a new restaurant on the grounds of Bonton Farms by Executive Director Daron Babcock (left). The eatery will feature food raised locally with the South Dallas farm. Babcok pledges the culinary product will be first-rate, hopefully bringing more awareness and popularity for the urban agricultural enterprise.

(Photo: David Wilfong / NDG)

tive ranks of mainstream society. As of late, construction is underway for the addition of a restaurant.

Word has spread of this small-scale enterprise, and between campaign rallies with hundreds of political supporters, U.S. Rep. Robert "Beto" O'Rourke – the El Paso Democrat running for the U.S. Senate –

took a break to come and tour the facility, and visit with the staff.

"We've been hearing about some of the challenges that communities have; whether it's being a food desert or it's not having local business ownership, whether it's being under-served in public schools or housing or in so many different ways," Beto said. "Then we've also heard of Bonton as an example of how to meet those challenges of the community investing in itself; literally growing its own food, investing in a market, and a café.

"It's a place where I was just told by Daron (Babcock, Bonton Farms executive director) that there's not a single establishment here where you can sit down and enjoy a meal, and literally break bread with your family or your neighbors. They're creating that here. So we were inspired by the story and wanted to come and see it for ourselves."

The visit to the farm was not exactly a public campaign event, but here were some ardent local Beto supporters who caught wind of the visit and attended. Almost from the beginning of the campaign, there has been a feeling among Democrats that Beto's senato-

rial run could ultimately be successful.

"I think he's doing a lot of work getting to know Texans and getting to know what we need," said D'Andrala Alexander. "That's the kind of senator that I think needs to go to Washington, who can truly represent our interests. People don't pay attention to Senate races like they should, and I'm just glad someone's paying

attention."

Farm Manager Danny George responded to Beto's questions about the logistical operations of the farm, proudly pointing out neighborhood customers can simply show up at the front door in a neighborhood traditionally known as a food desert..

"They come here,"

See BETO, Page 16



Bonton farmer Doris Young gathers eggs within the hen house at Bonton Farms. In addition to eggs, the farm raises goats and produces 12 tons of food from the crops grown on the grounds. Cattle and pigs are also raised on a 40-acre plot outside the Bonton facility which the staff refers to as "the extension." (Photo: David Wilfong/NDG)

Dallas student selected as grand prize winner of Congressional Art competition

On Friday, April 20, 2018, Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson announced that Victoria Taylor of the Cambridge School of Dallas, was selected as the grand prize winner of the 2018 Congressional Art Competition for the 30th Congressional District of Texas.

Victoria's winning piece, entitled "Out of the Blue", was highlighted by the competition judges for its intelligent use of both light and dark color, which underscored the artwork's sense of peace and solitude.

Victoria was honored to be selected as the grand prize winner and said, "I'm excited to see my work on display all the way in Washington, D.C.!" The other notable winners of the night – Cree Agent, a sophomore at Bishop Dunne Catholic School, won the second prize, while Natalie Carvajal, sophomore at Booker T. Washington High School, finished third in this year's



Congresswoman Johnson awarding a Congressional Certificate to First Place winner Victoria Taylor from the Cambridge School of Dallas. competition.

Congresswoman Johnson was delighted at the diverse range of mediums students used to express their creative energies. She thanked all the students, parents, and teachers for their earnest support of the arts as a means of discipline and self-expression. "I am amazed each year by the students' depth and the variety of mediums used to show their art expression," said Congresswoman Johnson. "The artwork we are surrounded by today, is a small testament to the beautiful creativity we must nurture in our students every day. We should continue supporting creativity not just in schools but at home as well."

This year's Congressional Art Competition reception was held at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center. Over 95 art pieces were submitted from more than a dozen schools within the 30th Congressional District. Submissions were critiqued by a panel of judges from the arts community in North Texas.

The annual Congressional Art Competition offers the opportunity for one high school student from each Congressional district to have his or her artwork displayed in the United States Capitol for the following year. Victoria will have the opportunity to travel to Washington, DC to be recognized along with other high school winners residing in Congressional districts across the country.



Education www.NorthDallasGazette.com

District 6 Pride



Joyce Foreman Dallas ISD District 6 Trustee

Every generation of educators builds on the groundwork laid by dedicated faculty and staff before them. Schools in the southwest area of Dallas proudly stand on the efforts of legendary leaders and influencers who have shaped District 6 into what it is today. In May, a local hero and districtwide treasure will be inducted into the district's inaugural Athletic Hall of Fame. Coach Freddie James, the former head football coach at David W. Carter High School, will be honored among 9 other worthy inductees. Coach James led a 14-season coaching career, garnering national recognition for the Carter High School athletic program and its athletes. He left an indelible mark on student athletes on and off the field, a nod to the legacy of high-performing educators in District 6 schools.

2018 Commencement On Deck

It's spring. Days are warming up; testing is ramping up; and seniors are preparing for graduation. It's hard to believe, but in a few short weeks, the Class of 2018 will wrap up their

high school education and move forward into the next chapter of their lives.

To help families make plans, here are the dates of commencement ceremonies for District 6 high schools. The entire schedule is available on the district website at dallasisd.org/graduations.

David W. Carter
High School
3:30 p.m., Sat., May 26
Ellis Davis Field House
Justin F. Kimball
High School
8:30 a.m., Sat., May 26
Ellis Davis Field House
Kathlyn Gilliam
Collegiate Academy
2 p.m., Sun., June 3
Ellis Davis Field House
John Leslie Patton

Academic Center
11 a.m., Sun., June 3
Ellis Davis Field House

Summer Enrichment in District 6

Also looking forward are dozens of organizations across the community that are preparing to launch summer learning programs. From STEM, choir and dance programs to reading, sports and theater classes, there is no shortage of free and low-cost summer activities to keep the young people in your life actively learning during the summer months.

In southwest Dallas, here are a few samples of programs families can consider.

• EPIC Camp hosted at Daniel Webster Elementary, Boude Storey and Oliver Wendell Holmes middle schools is offering two-week camps featuring leadership, literacy, culinary arts, character development, STEM, and more. Learn more at dallasisd.org/summerlearning.

• Every public library in the city — including the Polk-Camp Wisdom, Highland Hills and Paul Lawrence Dunbar Lancaster-Kiest branches — will offer students great prizes for reading through the Mayor's Summer Reading Challenge. All branch libraries have details.

· Also this summer, Dal-

forts were on behalf of spe-

las schools will offer classes for students who do not meet local promotion requirements, need to pass STAAR or who need help to pass End of Course exams. Schools will inform all students who need these programs to meet requirements for promotion or graduation.

These are just a few of the more than 100 options available to Dallas ISD students during the summer months.

To learn about the summer program opportunities around Dallas ISD, click here. Enrollment dates vary per program and campus. Feel free to contact the school offering the program(s) you're interested in.

Irving special needs parents address concerns to school board

By Rachel Hawkins NDG Staff Writer

"I wanted to believe that this year would be different because there was no way that they would've dropped the ball so tragically and let any of this happen again," Patty Martinez, a concerned parent and a representative of Irving Stars Special Olympics students, their parents and guardians, said.

The concerned group gathered inside of Irving Independent School District Administration Building, on Monday night, April 23. While the parents watched Irving students from State-Qualifying Teams received recognition and awards for their Destination Imagination projects, they sat there and wondered why their own children could not receive the same treatment.

