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Short film on Stanley Marcus lauded at fest

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Sister Tarpley: God expects you to soar

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Black workers need 'real' not 'fake' paid family leave

By Melanie Campbell
and Jennifer Tucker
Guest Contributors

When Dorcas, a home health aide living in New York, learned of her mother's illness, she used most of her vacation time to fly home and care for her. After a few weeks her leave was exhausted and tragically she could no longer afford to be with her mother in the final days of her illness. In the end, Dorcas was forced to take unpaid leave, and return to Florida, arriving just hours before her mother passed away.

Dorcas counts every penny and the unpaid time resulted in a mountain of unpaid bills and financial challenges that lingered well into the following year. Dorcas weathered that storm. But she says, "it still pains me that I wasn't able to be with my mom during her last days."

Dorcas' story is one of many shared in the Family Values@Work story collection. Her story exemplifies a crushing dilemma that many Black women workers face every day when caring for themselves or a family member. Life shouldn't be this way but it is the reality for far too many in the United States.

On July 11, the Senate Finance Committee's Social Security, Pensions and Family Policy Subcommittee held a hearing on paid family



A proposed FAMILY Act would provide for Black workers when need arises at home. (Photo: Metropolitan Transit Authority of New York / Flickr)

leave that featured two very different policy options.

The "real" policy is the Family and Medical Insurance Leave (FAMILY) Act that creates a national insurance program to fund the time needed to welcome a new baby, address one's own health issue, or the serious health issue of a family member. It also includes time for certain military families' care giving purposes.

Employees, employers and self-employed workers would fund both the benefits and the administrative costs of the program by contributing a small amount in each pay period to a self-sustaining fund.

The FAMILY Act builds on programs in California, New Jersey, and

Rhode Island and with the newest programs being implemented in New York, Washington, the District of Columbia, and Massachusetts.

The "fake" paid family leave option, restricts participation to only maternity leave and diverts social security funds to pay for the program. U.S. Senators Joni Ernst (Iowa), Mike Lee (Utah) and Marco Rubio (Florida) plan to introduce legislation covering only the birth or adoption of a child.

This deeply flawed proposal will require people to borrow against their social security accounts, delaying their retirement date or receiving a decreased retirement benefit. For

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People In The News...

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Jarren Small



Ron Kirk

READERS SOUND OFF!!!

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

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



Jarren Small

By Lynette Monroe
Program Assistant
NNPA ESSA Public
Awareness Campaign

Jarren Small, a 28 year-old, Missouri City native and community activist, stopped asking, "Why not?" and became the answer that he was looking for when he launched the non-profit organization LegendsDoLive.

In 2014, without any major partners, Small founded LegendsDoLive, an organization committed to funding and coordinating community-based programs for disadvantaged youth.

As a charismatic adoles-



cent, Small was active in various extracurricular activities. He attended Hightower High School, played basketball and earned awards through the Media and Broadcasting Academy. In 2008, Jarren became an

Eagle Scout. He credits his accomplishments to the positive impact of his parents' consistent engagement and strategic exposure to diverse environments.

Shrugging his shoulders, Small downplayed his impressive list of academic and extracurricular accolades.

"Yeah, I guess I was kind of a cool kid in certain aspects," Small said.

Ironically, Small's many accomplishments were nearly overshadowed by his difficulty with standardized testing.

"Everyone thought I had it all together, but I failed to pass the math portion of the state standardized test,"

called the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS), Small said. "I passed the Math TAKS by one point—my fourth time. I felt like [God] was giving me one final chance to get it together."

After high school, Small attended Prairie View A & M University in Prairie View, Texas, an hour's drive to the northwest of Missouri City.

"I did very well at [Prairie View A & M University]," Small said. "It was one of the best decisions I've made in my life."

And once again, Small was quite the standout student. He obtained a bachelor's degree in mass com-

munication with a minor in marketing. As an undergraduate, he led a movement to bring the first panther statue to campus in reverence of the university's founding fathers. Small served as the student government association president from 2011 to 2012.

Small's collegiate career was a stark contrast to the challenges he had faced just a few years earlier as a graduating senior.

When asked if his difficulty with testing was a defining moment, Small responded: "I feel like my entire life has led to this point, like everything I've been through and all the experiences I've had have been

preparation for what I am doing right now."

Fortunately, for other future leaders like Jarren Small, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), national education law signed by President Barack Obama, seeks to alleviate the burden of ineffective testing. ESSA gives states more flexibility to decide what type of assessments they issue. ESSA also allows states to develop "innovative" assessments or to use other nationally recognized tests like the SAT or ACT.

Small said that children are the nucleus of commu-

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Ron Kirk

Toyota Motor North America (TMNA) will serve as presenting sponsor for the 33rd Dallas Women's Foundation Annual Luncheon, set for 11:30 a.m. on Oct. 30 at the Hilton Anatole Hotel in Dallas. A sponsor reception will be held at 10:30 a.m.

Community volunteer leaders Lael Brodsky and Tricia Miller will serve as co-chairs for the luncheon, which aims to raise \$1.5 million to serve the needs of women and girls in North Texas. Ambassador Ron Kirk and Matrice Ellis-Kirk will serve as honorary



chairs.