Last year the Special Olympics team at Nimitz High School was "threatened" when the Special Olympic teacher, who is also the coach, decided around game two of four, that because of a personal commitment she and the team would not complete the season.

"I found it appalling that



The Irving ISD Board of Trustees recognizes accomplishments in Destination Imagination during the early agenda items on Monday night. Parents of special needs students were present to address specific concerns they have with the school district. (Photo: Rachel Hawkins / NDG)

there was no contingency plan, and that was only issue number one last year," Martinez said. "To add insult to injury, a week later, busses for the districts did not show up for their Saturday event."

During her speech at the Irving School Board meeting, Martinez cited a lack of accountability, no contingency plan in place contributed to the lack of transportation. Because of this, more than 100 student-athletes were unable to attend and participate in the local Special Olympics event.

Lack of response to these concerns added insult to injury for Martinez.

"That was last year, and the same thing happened again this year," Martinez said. "I want to understand why our students were dealt this substandard treatment not only once but twice," Martinez said. "Once is horrendous, but twice is telling me that the system is failing its students. Phone calls and emails weren't being returned, but I remained hopeful."

In 2018, both Nimitz and MacArthur high schools did not procure a Special Olympics coach for track and field. This information was not shared timely with the parents and they claim

conflicting stories were given regarding the snafu.

"Tonight was the first time the principal of Nimitz put a face or voice to these issues, even though I have reached out to him multiple times, until today at this meeting.

"In the last two school years, what would not have happened to the general student-athletes, have happened to ours," Martinez said.

The parents in attendance at the board meeting were not raising their concerns for their children because many will soon graduate from high school. Their efcial needs children in elementary and middle school to help to ensure they have a better experience going forward. The community believes it It is important for their children be seen as equals just like the 'typical' kids at their schools. They did not want the children to feel like they are being left out.

"We feel that our children are being set aside and put to the back burner to where the school is not providing us with certain services that they should be receiving," Jaminet Rivera, a concerned parent of a special needs student said.

As many parents with special need students started seeing the same problems, they began by texting each other and later creating a small group. They realized the experiences were common, and many felt they were getting the runaround. Leaving them feeling like their children were being treated like second-class students.

"If you take the football team, for example, we know that there is no way on earth the team would fail to participate in a sporting event," Rivera said. "These issues have been going on for the past two years and we made multiple attempts to communicate with teachers and principals at the different high schools as well as the superintendent and the board of trustees."

"All we get is the runaround, Rivera said. "They tell us 'we'll get back to you' but no one ever bothers to correspond with us. We have evidence of emails we have sent, and to this day we still haven't heard anything or even a resolution to this problem."

The parents came to the conclusion the issues can be easily resolved if the school board is more productive and communicates more with the parents, along with working with them to solve the problems that may seem very basic and trivial.

"Our children are not at the same level as the general students," Rivera said. "A lot of them can't speak and cannot do a lot of things for themselves, but that doesn't mean that they are less than anybody else or should be deprived of any opportunities that are given to many of the other students."



Celebrate National Day of Prayer in Plano

Join your neighbors and friends on Thursday, May 3 to celebrate the National Day of Prayer. Choose from these opportunities:

• 6:30-9:30 a.m. - Collin County Christian Prayer Breakfast is at Plano Event Center, 2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy. Purchase tickets online.

• Noon-1 p.m. - Local

pastors invite you to join the free annual National Day of Prayer service at Plano Municipal Center.

• 7-9 p.m. - The Plano Multicultural Outreach Roundtable (MCOR) organizes the Interfaith National Day of Prayer. This free gathering is open to all at Plano Municipal Center, 1520 K Ave.

Irving mother determined to make change

By Rachel Hawkins NDG Staff Writer

Nuzhat Hye, an Irving resident since 1989 and a candidate for Irving School Board Place 4 is determined to change the quality of education for the students, teachers, and parents.

"What inspired me to run was seeing the current start of Irving School District, and the numbers and demographics," Hye said. "We can do better, we can be competitive with other school districts. We need to service our students because many of them come from many backgrounds and some underprivileged.

"A majority of our students are Hispanics, followed by African Americans and Caucasians," Hye said. "When I'm looking at the numbers and talking to the teachers, I feel that we need to work with parents and students to motivate them. I'm used to working with kids on both sides of



Guests in attendance at the April 21 lunch meet and greet with Nuzhat Hye: Lynn Walters-Past President of the Irving ISD PTA, Scott Walters -Lynn's Husband, Kim Morris-Founder of the Irving Democratic Women's Club, A.D. Jenkins-Irving ISD School Board Member, Aldean ElHassan-Leader of Sudanese American Community Association, Abdel ElHassan- Candidate for Irving City Council in 2017, Nuur Xasan-President of the Faruq Islamic Center, Bishop Mary Lewallen-Pastor of Glory Temple Holiness Church, Martha Stewart-Mother, Voter, Dedicated Community Volunteer in Irving, Lisette Caraballo -Owner of IRealy Real Estate Company and Cilvil Rights Activist here in Irving, Kay Schecht-Founder and President of Irving Together, Mirza Sajid -Leader in the Blangladeshi Community of North Texas and Past Executive Board Member for the DFW Association of Taxicab Operators, Hasmat-Past President of the North Texas Bangladeshi Community, Miss K-Irving Entrepreneur, and David Gutierrez -Irving Hispanic Community Activist and Former Irving Political Candidate (Image: Rachel Hawkins NDG)

the spectrum, and I feel that if I can work at grassroots levels and bring the school district up, it's a win-win situation for our city as well."

To get everyone on board she plans to host town hall

meetings, create focus groups, and establish committees to ensure the involvement of all stakeholders.

Game Plan for Success

If Hye wins the election,

she has outlined three main goals as part of her plan to improve the school board.

Her first goal is to improve the number Irving ISD graduates pursuing higher education.

See MOTHER . Page 11



City Briefs www.NorthDallasGazette.com



Dallas

Project Vintage Runway will be held at 3015 Trinity Groves on Sunday, May 20 from 2 p.m. - 3:30 pm. The design competition and fashion show will benefit Center of Hope Women & Children's Shelter. The event will feature chef stations with delicious brunch bites prepared by Dallas' most popular chefs. Local businesses, many owned by women, will also be in attendance.

The theme for this event is Transforming Fashion.

Transforming Lives.

Local women, including residents of Center of Hope, will be receiving makeovers and modeling the newly created fashions in the competition. The top three designers and their models will receive prizes.

The event will be emceed by KLTY Radio Host Starlene Stringer and Former Super Bowl Champion Isaiah Stanback.

Tickets are \$35 and include entry into the event, food and a goody bag.

Garland

Be a part of the 6th annual Garland Gives Day of service Saturday, April 28. Get all the details, review available opportunities and sign up for a preferred project at GarlandGives.org.

Take your turn, roll the dice, it's time for Garland Chamber's 9th annual Business Expo. The Monopolythemed 9th Annual Business Expo on April 26 is from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. This event brings local product and service providers under one roof for the community to browse all Garland has to

Irving

The Irving Concert Series 4 Kids is back Friday mornings during the month of

Children ages 5 and younger can dance to live music at their very own mini concert.

The Irving Parks and Recreation Department will hold the shows at the Irving Soccer Complex, 3585 World Cup Way. Gates open at 9 a.m. and the concert will start at 10 a.m. Before the show, kids can enjoy the covered playground, craft activities, free balloons and a chance to meet and take photos with popular characters from children's television shows.