Further, two of the most influential women in media will engage in a candid, insightful on-stage conversation, as Academy Award nominee Ava DuVernay and

NPR host Michele Norris discuss the pressing issues facing women today.

DuVernay rose to prominence as the director of Selma and A Wrinkle in Time. Norris was the first African-American woman to host NPR's All Things Considered.

Toyota Motor North America has signed on as the luncheon's presenting sponsor, citing shared values with the Dallas Women's Foundation. The automaker has been a part of the cultural fabric in the U.S. and North America for 60 years, and recently celebrated the first anniversary of its new North American

headquarters in Plano, Texas.

"The Foundation is the trusted leader in advancing equity and opportunity for all women and girls," said Bonnie Clinton TMNA's general manager, indirect procurement. "That mission closely aligns with Toyota's vision for diversity and inclusion. We're thrilled to work with the Foundation to help empower women, girls and the whole North Texas community."

"We are delighted to have Toyota as our presenting sponsor," said Roslyn Dawson Thompson, the foundation's president and chief executive officer.

"The leadership line-up for this luncheon is extraordinary – from the significant example Toyota is setting as a corporate leader, to the dedication of our awesome co-chairs, Lael Brodsky and Tricia Miller, and honorary chairs, Matrice and Ron Kirk, to the powerful success stories of Ava DuVernay and Michele Norris. I'm confident this leadership line-up is going to help us achieve and even exceed our goal."

The annual luncheon's Honorary Chairs – Ambassador Ron Kirk and Matrice Ellis-Kirk – are among the most respected and admired individuals in the commu-

nity. A 30-year public servant and legal professional, Ambassador Kirk is senior of counsel in Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher's Dallas and Washington, D.C. offices, and has leadership roles on a number of corporate boards and charitable organizations. From 2009 to 2013, Ambassador Kirk served as U.S. Trade Representative under President Barack Obama, and from 1995 to 2001, he was Mayor of Dallas.

Matrice Ellis-Kirk is managing director at RSR Partners, a senior member of the firm's board of direc-

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NDG Readers Sound Off...

Prepare to Prosper: 8 Steps to Financial Health

Hello. Thanks for sharing this piece of news. We really have to be more responsible for our expenses and where the money goes. Personally, I find tracking my expenses to be the most useful money-saving technique. Otherwise, trustworthy installment loans providers has become a great lending option which helps me cover any unexpected purchases or pay my medical bills. I hope other readers will find this information useful too as this service has proven to be reliable and hassle-free.

- Julia Summer

NDG wins national award

WOW!! Congratulations, Ruth Ferguson and North Dallas Gazette Newspaper on your prestigious award! We are lucky to have you in our community!!

-- Kelly Kitchens
via Facebook

Tweets to @NDGEditor

Summer is full of sunshine, summer camp and extra time-off! Now, is a great time to visit your family physician for an annual #physical. To learn the benefits, be sure to view Dr. Laibstain's feature in the @NDGEditor here: bit.ly/2zz1gW7 ---

@FamilyMedTx

We appreciate the love and support from @NDGEditor for featuring our story of Opportunity Rising Scholars! Be sure to check it out here: bit.ly/2z9ZOJg --- @OpRising

Tezlyn Figaro discusses black business on @FoxNews "Black Businesses are not looking for a Government check, we are looking for a Government contract" Socialist should not confuse corporate greed vs entrepreneurship: There is a big difference! @NDGEditor ---- @TezlynFigaro

@PCFnews President and CEO Jonathan Simons says that prostate cancer remains the most unsolved cancer disparity in the African American community. #NNPABlackMen'sHealth @DrBenChavis @freddieallenjr @HollywoodHazzell @LVBurke @WashInformer @dallasweekly @theatlantavoices @NDGEditor - -- @BlackPressUSA

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Time to reform the system

By Jeffrey L. Boney
NNPA Political Analyst

During a recent trip to Houston, Rev. Jesse Jackson joined forces with Harris County Precinct 1 Commissioner Rodney Ellis and various local community advocates, to address a litany of social justice issues that have impacted many individuals in the Greater Houston area, as well as across the entire nation.

At a news conference that was held at the Harris County Precinct One El Rio Service Center, Rev. Jackson joined Commissioner Ellis to talk about why Harris County Commissioners Court should settle a bail reform lawsuit and a push for the county to adopt a minority- and women-owned business enterprise (MWBE) program.

Several community leaders, ministers, and community organizations, such as FIEL Houston, a group focused on the needs of families and education, the NAACP, the Anti-Defamation League and others were part of the gathering.

One of the most important battles taking place across the U.S. has been a push for bail reform. The fight for bail reform has become one of the most important and major civil rights issues of our day; and that fight is being aggressively waged in Harris County, which has the majority of its county leadership fighting a costly lawsuit to contest its unjust cash-bail system that keeps poor people behind bars.

Rev. Jackson spoke out against the position Harris County has taken to aggressively fight the lawsuit and expressed his support for U.S. District Judge Lee H. Rosenthal's recent ruling that found Harris County's cash bail system unconstitutional, emphasizing that the system essentially keeps select defendants in jail, be-

cause they are poor and do not have the means to pay.