Attendees are encouraged

to bring blankets or chairs for the open lawn seating. They also can purchase a cold treat from Bahama Buck's food truck or bring their own food and beverages from home.

This year's lineup is as follows.

- May 4: Mr. Willy
- May 11: Sugar Free Allstars
- May 18: Joe McDermott
- May 25: Hey Lolly Band

If inclement weather creates a potentially unsafe outdoor environment, concerts will move to the Irving Auditorium, 801 W. Irving Blvd, or the Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. Visit the event's Inclement Weather Plan for additional information.

Parents are encouraged to fill out a survey while at the event. Those who do will be entered to win free tickets to Medieval Times. For more information, visit the Irving Concert Series 4 Kids web-

McKinney

Kate Parker will be celebrating her first solo show called Will of the Women from May 5th to the 7th at the Cove in McKinney.

The show will highlightpainting series and series of photographs exploring "the standards

women live by - how we compare ourselves to an unrealistic magazine standard of beauty, our personal expectations to be all things to all people and the struggles we encounter in our inner lives." Some material may not be suitable for children.

Bringing them in safe...



Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Jeffery Thomas, from Ft. Worth, Texas, signals to an UH-1Z Huey assigned to Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron (HMLA) 267 on the flight deck of the Harpers Ferry-class amphibious dock landing ship USS Pearl Harbor (LSD 52). Pearl Harbor is currently underway off the coast of Southern California conducting routine training operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Kelsey J. Hockenberger/Released)

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Film Review: 'A Quiet Place' breathes new life into horror genre

NNPA Film Critic 3 1/2 stars (out of 5)

What you'll hear and see in this topnotch horror/thriller has got to be one of the best uses of sound deprivation and sound effects ever blended together in any movie.

With the release of last year's "Get Out," the horror genre has blown up big time. It's no longer limited to your granddaddy's "Frankenstein."

"A Quiet Place," with its extremely well-thought-out use of silence and noise, is another one of the new age pioneers that is stretching boundaries. Rarely has a scary movie been so filled with vulnerable protagonists and fraught with abject fear, impending danger and raw emotion. Wow.

The unlikely source of this trailblazing filmmaking is the actor John Krasinski. Yes, the comic thespian from TV's "The Office" and the occasional dramatic lead in films like "13 Hours." Krasinski marked his feature directing debut with "Brief Interviews with Hideous Men" and followed that up with the comedy/drama "The Hollars," a film he co-starred and directed. With this highconcept piece, he meshes writing, acting and directing

The young dad Lee Abbott (Krasinski) walks through an abandoned general store in an empty New Englandlooking town, where fallen leaves blow down desolate streets. With his wife, Evelyn (Emily Blunt, "The Girl on the Train," and Krasinski's real-life spouse) in tow, and his three children behind him, the group scavenges for supplies. There's Regan (Millicent Simmonds. "Wonderstruck") a stubborn tween girl who is deaf; her younger brother Marcus (Noah Jupe," Wonder") and the barely-over-toddler-aged Beau (Cade Woodard).



Dwight Brown says that, "A Quiet Place" stretches the well-worn, horror genre way beyond expectations, using sound as its muse. (From left-right) John Krasinski stars as Lee Abbott, Noah Jupe plays Marcus Abbott, Emily Blunt stars Evelyn Abbott and Millicent Simmonds is Regan Abbott in "A Quiet Place." (Paramount Pictures)

As the family walks home, single file through the woods, it's hard not to notice that they don't talk. They are also hypersensitive to making any noise, to the point that they walk barefoot and seem paranoid that something will jump out at them. Their fear is just, as violent deadly creatures abound, who can take out a subject or person in one swoop. The trick with the menacing demons is that they are blind and stalk victims based on noise. Hence the survivalists' shroud of quietness. And if the family needs a reminder just how precarious their situation is, they get it when one of them makes a peep and swift carnage ensues.

That's the setup by screenwriters Bryan Woods, Scott Beck ("The Bride Wore Blood") and Krasinski. Most of the action takes place around the Abbott's farm, in corn fields, nearby streams, their house and bunker cellar. The lack of locations just makes the proceedings more eerie and claustrophobic. You feel that their lives are constrained, stripped-down and boxed-in.

The dynamics between Lee and the bullheaded Regan, strain emotions within the clan and add a tension within their dire circumstances that pulls you closer into their lives, far deeper than the standard genre film. Every step they make, any impromptu outburst or falling object could mean death. It's a horrible way to live. It instills fear in the family and the viewer almost instantly. It scares you to the core with unabated anxiety for 90 nail-biting minutes.

It's almost shocking that an actor who has built his career on comedy could turn into a director who knows how to milk intense drama out of every scene. Sure, Jordan Peele ("Get Out") paved the way, but John Krasinski's take on this horrific, terrorizing story is as sound, astute, creative and forward thinking. It's makes you want to follow his impending career as a director to see what he'll dream up next.

Krasinski is very judicious and sparing with the violent, bloody attacks, pacing them out perfectly over the course of the film. The incessant suspense is even more nerveracking than the carnage. The creatures are horrific enough, but watching them circle around potential victims just makes your heart stop. He's also great with the child actors and gives Blunt enough room to be vulnerable and brave in moments that range from recoiling from a monster who is breathing down her neck, to guarding her children like a momma bear.

Marco Beltrami's ("World War Z") musical score whips emotions up into a frenzy. Christopher Tellefsen's editing never skips a beat and

cuts the fat. It's amazing that of adult viewers, especially Danish cinematographer Charlotte Bruus Christensen ("Molly's Game"), producdesigner Jeffrey Beecroft ("13 Hours") and set decorator Heather Loeffler ("American Hustle") can create such a homey, familial atmosphere, from so few sets. Credit also goes to them for giving the film a look that is so archetypical rural Americana.

Krasinski makes the quintessential, Birkenstock-wearing everyman dad likable. Blunt displays a wider range of emotions and it's great to see her in a strong movie after duds like "The Girl on the Train." At one point Evelyn confronts her husband when their kids are in peril: 'Who are we if we can't protect them?" That sense of love, responsibility and guilt will tug on the heart strings

parents.

With no dialogue whatsoever, Millicent Simmonds becomes the central focus of your empathy. It's like her Regan character never makes the right choice. Add on a disability that puts her at a clear disadvantage, considering the surrounding danger, and you instinctively pin your hopes on her pulling her family through its ordeal.

There is sequence, however it needed more thought: In opening scenes, as the family walks home, the father leads and mother follows with the kids behind her. Few families go to the mall without one parent in the front and one in the back, in order to make sure that their little ones don't get lost. If people-killing monsters are around, you'd think mom and dad would watch them like a hawk, from the front and the back. Just saying.

This kind of horror film could easily become a cultural phenomenon. Families might want to see the Abbotts' dilemma over and over again. Young people might be repeat attenders too.

"A Quiet Place" stretches the well-worn, horror genre way beyond expectations, using sound as its muse. It's a very thoughtful and emotionally-wrenching experience, mind-blowing and scary as hell.

Dwight Brown is a film critic and travel writer. As a film critic, he regularly attends international film festivals including Cannes, Sundance, Toronto and the American Black Film Festival. Read more movie reviews by Dwight Brown here and at DwightBrown-Ink.com.



As a 3 ferm Carrollton-Partiers Statich 350 school board trusters, collectively as a corporate governmental body have enacted policies on behalf of the district, advocated on behalf of our constituents, set a tas and approved annual budgets. • I have been an advocate for achool beachers and students in Austin during past Tesus legislative sensions for in-

creased funding for our schools.

Ourling my form as school board trusted CFB has increased its graduation rate from 83% to 64%.

As a Board of Director for Director for Success-Dalles I have been an advocate for woman course, employeeing from the activery their economic impendences as well as teaching financial Steamy classes.

As a Board of Director and Treasurer for Matricemat Services I have been an advocate for families and the addroption from the Carrollan-Financial Steam, where I have been an advocate for businesses in Texas for fair competition and halfvet various.

and my community service in this community spans 40 years so I have a pulse of the community as well.
 in 2012 I was benefit by receiving the Distinguished Alamnus Award, inaugural induction to R.L. Turnus's High

School may be fame.

4 th 2015 I was honored to receive the Farmers Branch Rotary 2015 Community Service Award.

In 2015 I was honored to receive the 2015 Community Service Star Award.

A Proven Leader in the Business

- I are the CED and Foundar of State Faz Croup. LLC a state and topal for advacey and consulting services from
 I have work with state and local governments for over 26 years is identifying and recovering underreported taxes.
- was hundred to be appointed to the Terre State Comptroller's Glen Heger's "Texpayer Advisory Group" from
- *I was fronzest to be appointed to the Texas State Completed to Clear Regar a. "Texperyer Advectry Group" from 2014 to Content.

 *I have recovered \$11.1 Million Collers for the State of Texas and municipalities throughout the State of Texas.

 *In 2012 I was honored to receive Ecoon-Robe's Minority Business Enterprise of the Year.

 *In 2013 I was honored to receive Phillips 69 Minority Business Enterprise of the Year.

 *I am the only carefulate in this race to serve on Netional, State and Local boards and too and economic development committees.

Carrollton City Council matters and being a city council member matters. In every organization it is very important that you elect or him "the right people" in the "right seate" to do the right, job. Of all the cardinates in this race, I am the only cardinate in this race with state and local government experi-

ence. I am the only candidate in this race to have balance a busget of \$270 Million delians. I am a Proven Leader in the community and a Proven Leader in Business.

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EarthX brings environmental awareness to Dallas

By Rachel Hawkins NDG Staff Writer

Did you know Dallas is the 11th most polluted city in the U.S., and North Texas alone has some of the highest ozone levels in the entire state? Most North Texans are thinking how could this be? North Texas is covered in recycling bins, the latest health crazed and those yellow and green bikes you cannot seem to escape.

Maybe it's just the fact that North Texans are not doing enough.

EarthX 2018, the world's largest environmental experience and global gathering held their annual event from April 20-22 at Fair Park. The expo featured more than 250 speakers. During their conferences, they covered several topics ranging from recycling, oil and gas, clean energy, and water. These were split up by their respective topics.



Dumpster Art

It was not all work and climate change debates at EarthX. During the event, kids participated in a dumpster paint competition.

The City of Dallas Waste Division invited artists sub-

mit art work for a competition. All of the Dallas ISD schools submitted their designs, and the judge's panels chose the top four.

"This is called art for dumpsters," Marcos Estrada, a coordinator with the City



At left, EarthX petting zoo offered unique animals to entertain children. Above, SCUBA divers instruct visitors in a large diving tank. (Photos: Rachel Hawkins / NDG)

of Dallas' Zero Waste said. "We're with the City of Dallas for the sanitation department for the zero waste division. We try to inform the citizens of Dallas about recycling and how to reduce their waste. We came up with this event because we have dumpsters all around the city and no one pays attention to them."

This is the third year artists have been invited out to EarthX, but this is the first year Dallas ISD schools were specifically asked to

"We were thinking about how to get the discussion about recycling out there," Estrada said. "We came up with beautifying dumpsters since we already have them everywhere. We wanted artists to come out and put their art to them.

"We wanted to reach out to the students because we want them to learn about the

environment and learn about recycling at an early age," said. "Since they are going to grow up we are hoping that they will apply that to their own lives. Many of them range from middle school to high school, and you can tell from what they have done so far that they are really talented artists."

Special events and food featured at EarthX

Special exhibits at EarthX 2018 included:

· EarthxSolar was an exposition and B2B that brought together business, government, investors, and academia. It showed how they can chart the future course of energy technology in the U.S. and around the globe. The workshops focused on breaking down barriers that accelerate the mass adoption and deployment of solar, storage, and electric vehicle technologies.

See EARTHX, Page 14

Main Event is breathing fun back into Toys 'R' us gift cards

The last day to use a Toys "R" Us gift card has passed, but there is still time to turn your misfortune into fun.

Main Event Entertainment announced starting April 23, guests can bring any unredeemed Toys "R" Us plastic gift card to their favorite Main Event center

and exchange it for \$20 in game play. Guests can use it to earn points playing in the games gallery featuring more than 100 of the latest interactive video games and redeem them for toys.

Guests will receive one \$20 FUNcard, good for game play only, for each

Toys "R" Us gift card, regardless of the value remaining on the card. Limit two gift cards redeemed, per person, per day.

"We wanted to take a challenging situation and make it more positive for our guests," said Brendan Mauri, Senior Director of Marketing at Main Event of pure fun!" Entertainment.

"We understand that parents and kids all across the country were upset by the closing of one of their favorite retail brands, so we wanted to offer a silver lining to them by turning their expired gift cards into \$20

All Toys "R" Us gift cards expired on April 21. The retail chain filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in September and is in the midst of a liquidation and asset auction overseen by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Virginia.

Main Event is only offering this exchange program through May 31, so be sure to act fast and head into your nearest Main Event center today. For locations and more information, visit mainevent.com.

Intersections Programs for Bread highlights Dallas-born playwright

Bread is nourishment. Bread is legacy. Bread is life itself. And bread is money. This world premiere by award-winning Dallas-born actress and playwright Regina Taylor weaves a compelling family drama of hopes, fears, thwarted dreams, and dark secrets against a turbulent backdrop of racial tension and social upheaval. The special presentation continues this week at WaterTower Theatre in

In the story, it is early 2017; a time of change. James and Ruth are a middle class couple from Oak Cliff, a historic south Dallas neigh-



Stormi Demerson and Elliot Marvin Sims in BREAD at WaterTower Theatre, Photos by Evan Michael Woods, (Courtesy photo)

borhood on the verge of gentrification. They plan a bright future for their teenage son and his soon-to-be-born brother. But when James' brother Jeb returns home, buried family tensions resurface and the past casts a troubling shadow across an un-

certain future. Taylor's stirring, timely story of identity and family asks: How can we prepare the next generation for what's to come?

Below is an outline of the schedule of events:

Sunday, April 29 - COM-MUNITY CONVERSA- TION – With Denise Lee

Water Tower is hosting a Community Conversation led by local actress/singer Denise Lee featuring other members of the Cast of Bread discussing the themes that arise from the play and the impact they have on our community.

Thursday, May 3 - MY BLOOD, MY BONES - A Conversation on Black Motherhood

Four mothers join us for a powerful post-show conversation on the experience of raising a black child in todav's America.

Saturday, May 5 (8 p.m.) -BREAD IS LIFE - A Conversation with Playwright perience in Dallas-Fort Regina Taylor

Playwright Regina Taylor joins the audience for a postshow conversation discussing her Dallas-based world premiere play, BREAD.