"The cash bail system in Harris County is discriminatory along the lines of race and poverty," Rev. Jackson stated. "Fewer and fewer people are getting more and more, while more and more have less and less. We need to get rid of the borders that separate poor people from those who are not poor, in Harris County. We must continue our fight for the poor, because most of them cannot fight for themselves."

The case against Harris County is scheduled to go

4).

Harris County Judge Ed Emmett, however, has gone on record stating that the bail reform lawsuit should be settled out of court. However, the three Commissioners have dug in their heels, advocating for Harris County to continue spending money to defend the lawsuit.

"That money could be spent on reforming the system," said Commissioner Ellis. "We could have been using that money to educate people, so that once they get out of prison, they are productive, and don't get stuck

quired for its race- and gender-conscious contracting program.

Lastly, Rev. Jackson addressed the Trump administration's former policy that separated immigrant children from their parents at the U.S.-Mexico border.

"This was a crime against humanity," said Rev. Jackson. "Fighting for children at the border is our obligation, just like fighting to end borders that separate Blacks and browns from Whites, as well as the poor in Harris County, is our obligation."

Rev. Jackson emphasized that getting people out to vote during the upcoming midterm elections is extremely important and a critical way to ensure these major social justice issues are addressed. At last month's National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) Annual Convention, Rev. Jackson expressed his support of the NNPA's efforts to encourage 5 million Blacks to register to vote before the November midterm elections.

They are hoping the success of this initiative will significantly impact the way all of these social justice issues are addressed moving forward.

"We must make November 6th a day we will always remember," said Rev. Jackson. "We must vote with passion on November 6th and change the political direction of our country."

Jeffrey Boney is a political analyst for the NNPA Newswire and BlackPressUSA.com and the associate editor for the Houston Forward Times newspaper. Jeffrey is an award-winning journalist, dynamic, international speaker, experienced entrepreneur, business development strategist and founder and CEO of the Texas Business Alliance. Follow Jeffrey on Twitter @realtalkjunkies.

This article was originally published at Black-e d a PressUSA.com.

"One of the most important battles taking place across the U.S. has been a push for bail reform. The fight for bail reform has become one of the most important and major civil rights issues of our day; and that fight is being aggressively waged in Harris County, which has the majority of its county leadership fighting a costly lawsuit to contest its unjust cash-bail system that keeps poor people behind bars."

to trial in December, but Rev. Jackson strongly urged Harris County officials to stop their efforts to fight against the movement to end the current cash bail system and is encouraging them to settle the lawsuit to avoid any further damage to poor people.

Commissioner Ellis, who is the only member on Commissioners Court to oppose the lawsuit since inception, wants his colleagues on Commissioners Court to settle the costly bail reform lawsuit. Commissioner Ellis has faced continuous and tremendous amount of pushback from his other three colleagues on Commissioners Court: Jack Morman (Precinct 2), Steve Radaack (Precinct 3) and R. Jack Cagle (Precinct

in that cycle. This broken system doesn't solve anything."

Since 2016, Harris County has spent roughly \$7 million to defend the lawsuit and appeal the case, versus using that money for other much-needed areas across the county.

Rev. Jackson also expressed his support for Commissioner Ellis' efforts to get Harris County to adopt an MWBE program and policy to ensure MWBEs have a fair opportunity to compete for and win contracts with Harris County. Harris County and the City of Houston recently approved an inter-local agreement that allows Harris County to use certain elements of the city's disparity study, which is re-

More rehab doesn't mean better outcomes after hip fracture

More care may not translate into better long-term health after a hip fracture hospitalization, according to a new study.

The study of more than 300,000 Medicare patients who completed rehabilitation therapy after hip fractures shows that patients covered under Medicare's fee-for-service plan spent an average of 31 days in nursing homes following hip fracture hospitalization. In contrast, those covered under Medicare Advantage spent 25 days in nursing homes.

Researchers hypothesized that those who had received more care would fare better after their release. In reality, the opposite happened. Despite significantly fewer days of care, patients covered under Medicare Advantage saw slightly better health outcomes after release.

The study emerges as an increasing number of elderly Americans are opting for the newer Medicare Advantage plan, which offers coverage through private insurance companies that Medicare has vetted.

The traditional fee-for-service plan, sometimes called Original Medicare, allows enrollees to choose any physician they want, and Medicare is billed on a per-



Cursos gratis / Flickr

treatment basis. Medicare Advantage enrollees, on the other hand, must choose doctors from within a restricted network, and insurance companies send health providers fixed reimbursement amounts to cover their members' care.

"The results suggest that for hip fracture patients who are otherwise healthy, longer lengths of stay in skilled nursing facilities may not translate to better outcomes," says senior author Vincent Mor, a professor of health services, policy and practice at Brown University.

"We don't know whether 15 days, 20 days, or 25 days of care in a skilled nursing facility is optimal—but we do know that Medicare fee-for-service patients are getting more therapy for more days, and there's no difference in benefit," Mor says.

The study's findings indi-

cate that patients who are covered under the traditional Medicare fee-for-service plan may receive inefficient treatment. The data suggest that it may be possible for nursing homes to order shorter courses of rehabilitation without compromising health—which would save time for patients and money for Medicare, the researchers say.

"The study conveys a simple message to Medicare to reduce unnecessarily long lengths of stay in skilled nursing facilities," says lead author Amit Kumar, a post-doctoral fellow in health service research. "Longer lengths of stay cost more but do not yield better health."