Sunday, May 6 - DO SOMETHING THAT'S FELT - A Conversation on Theatre of the African American Experience

Local artists in a postshow conversation about the importance of equity and inclusion in American Theatre, and what their experience has been like creating work of the African American exWorth.

In addition to the above post-performance discussions and panels, WTT will host Conversations with the Artists, a post-show conversation with members of the cast of Bread discussing the themes of the play, the rehearsal process, and their unique experience developing the characters of a World Premiere play.

For questions regarding the Intersections programming, and tickets to Water-Tower Theatre, please contact the Box Office at 972-450-6232.

U.S. Senate votes to revoke protections on anti-discriminatory auto loans

By Charlene Crowell

America is often touted as a nation of laws, and not of men. But it seems that today some lawmakers have no interest in upholding laws that mandate fairness in financial services – particularly when consumers of color are affected.

On April 18, the U. S. Senate voted 51-47 in support of S.J. Res 57, a joint resolution to revoke the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)'s 2013 guidance on indirect auto lending. The previous day, the Trump Administration issued a statement in support of the rollback.

Among those voting against the resolution was Connecticut Senator Richard Blumenthal who issued a statement following the unfortunate vote.

"Perpetuating predatory practices that lock consumers of color into higher auto loan interest rates doesn't just harm those individuals, it exacerbates ethnic and racial wealth disparities that feed into the deep inequality that exists in our country today," said Blumenthal.

But Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky welcomed revisiting auto lending regulation. "Our whole economy is getting a tune-up. And now it's time for the front end of the auto industry to come along for the ride," said McConnell in a related article.

What the senior Senator from Kentucky does not seem to know is that consumers of color, especially Blacks and Latinos, already know too well how it feels to be taken on the wrong ride in auto finance.

Scrutiny is also warranted for the 51 Senate colleagues who agreed with Majority Leader McConnell. In fact, among Senators serving as co-sponsors of the ill-advised resolution were representatives of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Indiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Nevada, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Wisconsin. In all, 22 Senators lent their names and influence as co-sponsors.

The Senate vote came five years after CFPB's blueprint for lenders and auto dealers underscored standards set by the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA). This act makes it illegal to discriminate due

to race, or other protected classes in credit transactions. Under ECOA, indirect auto lenders (those who finance loans through dealers) are creditors and must uphold the law.

Following a long history of documented discriminatory effects in auto finance, CFPB acted in 2013 to provide clear guidelines to lenders on how to avoid discrimination going forward. Following the guidance, CFPB, jointly with the Department of Justice, reached a series of settlements totaling more than \$140 million with Ally Financial, Fifth Third Bank, and the financing arms of auto manufacturers Honda and Toyotaall because their pricing models showed discriminatory effects on borrowers of color.

The odds of predatory auto finance increase when consumers of color are involved. For years, consumers suspected and then began to complain of unfair practices in auto finance. By the mid-1990s, a series of related lawsuits were filed, all alleging that consumers of color received higher interest rates than those given to similarly-situated white borrowers. Of-

tentimes, the higher rates charged to borrowers of color were not related to their creditworthiness. This contention was documented earlier this year by the National Fair Housing Alliance. This housing advocate's investigation found that better qualified non-White testers participating in an investigation of auto lending would have paid an average of \$2,662.56 more than less-qualified White counterparts.

Now multiply that average over-payment by the millions of people who rely upon auto dealers to provide a finance package for their purchase. Nationwide, an estimated 80 percent of auto loans are financed through auto dealers. Dealers are also allowed to increase the interest rate on auto loans, and keep some or all, of the padded costs that typically range an additional 2.0-2.5 percent above the actual lender's rate. As a result, affected consumers wind up being bilked out of \$25 billion over the life of auto loans made during a

Personal transportation can be the difference between accessing employment, health care, educational opportunities, or even day-to-day living needs. In many locales, owning a car is the only way to reliably reach these and other destinations.

Auto finance is also the third largest category of consumer debt, after housing and student loans. With rising purchase prices, many auto financers offer extended payments of 72 months or longer to sell consumers an "affordable" monthly payment. Should finance and interest charges be predatory in nature, affected consumers can wind up paying more in interest than for the value of the vehicle.

Regardless of the next proposed regulatory rollback, one thing is clear: Civil rights and consumer advocates will remain united and dedicated to fair and equal lending.

"Charging people of color more money for their auto and financing is not only immoral, but it's illegal and it drains a family's household income," said Wade Henderson, Senior Advisor at the Center for Responsible Lending. "This important guidance should stay intact."

"Our elected leaders

should look for ways to keep consumers from being discriminated against instead of making it easier for them to be preyed upon," noted Samantha Vargas Poppe, Associate Director of Policy & Advocacy, UnidosUS. "CFPB's guidance addressed these financial abuses and should be supported by Congress, not repealed."

"For more than 109 years, the NAACP has worked to remove discriminatory barriers to equal protection and equal opportunity under law," noted Hilary O. Shelton, Director, NAACP Washington Bureau and Senior Vice President for Policy and Advo-"Our fight to strengthen and implement crucial protections to limit and end racial discrimination in lending is as important today as when we were founded in the early 20th Century."

In the 21st Century, the journey towards justice must continue.

Charlene Crowell is the deputy communications director with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.

Better Business Bureau honoring the entrepreneurial spirit for National Small Business Week

Starting a successful small business is one of the quintessential elements of the American dream. According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, more than half of Americans either own or work for a small business, and small

businesses create nearly two out of every three new jobs in the United States each year.

April 30 through May 4 is National Small Business Week - To join in this national effort and support small business owners, Better Business Bureau is hosting its first-ever National Small Business Week (NSBW) Facebook Live Series. The series is being led by BBB Regional Directors representing all 105 counties within our service area every day from 11 a.m.

to 1:30 p.m. The interviews are covering topics on how to start, manage and grow a small business.

If you'd like to join via Facebook for NSBW, like us on Facebook and visit the event page. You can also follow on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram by using the hashtags #BBB-BizWeek and #NSBW.

See below for a full schedule of topics:

Schedule of Events: April 30: How to Get Your Small Business Started May 1: How to Grow Your Small Business

May 2: Marketing Your Small Business on a Budget May 3: Small Business Fiscal Responsibility

May 4: Why Become BBB Accredited?

MOTHER, continued from Page 7

"Irving is graduating almost 100 percent of its students from high school, but a very small percentage is actually making it to colleges," Hye said. "That's of concern to me, I want these students to be empowered, and have good scores. As for the students who cannot or do not want to go into the four-year colleges, we want

them to come out with the skills they will need for securing a well-paying job."

Her second goal is gaining more engagement from the parents.

"Unless students get the support from their homes, they are not going to be very successful," I said. "We know that a lot of these parents are ESL. We want to en-

gage the parents to make choices with their children's education and understand the opportunities available for them."

Hye plans to bring in translators, and motivators who can draw the parents into the schools, help them feel more comfortable with the process, and get them involved.

"I have talked to parents and teachers whose students

have come from broken home. These students are not only getting the parent support but the social counseling they need. I once talked to an elementary school who had 800 students and only two counselors."

Her third goal is to improve student performance on standardized tests, helping to improve the reputation of the district.

"If the district is seen as

stronger, then we can attract more residents to Irving," said. "Right now people are leaving Irving to go into Coppell and Farmers Branch. We need to attract them back to Irving, and get businesses in Irving to bring our economic growth up."

Hye has reached out to school board trustees serving other districts to learn their best practices and identify ideas which can improve Irving ISD.

"Working with parents and teachers, and being one myself, I realized that teachers carry the flag barriers of the schools, and need to empower and work with them," said. "I have 35 years of experience in this field and being a team player, so that would help leverage to what works for other schools and for ours as well."

VOTE, continued from Page 1

running unopposed. Blanscet is currently serving as mayor pro tem, and has been on the city council since 2015. He is a former general counsel for Atmos Energy, and subsequently served as a Baptist minister.

In Place 1 there is a threeway contest for the council position; including incumbent James Lawrence, along with challengers Therese Beckley and Steve Babick. Lawrence, a native of California, has experience in the Army Reserve and works in sales management. Currently he serves on the Audit/Finance Subcommittee and is a liaison for two advisory committees. He was first elected to the council in 2015.

Beckley has lived in Carrollton for 47 years according to her filing for candidacy. Information on Beckley is hard to find as she has no campaign website, and has declined to respond to recent media requests for information.

Babick arrived in Carrollton in 1992. As a Chief Financial Officer, Babick describes himself as "a finance guy" and sees himself as someone qualified to "dig into the numbers" on behalf of the city. Babick served on the Carrollton City Council from 2014-17 before falling short in a runoff race for Mayor.

Place 3 also features three candidates; with Zul Mohamed, Richard Fleming and Pat Cochran vying for the seat.

Mohamed is the CEO of a web design and digital marketing agency and holds a BA in economics from the University of North Texas. Being successful in efforts to thwart a proposed hotel construction project, he was inspired to further his public service and sees himself as a "fresh face" to represent the shifting demographics of the city.

Fleming comes to the race with experience on the Carrollton-Farmers Branch

ISD school board, where he was the first African-American board member and had to fight a legal action in order to be seated. He is the CEO of a tax advisory and consulting firm, and says he wants to make Carrollton more "business friendly" and eliminate inconsistencies between the council and planning and zoning.

Cochran is a real estate agent and business owner with additional experience as an art director in Old Downtown's Plaza Arts Center and community volunteer. She describes herself as a "community builder." As a bi-racial military child, she says the ability to "rise above the noise," work past differences and value diversity is one of the keys to her success.

In Place 7, incumbent Deputy Mayor Pro Tem John Sutter is facing challenger Austin Stroh.

Sutter, a 36-year resident of Carrollton who came to Texas from Georgia for college, is a licensed risk management assessor and insurance agent. He was first elected to the city council in 2015, and currently sits on the Audit/Finance subcommittee and is a liaison to three community committees. He is also president of a national youth sports league and a board member of US Soccer.

Stroh is an activist candidate whose political aspirations stem from arrests during the Democracy Spring protests. He sees cost of living, racial inequality and a closed system of city board participation as his top three issues. He works as a customer and application support professional with a BS in Computer Science ad devotes numerous hours to volunteer efforts.

Irving City Council

The Place 6 election for the Irving City Council has two candidates – Shayan Elahi and Albert Zapanta – facing off for an open seat.

Elahi is an attorney and a legal expert who has been featured on numerous TV news outlets. His top priorities are protecting diverse communities, funding police to fight crime, and "smart growth policies" to bring more jobs and retail to Irving.

Zapanta is a business, Vietnam veteran and has served as the president or president of numerous business and cultural organizations, and board member of the Irving Symphony Orchestra Association. His top priorities are infrastructure, water and flood control and transportation and land use.

Irving School Board

The Irving ISD school board race in District 4 is a three way race with Sanko S. Prioleau, Nuzhat Hye and Kendrick Paul Perry.

Prioleau has more than a decade of service with the District Improvement Committee and has served as a student tutor, according to a Youtube video recorded for a previous school board race. Information is difficult to find on his current school board run

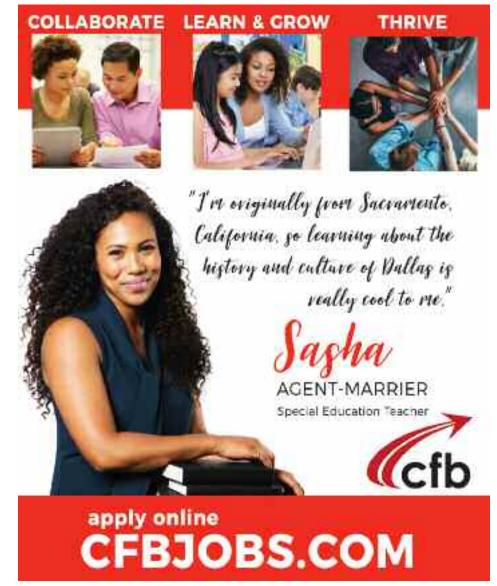
Perry is a fixed income specialist for a major bro-

kerage firm, with more than 20 years of experience in financial customer service. He sees this financial experience as being key to serving the district effectively as a trustee. He is a parent of two children, one of which is in college after attending all her years at Irving ISD.

Hye has 35 years of experience in education; having been a teacher, principal and founding several educational institutions. She moved to Irving in 1989 and has witnessed the city's growth over the ensuing years. College readiness and parental engagement are her key priorities for the district.

Early voting in the joint election for cities and schools has begun and is underway until May 1. Election Day is May 5.

(Editor's Note: See more coverage of Hye's campaign from NDG staff writer Rachel Hawkin's visit with the candidate on Page 7.)





Do you want a career that provides health, vision, and dental insurance on your first day? How about a pension plan?

Martin Marietta is now accepting applications in multiple locations for the following positions:

Mixer Driver Concrete (Req ID 2017-3315 and 2017-3314) – operates concrete mixer truck between plant locations delivering concrete to various job sites. Must have a valid class A or B driver's license. Prefer 1 year of experience driving a Mixer, Tanker, or Rock Truck. Must have a good driving record and pass DOT drug screen and physical.

Mobile Mechanics (Req ID 2018-3943 and 2017-3406) - Performs all top-level truck repairs on mobile equipment to include: Ready Mix trucks, Aggregate trucks, and Tankers. Minimum of 2 years' experience maintaining diesel engines required.

Maintenance – Special Projects (Req ID 2018-3906) - Works with the Project Manager and plant maintenance team to provide maintenance, repair, and installation services for special projects at various plant locations. Minimum of 2 years' experience in plant maintenance and welding.

Please apply on the Careers page at www.martinmarietta.com and enter the corresponding Req ID in the Search box or email resume to cherie.marley@martinmarietta.com.

We pay top dollar. Join the safe driving team at Martin Marietta today!

We are an equal opportunity employer. Women, minorities, veterans and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Upcoming DFW area job fairs

April 27 Spring Job Fair

Employee Solutions is hosting their Spring Job Fair on April 27 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at 1144 North Plano Road, in Richardson. They are looking for several positions in the Garland and Dallas area. These positions include: Order Pullers, Receivers, Welders, Forklift drivers, and several other warehouse associate opportunities. Morning, afternoon and overnight will be available. Pay rates starting at \$9 per hour - \$15.00 per hour and they offer medical dental vision insurance, vacation pay and holiday pay.

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.