To arrive at their results, the researchers gathered data from more than 200,000 traditional Medicare patients and more than 75,000 Medicare Advantage pa-

tients who were hospitalized for hip fractures and then transferred to nursing homes between 2011 and 2015.

They measured each patient's length of stay in days and in total minutes of rehabilitation therapy. Then, they followed patients after release to monitor whether they'd been successfully discharged within 100 days of admission to the nursing home, whether they'd been re-hospitalized within 30 days, or whether anyone had died within a month of release.

The study's results build on previous research linking fewer minutes of care and better outcomes to the Medicare Advantage plan, Mor says.

"There is reasonably good evidence to suggest that for every full day fee-for-service patients spend in the hospital, Medicare Advantage patients undergoing the same treatment spend a little bit less than a day in the hospital and have similar or better outcomes."

Mor notes that record numbers of Americans are opting for the newer Medicare Advantage plans over Original Medicare. In decades past, those who used Medicare Advantage made up just 5 to 10 percent of all Medicare enrollees. But since the launch of the Af-

fordable Care Act in 2010, enrollment in the newer plans has skyrocketed. Today, it's the plan of choice for one in three Americans receiving Medicare, or nearly 20 million people.

Mor says he believes the increase could be due to Medicare Advantage's relative simplicity. Under Original Medicare, patients can visit any medical professional they choose—but with frequent visits, copayments can add up quickly, and the paperwork piles up fast. Those enrolled in Medicare Advantage must choose from providers within a restricted network—but the plans tend to be more affordable and less confusing to navigate.

The increase in Medicare Advantage enrollees has brought big changes to health care operations, Mor notes. Original Medicare's pay-per-treatment setup has long incentivized more treatments and longer stays in rehabilitation facilities. But Medicare Advantage, with its fixed-payment arrangement, gives providers an incentive to discharge patients sooner.

Medicare is also pushing for a "bundled" approach to payment for care services, Mor says. Bundling would allow Medicare to cover the entire cost of a patient's sin-

gle illness or course of treatment in a single payment to providers, regardless of that patient's plan.

"Say a patient enters a hospital with a hip fracture, and that hospital receives a bundled, fixed payment amount for 90 days of treatment," Mor says. "If they're able to save some money from that pool by reducing treatment time, they get to share that savings. They get to keep that money."

Mor says the study's scope is too limited to conclude anything definitive about the effects of Medicare plans on the overall health-care landscape. He adds that among other research possibilities, he'd like to see studies comparing the amounts of time Medicare patients on different plans spend in stroke or cardiac recovery, where rehabilitation takes much longer and can be far more complicated.

Still, he believes the study is an important step toward understanding the implications of the newer Medicare Advantage plan's growing popularity with seniors. And if it helps save time and money for everyone involved, so much the better.

"Most people don't want to be in a nursing home longer than they have to be," Mor says.

Source: Brown University

SMALL, continued from Page 2

nities and that the success of our schools is the key to community sustainability.

Smiling, Small explained that, "Kids are not the future; they are the right now."

The development of positive resources to support children offers a tangible solution to many concerns facing inner-city communities, Small said.

Small emphasized that his methods and approach to education are resources that all students can benefit from.

Likewise, ESSA requires states to prioritize stakeholder engagement in an attempt to better meet the ed-

ucational needs of local populations in lieu of the national one-size-fits all academic standards promoted by its predecessor, the No Child Left Behind Act, signed into law by President George W. Bush.

Currently, LegendsDoLive works primarily with high school students. This year, their widely anticipated annual "Senior Fest" included an all-star basketball game between Hightower High School and Ridge Point High School, followed by an empowerment forum and concert.

"This concert is happening during school. Something like this has never

been done before," Small explained, as he expounded on the innovation required to engage today's youth.

More than 600 students participated in the event. Small said getting students to participate in positive, educational events is not as difficult, as some people might think.

"It's easy," Small explained. "You just have to listen to them and then give them what they ask for."

Small said that he's applying this same attitude to his newest education focus: literacy. In May, LegendsDoLive launched a hip-hop curriculum called "Reading With a Rapper" to promote reading and writing proficiency. This program is a response to Small's educa-

tional approach of listening to children first and then responding to their needs.

Let's hope that Small's enthusiasm about innovative approaches to education radiates throughout the nation as it has in the Houston-metropolitan area.

For more information about the Every Student Succeeds Act, visit nnpa.org/essa.

Lynette Monroe is the program assistant for the NNPA's Every Student Succeeds Act Public Awareness Campaign and a master's student at Howard University. Her research areas are public policy and national development. Follow Lynette on Twitter @_monroedoctine.

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Water is Awesome debuts weekly watering advice for North Texas

The Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) and City of Dallas Water Utilities (DWU), have partnered to provide a free weekly watering advice through their “Water is Awesome” campaign. For the first time, all North Texans can receive an email or text message with their lawn’s watering needs for that week.

“Water waste in the landscape is a huge opportunity for savings,” said Dustan Compton, Conservation Manager for Tarrant Regional Water District. “On average, we have seen that



sprinklers can be turned off 26 weeks of the year and this can save thousands of

gallons for the average residence.”

To produce the watering

advice, a system of weather stations have been strategically placed in neighborhoods across North Texas. They collect local data every day to determine soil moisture loss. When this data is combined with recent rainfall information from the National Weather Service, an accurate watering amount is produced for that area. North Texans who sign up for the weekly watering advice from Water is Awesome will receive an email or text message every Monday with that week’s watering recommendation.

“In the past decade, North

Texans have made tremendous strides in reducing water waste,” said Holly Holt-Torres, Conservation Manager at the City of Dallas Water Utilities. “Together with the Tarrant Regional Water District, we are thrilled that the Water is Awesome campaign continues to raise public awareness about the importance of saving water and keeping our region’s momentum moving in the right direction.”

The population of the North Texas region is expected to double over the next 50 years. Water conser-

vation, and learning how to reduce water waste, is the least expensive long-term water supply strategy for future generations.

“Water is a finite resource,” said Dustan, “And learning how to use water more efficiently will ensure we have a safe and reliable water supply. Using this free weekly watering advice service will help all subscribers better care for their lawn and manage their water use.”

North Texans can sign up for weekly watering advice at www.waterisawesome.com.

Construction will disrupt DART routes for two weeks

Riders on DART’s Orange Line are advised to allow extra time for travel over the next two weeks, due to separate construction projects:

The first disruption will

run from July 26-29 (early Friday-Monday, 12-3 a.m.).

Buses will replace train service after midnight in both directions between Bachman and University of

Dallas stations due to Oncor and TxDOT utility work along Highway 114. Normal rail service will resume with the first morning trip each day.

A second change of serv-

ice will take place Aug. 4-5 (all day Saturday through early Sunday).

Airport construction directly above tracks and overhead wires will require buses to replace trains be-

tween DFW and Belt Line stations. Shuttle buses will meet all DFW Airport bound trains at Belt Line Station and transport passengers to the kiss & ride stop at Terminal A. DFW

bus departures will allow passengers to meet regularly scheduled trains at Belt Line.

Normal rail service will resume with the first scheduled Sunday trips.

DFW Airport kicks old habits to the curb

By Rachel Hawkins
NDG Staff Writer

Changes are coming to Dallas-Fort Worth International (DFW) Airport but fear not. In the age of long lines at tickets counters, following Transportation Safety Administration (TSA) guidelines and hunting down luggage at the baggage carousel, these changes are going to speed things up.

On July 18, the airport announced they would be changing how the curbside areas operate. Starting September 8, all five terminals will be adapted to active loading and unloading zones and enforced by DFW’s De-



Signs exhibiting the new policy will be placed on all terminal curbsides starting in July. (Image: Rachel Hawkins / NDG)

partment of Public Safety.

Seeing how DFW Airport is one of the last airports to allow people to pick up and drop off their loved ones on the curb and idle in attended vehicles, because of the increasing amount of passen-

gers served at the airport, they are hoping to improve the traffic flow and improve the congestion caused by the vehicles.

Many airports, including

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KIRK, continued from Page 2

tors’ practice, and head of the Dallas office. She is an active leader in the business and civic communities, and serves on a number of boards, including the President’s Commission on

White House Fellowships, North Texas Tollway Authority and The Dallas Center for the Performing Arts.

Dallas Women’s Foundation Annual Luncheon table sponsorships begin at

\$3,500, and individual tickets begin at \$350.

Those interested should contact Ashley Lindsay at 214-525-5311, alindsay@dallaswomensfoundation.org or visit www.dallaswomensfdn.org/luncheon.

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Rebel Spirits: Robert F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr. was produced by Wiener Schiller Productions and is presented locally by The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza. The exhibition was curated by Lawrence Schiller with support from Getty Images, Photo, Carl Stoughton, White House Photographs, John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, Boston.

DCCCD adult education graduates finish with credentials, life experience

The tassels and gowns of spring high school and college graduations have faded. For 144 older students, however, graduation from the Dallas County Community College District's WorkReadyU program in late June signaled they had met their goals as adult learners and now are ready for the next step in their lives.

Those students have learned, through life's challenges, that an education brings rewards.

Aaron Taylor is one of those graduates who knows that adult education gave him a second chance. He dropped out of school, fathered three children, went to work and couldn't find the time to go back to school – until his mother prodded him to go. He then



DCCCD

asked himself, "Why am I acting so aloof toward this glorious woman, who only ever wanted me to be the epitome of greatness, who loves me?"

Taylor added that his most important reason for going back to school was for his children. "I want them to see, with all of my setbacks, that I still went back to school and made

something out of my life. It is my job as a parent to mold them into productive members of society – and that starts with myself," he said. "I want to use my mind before it deteriorates. I know I can be or do whatever I set my mind to."

Taylor served as a student ambassador during the June 30 graduation program.

DCCCD has 253 students throughout the Dallas Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) consortium who either have earned their high school equivalency or who have successfully completed an Integrated Educational Training (IET) program. Graduates earn a certification in programs such as patient care technician, certified nurse assistant, office assistant certificate, Microsoft certified application specialist, hospitality and tourism, and others.

RonChelle Kelly, DCCCD's continuing education and workforce coordinator for the district's AEL program, said, "Our graduates expressed how very important and meaningful graduation was for them. One student – a

mother of 10 children – earned her GED. Her brothers, her mother, her children, nieces and nephews all were there to celebrate her success."