May 1

Texas Instruments Wafer Fabrication Job Fair

Texas Instruments is

looking for full-time and weekend entry level wafer fabrication positions. This event will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Volt Workforce Solutions 8505 Freeport Pkwy.

- Perks include:
- Career path into a large professional corporate environment
- Stable full-time hours. Facility operates 24 hours/day, 365 days/year
- \$11-\$14 an hour (depending on experience and evaluation)
- Each shift is 12 hours in length (overtime pay after 8 hours worked each day)
- Shifts range from 7AM 7PM or 7PM 7AM (compressed shifts will work 3 to 4 days/week alternating). 15% more for night shift
- When a job offer is made, no specific shift is guaranteed.
 - 3-4 days off per week
- Clean room environment, requires full smocking including face masks and goggles
- Retention Bonus (During first year)

To register please visit: www.eventbrite.com.

May 2 Dallas Sales Job Fair

The Dallas Sales Job Fair will be held on May 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Sheraton Dallas Hotel by the Galleria, in Dallas. This is your opportunity to interview face to face with 15+ Fortune 500 and Industry Leading companies seeking talented, experienced and enthusiastic sales, retail and management candidates. Many of the companies they work with will offer:

- Base + Uncapped Commission Pay Structure
- Flexible Work Schedule
- Full Benefits, 401K, Stock Options
- Company Car or Gas Allowances
- President Club Trips & Other IncentivesOpportunity for Im-
- Opportunity for Immense Growth
 - \$70k+ 1st Yr Salaries Make sure to bring Bring

10-15 Resumes, and dress professional.

May 10

Engineering, Tech and **Security Fair**

The Dallas Engineering, Technology, and Security Clearance Job Fair will be held on May 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Crystal Banquet Hall, in Plano.

All jobs require US citizenship and a minimum 2 years of industry experience on top of a degree. Some jobs require an active clearance. There are 100s of jobs, and free resume reviews onsite. For more information on the employers attending, requirements for job opportunities and directions please visit: http://www.expoexpertsllc.com/.

May 12

El Centro West Campus Resource Fair

El Centro College West

Campus will host their Community Resource Fair on Saturday, May 12 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This free event will include: an employment fair, Family Support Services, El Centro College Programs, free health and wellness screenings and music and fun for the entire family!

For more information on this opportunity, email mmedina@dcccd.edu.



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The North Dallas Gazette has an internship

position available. The goal is to provide students and aspiring writers an opportunity to gain published clips, experience and professional feedback.



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

INVITATION TO BID

EAGLE CONTRACTING L.P.,

an Equal Opportunity Employer, is soliciting Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprises for Subcontract and Material Supply Bids for the following project:

City of Farmersville, TX

Wastewater Treatment Plant 1 Rehabilitation

Bid Date: May 1, 2018 @ 2:00 p.m.

Contact:

Damon Brooks

d. brooks@eagle contracting lp. com

817-379-1897 Fax: 817-379-0610

Eagle Contracting L.P. Fort Worth, Texas

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.bethelbiblefelloswhip.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 29, 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.

May 2, 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. Spiri-

• EarthxEco Auto Show

showed how smart solutions

in transportation can create a

huge impact on the environ-

showed students the various

types of careers in STEAM,

sustainability, and programs

from multiple colleges and

universities around the

• EarthxEducation

ment.

tual 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 29, 8 a.m.

Join us in our Sunday Morning Services as we praise and worship God in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall, followed by our Sunday Worship Services; and bring someone with you, you will be blessed. It's for our Friends and Family. You are special to

May 2

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.

May 13, 9:30 am

You are invited to our Grand Entry Sunday Service. 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 27, 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 29, 10 a.m.

You are invited to our Baby Christening Service. Don't forget to invite family and friends to this sacred event. Also, you are invited to join us for our Morning Service as we celebrate of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

April 30, 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)**

During the event, many businesses and organizations promoted healthy foods and alternative options. The Texas Veggie Fest partnered with Earthx to create EarthxVeggie. Texas Veggie Fest is the longest-running Veg-Fest in Texas that was established 2010 in Dallas. They highlighted vegan food and products while exploring the environmental benefits of plant-based living.

Vegan and vegetarian food and food trucks were spotlighted throughout the event. The exhibitors offered vegan food and beverages

including Brewed+Pressed, Homegrown Hounds Dog Deli and Bakery, Mother Beverage, Plant Based Grocery, and Reverie Bakeshop. The food trucks NadaMoo! Coconut Milk Ice Cream, Samson's Gourmet Hot Dogs, and Soulgood Food Truck were on-site.

ardship from Earth Day to

(Uniting the Body of **Christ Among Nations)**

April 29, 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.

May 2, 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 29, 7 a.m.

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

May 2, 7 p.m.

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

All of the EarthX pro-

Everyday.

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 29, 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.

May 2, 7 p.m.

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

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

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

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- Men's Day

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Marketing@NorthDallasGazette.com or call our Marketing Department today!

972-509-90



• EarthxArt showcase various types of artists and their

- artwork that brought awareness to the environment.
 - EarthxMusic provided

· EarthxFilm was held from April 13-22, it presented over 60 features and shorts at screenings and events across the City of Dallas.

The event also provided various types of entertainment for everyone. To promote exercise there was: Goat yoga, Tai Chi, regular yoga, a climbing wall, scuba diving, a test track, a tree climbing section, and horse riding.

grams and events were determined to encourage people to discover positive changes that can benefit the environment, and take the idea of environmental stew-

Sister Tarpley

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

An author, Henry Blackaby wrote in his book, Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing His Will, "You cannot go with God and stay where you are."

Think about this, if you want to experience something you've never done, you must do something you've never done before. Strive for a new paradigm (this paradigm is an example that serves as a pattern or model for faith in God.)

God often has to radically change us if we are going to fulfill His purposes in our lives. In the book of Samuel, Saul was about to be anointed by Samuel as the first king of Israel. Samuel said to Saul, "And the Spirit of the Lord will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and be turned into another man." 1 Samuel 10:6

(KJV). Samuel told Saul that he would be a different person, that he would have God's power.

Up to this point, Saul had never prophesied or led a group of people. He had also never had to be accountable to a prophet and to God for his every action. Saul took a big step of faith right away and prophesied with the prophets just as Samuel said he would. How exciting that must have been. Yet, when Samuel called the entire nation of Israel together to announce Saul as Israel's first king in history, Saul was nowhere to be found. Excitement was in the air, but when they call Saul's name, he didn't come forward. "Therefore they (the people) inquired of the Lord further, if the man should yet come thither. And the Lord answered, Behold, he hath hid himself among the stuff." 1 Samuel 10:22 (KJV).

The story of King Saul should be an encouragement to us all. God continues to pick the foolish things of this world to con-

A new model

found the wise. Your greatest setback can be thinking that there's no way that God can use "little me." However, the reality is that He can and will use us, if we respond to the new places He takes us.

Ask God to use you to ripen the fruit of the Spirit. Ask Him for help to bear this fruit in your life to show and share love, joy and peace. Ask God for help to be long-suffering, gentle and good; to have strong



Tyanna Donnise Lott, finishing up on her Freshman year at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, after a successful year.

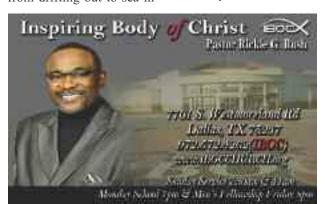
faith; to be meek and temperate, you should be slow to speak and quick to listen. Remember God gave us only on mouth but two ears.