She added, "Many students also said they would have given up if there hadn't been that one special person in their corner, encouraging them along the way. Sometimes we can't truly understand what it means to the student we serve and the difference we make in their lives if we haven't walked in their shoes."

DCCCD's AEL program serves adults who are at least 16 years old and/or are beyond the compulsory school attendance age. The adult education and literacy program provides English

language, mathematics, reading, and writing instruction to help students acquire the skills needed to succeed in the workforce, earn a high school equivalency certificate, or enter college or career training.

Adults who need literacy instruction receive it in two main settings: (1) adult education programs, for which the largest source of federal funding is the Workforce Investment Act, Title II, Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA); and (2) developmental education courses in colleges for academically underprepared students.

For more information about DCCCD's WorkReadyU program, visit www.dcccd.edu/WorkReadyU.

El Centro College & UNT Dallas to launch the Emerging Teacher Academy Pathway this Fall 2018

El Centro College and the University of North Texas at Dallas (UNT Dallas) are partnering to create the Emerging Teacher Academy, a pathway focused on training the next generation of teachers.

El Centro College will host a formal agreement signing and prospective student information session in the Student Center on its

downtown campus on August 8 at 11 a.m.

The El Centro College/UNT Dallas Emerging Teacher Academy will offer several student-centered approaches that make this partnership unique:

- Students will be concurrently enrolled at El Centro College and UNT Dallas.
- Students will learn from both El Centro College and

UNT Dallas' professors during the same semester.

- Students will qualify for a free DART pass—making it easy to take the DART Blue line from El Centro College to UNT Dallas.
- Students will be eligible for El Centro College/ UNT Dallas Emerging Teacher Academy merit-based scholarships.
- Students will be as-

signed to an advisor to ensure they have a smooth transition into the program.

- Students will be assigned to a career counselor for job placement after graduation.

"Our School of Education is a unique entity that is addressing a serious teacher shortage in our region – especially for bilingual teachers," UNT Dallas President

Bob Mong said. "As a university, we and El Centro College have an extraordinary opportunity to make a difference in the 21st century."

"The Emerging Teacher Academy is an investment in young people locally and their future," said Elizabeth Fritze Cheek, Executive Director of UNT Dallas' Emerging Teacher Institute.

"This partnership gives high school graduates a clear path to a bachelor's degree, a teacher preparation model designed around mind-heart-and-practice, and a guarantee of readiness to assume many of the empty bilingual and ESL teaching positions in area school districts. With the Emerging Teacher Academy, everybody wins."

Irving fire stations collecting back-to-school supplies

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

New clothes, a new backpack, new school supplies – those are a part of what children get excited about every year as a new school year starts. The fresh beginning and hopes this year will be different. But for parents struggling to keep food on the table and gas in the car, this sometimes results in a stressful time. A fact not lost on the children who become acutely aware of, and it can dampen their spirits.

The Irving community is invited to help support their



neighbors by donating school supplies at their nearby Irving fire station through July 31. Organizations hosting a back-to-school drive can bring all of their items to the stations as

well as individuals and families.

This is an excellent opportunity for high school students looking to gain community service hours for their resume to host an

event. Perhaps by coordinating collection of items from a nearby store or restaurant looking for an opportunity to promote their community involvement, put out fliers in the neighborhood asking them to leave things on their porch on a designated day or working with your extended family to collect supplies.

Back-to-school supply list

Irving ISD has provided a recommended list which can be featured on the flyer announcing your collection of back-to-school supplies:

- Backpacks
- Binders (2-inch)

- Composition books
- Colored pencils (12 count)
- Crayons (24 count)
- Dividers
- Dry-erase markers (4 count)
- Earbuds
- Erasers (pink beveled)
- Folders with brads and pockets (plastic)
- Glue sticks
- Graphing paper
- Highlighters
- Markers (8 count, washable)
- Notebook paper (wide, college ruled)
- Notecards
- Pencil box or bag

- Pencils (No. 2, 24 count)
- Pens (black, blue and red ink)
- Post-it notes
- Rulers (plastic – standard, metric)
- Scissors (small, blunt-tip)
- Spiral notebooks
- Tissues

Too busy to shop or drop off your supplies? Financial donations are also being accepted, call 972-600-5018 for more information.

One more option is to place an order via Amazon and have it shipped to the fire station, just give them a call as a heads up.

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Wells Fargo ups donations to more than \$1 Million a day to charities

Wells Fargo & Company last year continued to invest in communities across the country through its philanthropy and volunteerism, donating more than \$286.5 million in 2017 to more than 14,500 nonprofits, the company announced.

The company's plan to target \$400 million in donations to nonprofits and community organizations in 2018 is an increase of approximately 40 percent from 2017.

Wells Fargo already is one of the top corporate cash donors, ranking first among financial institutions and third among all U.S. companies in a 2016 report (most recent ranking) by The Chronicle of Philanthropy.

"We understand the important role we play in helping our communities, so we will continue to identify additional opportunities where Wells Fargo can make a difference," CEO, Tim Sloan

said. "Wells Fargo's increased philanthropy will have a positive effect on the causes and communities we support and further enhance our Corporate Social Responsibility efforts, which will continue to focus on advancing diversity and social inclusion, creating economic opportunities in underserved communities, and accelerating the transition to a lower-carbon economy and a healthier planet."