If you ask God, He will help you walk in the Spirit so that your life will be pleasing to Him and you will be a light in the darkness for others, so that the world may know that He is God and that He can do anything but fail.

Believe that God is faithful, good and just. Believe with your mind, body and soul. Let God be your anchor and He will keep you from drifting out to sea in

the currents of unbelief.

Psalms 100:5 says, "For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth to all generations." And Isaiah 45:21b says, "... who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the Lord? and there is no God else besides Me; a just God and a savior; there is none besides me." God is good and He will never do anything bad. He will never make a mistake, mislead or be unfair because He wants us to live in the beauty of His holiness.





American weekly. She served under the leadership of William "Bill" Garth, publisher and prominent leader within the National Newspaper Publishers Association. She has been a Michigan resident since

2005. In addition to her current work, she continues to be in demand as a speaker on a wide range of issues, including diversity, the communications profession, health and social justice issues and more.

NDG**

North Dallas Gazette takes a moment to reflect on the past with

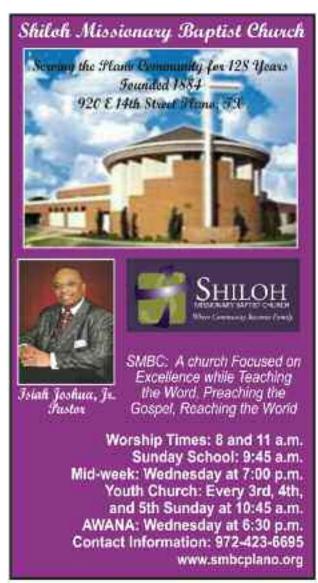
Historical Perspectives from Sister Tarpley

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

Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com







NDG Book Review www.NorthDallasGazette.com

NDG Book Review: Bad Men & Wicked Women

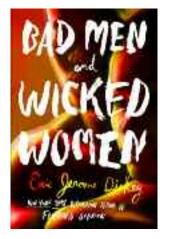
By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Blood is thicker than water

That's what they say: your relationship with family – blood – is stronger than any connection you'll have with someone unrelated. Blood is thicker than water – except, perhaps, as in the new novel "Bad Men and Wicked Women" by Eric Jerome Dickey, when the blood shed is your own.

Fifty thousand dollars is a lot of money.

But that's how much Ken Swift's estranged daughter, Margaux, suddenly demanded of him. She claimed that it was payback



for all the years he was absent. She said it was a small price to pay for abandoning her. And then, just in case he had no plans to give her the cash, she uttered a name that he never wanted to hear

again.

It was a name that went far into his history, one that tied him to his boss, San Bernardino, who told Swift what to do and where to be. San Bernardino was why Swift put Margaux off: he had business to take care of on the swanky side of town. Richard Garrett owed somebody some money that he wasn't paying, and Swift and his best friend, Joe Ellis, were told to take care of the problem.

But a quick visit to Garrett's mansion opened a world of issues that Swift didn't need. Joe Ellis, an "instigator" and womanmagnet, flirted with Gar-

rett's wife, which spun Garrett into a rage. Though Garrett promised to have the money to San Bernardino by that night, Ken Swift sensed that that wasn't the last they'd see of him.

It wasn't as if Swift couldn't use more money himself. Without that fifty grand, Margaux was threatening to take the secret name to the police. Margaux's mother was back in the States from Africa, and Swift realized that he was still in love with Jimi Lee. All this made him forget his girlfriend's birthday, and Rachel Redman was threatening to return to her Russ-

whether or not we can ever

'turn Texas blue,' but I be-

lieve that this 'blue wave' is

mounting as across the na-

tion Democrats continue to

win seats.

ian lover. Swift was up to his neck in women with problems – a neck that was stuck far enough out to be vulnerable to attack...

One strong indicator of a good book is how eager you are to return it. "Bad Men and Wicked Women" surely fills that bill.

Don't expect that feeling immediately, though. Author Eric Jerome Dickey takes his time getting to the point here; there's plenty of fluff-dialogue in this tale that doesn't do much but fill pages, and some that screams "TMI."

We don't, for instance, need several pages on one character's intestinal prob-

tor who is not well-liked, I believe, by both sides of the aisle, and we have a great candidate in Beto O'Rourke who is doing amazing things. He's visiting every county. He's coming and

leme

What we do need is action, and it arrives in a page-turning fury that handily douses the superfluousness that precedes it. Its presence is like getting your back scratched: it puts you in a mood and you don't want it to end. Indeed, larger-than-life scenarios are near-hallmarks in a Dickey novel, and nobody does them better.

Yes, there's trash, flash, and violence in this book but you shouldn't be surprised. You wouldn't want it any other way, in fact, because "Bad Men and Wicked Women" is thick with thrills.

visiting places like Bonton Farms and he's coming down to South Dallas to see what the issues are for the people in their community. He's meeting us where we are."

BETO, continued from Page 7

George said. "We sell onsite, because it's all about the community. We are based here. It started here, so it's just a part of what we have going on here."

While touring the grounds, Beto got an earful from Babcock, who left a career with a private equity firm to push the effort in Bonton. Originally the farm provided work for former prisoners. In recent years, the workers have come from all walks of life. However, criminal justice reform is still a high priority for Babcock, along with the inequality of opportunity he sees in the neighborhood around the farm and a high school graduation rate below 50 percent.

"I fight these battles with people I deeply care about every day," Babcock said after Beto had departed for his next rally. "I have never had a chance to tell a politician who has the influence to do something about it. These are things – you don't rehearse it – it's here every day. Every. Day. So until somebody takes it seriously and starts to really challenge the systems that are in place, we're going to continue to have this jacked-up system of people who are filled with problems and struggles we're paying for because we didn't make the

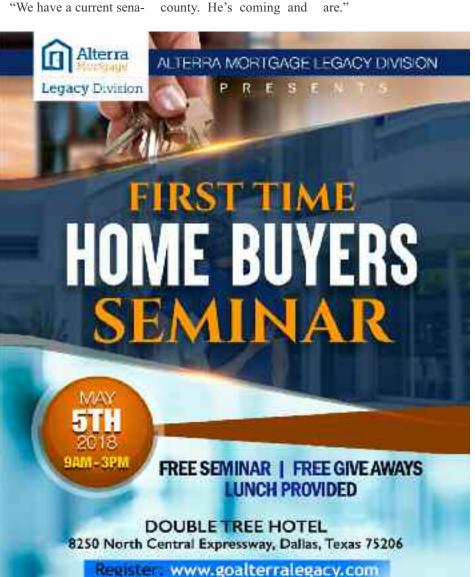
proper investments on the front end."

It has been a good week for the Beto campaign, a poll conducted by Quinnipiac came out showing the race against current Senator Ted Cruz at 3 points, within the margin of error in a state that is supposed to be safely Republican. Supporters of the Democratic campaign are more than please with this early hint of an upset.

"I'm really optimistic," said Brandon J. Vance, an active Democrat who was on hand for the tour. "I think in this day and age, in this cycle, that it's possible. I've been one of those in the past who's worried about



Congressman Beto O'Rourke is momentarily interrupted by one of the more affectionate residents of Bonton Farms. The herd of goats kept on the grounds is quite popular among visitors to the South Dallas agricultural endeavor. (Photo: David Wilfong / NDG)



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