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Wells Fargo commits \$3.5 million to increase financial capability across U.S.

Toneé Jackson was at a low point four years ago. In Chicago's Cook County Jail for a fourth time, she was struggling with substance abuse, had no job, a limited education, terrible credit, and was burdened with debt — she didn't even have a bank account. Caught in a painful cycle that was destroying her family, she resolved to change.

"I wanted to start my life over," said Jackson. "I just needed a little help with my beginning."

The Wells Fargo Financial Capability Grant program focuses on helping people, like Jackson, who are facing destabilizing economic challenges. Started in 2017, the program's grants help people from diverse populations who are underbanked by connecting them to income supports and financial training.

The program has just awarded \$3.5 million to two nonprofits with thoughtful and focused financial capability programs — the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), and the Cities for Financial Empowerment (CFE) Fund.

The Wells Fargo grants will provide \$1 million funding for the CFE Fund and \$2.5 million funding for LISC financial capability programs in a total of 25 U.S. cities and regions over three years.

"All of the cities we are working with demonstrated that they are looking to make financial empowerment front-and-center in the work they can do," said Tumara Lindsay, a principal at the CFE Fund. "The long-term vision is to create a permanent home for this work, to help make sure it is sustainable."

City leaders collaborate with CFE Fund partners to open Financial Empowerment Centers, or FECs, for their residents. At FECs, professionally trained counselors help consumers with low and moderate incomes manage their finances, pay down debt, increase savings, establish and build credit, and access safe and affordable mainstream banking products. The FEC model integrates counseling into other social services, including housing and foreclosure prevention, workforce development, prisoner reentry, benefits access, domestic violence services, and more. First piloted in New York City under Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg in 2008, the FECs are a proven success — about 80,000 consumers have reduced individual debt by almost \$94 million and increased their families' savings by about \$12 million. A recent CFE Fund evaluation showed that this program works even for residents with very low incomes and other complex financial challenges.

"Offering financial counseling as a public service, through local governments, helps stabilize struggling households and communities. Local leaders know the importance of helping families and neighborhoods build financial stability and make better use of social services," said Jonathan Mintz, president and CEO of the CFE Fund.

Wells Fargo's grant to LISC will strengthen and expand the Financial Opportunity Center, or FOC, model across 15 target markets. Working through local nonprofits nationwide since 2006, FOCs

offer services including employment and career counseling, one-on-one financial coaching and education, and connect individuals with low-cost financial products that help build credit, savings and assets. FOCs also have a remedial education component that provides participants with foundational reading and math skills that they need in order to get into job training programs that can lead to higher paying, living-wage careers.

"Promising talent exists in all our communities, and we have to invest to help people realize their full potential. That's where FOCs come in," said LISC CEO Maurice A. Jones. "By connecting people to the tools they need, they can compete for the quality jobs that employers must fill to innovate and grow. They'll be able to earn more, save more and access life-changing opportunities for themselves and their families."

During a conversation with her parole officer, Jackson found out about a local Financial Opportunity Center housed at Chicago's Jane Addams Resource Corporation, a nonprofit local community resource center. The FOC helped Jackson find additional education opportunities and got her into a job placement program. After she successfully landed her welding job, Jackson continued to receive guidance from a financial coach. She created a budget, reduced her medical debts, and established credit.

Mike Rizer, head of Wells Fargo Community Relations, said results like Jackson's are the goal.

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Dallas

The **Back in the Day 90's Party** will take place on July 21 from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. at Taboo Lounge, in Dallas. There will be drink specials, hookah, and music. Celebrate the 90's with this throwback party. For more information visit [Facebook.com/events](https://www.facebook.com/events)

Summer Asian Night Market & After Party with DJ Lucky Lou will take place on July 22 starting at 5 p.m. at The Bomb Factory, in Dallas. They are showcasing some of the best Asian foods in the DFW area under one roof for one day. Children under the age of five get in free.

More than 13 vendors will be there to present their dishes. To buy tickets visit THEBOMBFACTORY.COM.

Frisco

The **2nd Annual Community Volunteer Event** will take place on July 21 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Frisco Resale, in Frisco. Hosted by the Kansas State Texans, they are joining us in giving back to our community here in North Texas.

Help with sorting and processing donations for the Frisco Resale store. Please wear closed toe shoes. No short shorts or leggings. Volunteers must be at least 11 years old. 12 volunteers

will be needed for the shift. To RSVP or to find out more information contact connect@kansassstatetexans.org.

Irving

In the **Arts Center's Galleries** will be presented on July 21 from August at different times at The Irving Arts Center, in Irving. Two- and three-dimensional artworks by artists of all ages. Prizes are presented in three categories: Youth, Nonprofessional and Professional with an overall "Best of Show" prize also awarded. In celebration of the iconic Route 66, participating members have been invited to create artwork that ex-

plores the sights and history along America's great Mother Road and/or the theme of road trips and summer vacations. The reception will begin on July 22 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. For more information visit irvingartscenter.com/exhibitions/.

The **Red Cross Lifeguard Class** will be offered on July 27 to 29, from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at North Lake Natatorium, in Irving. Successful completion of the course will result in American Red Cross Life Guard/First Aid, CPR-Professional Rescuer, and AED certifications.

Prerequisite: Minimum

age 15. Successful skills test, which includes 300-yard continuous swim; a 10-pound brick retrieval from 7 to 10 feet depth of water followed by a 20-yard return carrying the brick; and treading water for two minutes without using hands.

Test must be completed one week before class or must have instructor approval.

For more information, register in person at the North Lake Aquatic Center, 5001 N. MacArthur Blvd. For more information, call Aquatics Coordinator Daniel Farran at (469) 446-0201 or Chris Trevino at (469) 435-1626.

Plano

Summer Pool Party Series Broadstone Evoke will take place on July 21 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Broadstone Evoke, in Plano. The Broadstone Evoke a new apartment community in Plano is opening their doors for a free all-day long pool party. There will be free snacks to enjoy, a DJ, complimentary beer from Peroni, cocktails from Yumix, and waters from HOIST, and Deep Brazil Waxing Studio offering complimentary brow and lip waxes. Please RSVP for a ticket, but please note, entry is subject to capacity and is not guaranteed.

Carrollton expands rehabilitation and demolition/rebuild incentive programs

The City of Carrollton has announced expanded financial options to homeowners and homebuilders with properties located throughout Carrollton's designated Neighborhood Empowerment Zones (NEZ).

Carrollton's Single Family Rehabilitation Incentive promotes the renovation of single-family houses. Property owners can receive up to 25 percent in reimbursements with a maximum incentive of \$20,000 for projects such as landscaping, driveways, façades, windows and exterior doors, porches, roofs, fences, retaining walls, and more. All projects must be completed within 12 months of grant approval.

Qualified homes within a NEZ must be at least 5 years old. Incentives are limited to exterior improvements with a minimum private investment of \$1,000 for site and screening elements and \$4,000 for building elements. If the value of an applicant's proposed project is lower than the minimum investment level, up to 10 percent of foundation repair costs, and up to 10 percent of interior repair costs needed to bring the house into compliance with City code may be applied to the required minimum investment. A single payment is made upon verification of completion of the project.

The Single Family Demo-



Charles & Hudson / Flickr

lition/Rebuild Incentive provides monetary incentives to any homeowner or homebuilder who demolishes an existing single-family home within 12 months of grant approval – up to 100 percent of the cost of demolition – and rebuilds a new home on the same lot within 24 months.

This incentive includes a single rebate payment equal to seven years of City property taxes for new construction valued at less than \$300,000, or 10 years of City property taxes for new construction valued at more than \$300,000. A higher reconstruction incentive may be applied to a lot where a house was demolished without participation in the grant program.

Homebuilders may qualify for the Demolition/Rebuild program, provided that the rebuild incentive will be paid to the first owner-occupant of the newly constructed home.

Additionally, all City con-

struction permit fees related to projects within both programs are waived.

Grant applications for both incentives are reviewed by City staff and the Council Re-Development Subcommittee before being submitted to City Council for approval.

In an effort to partner with property owners in the com-

munity, these incentives from the City provide for the removal, replacement, and renovation of aging single-family housing in designated areas to keep Carrollton a thriving and updated place in the Metroplex to call home.

"Our goal in expanding these programs is to provide Carrollton homeowners with the opportunity to create the

home they've always dreamed of for their families, while simultaneously playing a key role in maintaining our community," said Marc Guy, Assistant City Manager for Public Safety and Development Services. "These grants support affordable housing and sustainability of

See REBUILD, Page 12

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Jubilee Theatre presents Sheldon Epps 'Blues In The Night'

FORT WORTH – As the Jubilee Theatre closes out its 37 season of bringing theatrical excellence, the award-winning Theatre is proud to present Sheldon Epps's Blues in the Night, beginning July 27, 2018 – August 26, 2018.

The soul of the blues is full and strong in Blues in the Night, the Tony Award-nominated musical! These 26 sweet, sexy and hot torchy numbers - by legends Bessie Smith, Duke Ellington, Johnny Mercer, Harold Arlen and more - tell the sorrowful experiences that three women have with the lying, cheating, snake of a man, who represents the men who do them wrong. Songs include "When A Woman Loves A Man," "Wasted Life Blues," "Lover Man," "Wild Women Don't Have The



Courtesy photo

Blues," and the gripping, captivating title song that spotlights the essence of blues music, "Blues in the Night."

Blues in the Night is directed by Michael Serrecchia who describes the production as "a story of strength and survival". Serrecchia shares, "B.B. King said it best, I'm trying to get people to see that we are our brother's keeper. Red,

white, black, brown or yellow, rich or poor, we all have the blues". With musical direction by Michael Childs, the musical revue stars an ensemble of four actors, Jamaal Houston (Man in the Saloon), Natalie King (Lady from the Road), Cherish Robinson (Woman of the World) and Chelsea Bridgman (Girl with a Date).

The remaining produc-

tion team includes set and costume design by Amy Poe, technical direction by Brian Scheffer Smith, lighting design by Nikki D. Smith, sound tech by Jason Briggs, assistant stage management by Harper Hadley and stage management by Velocity Brown.

Blues in the Night runs July 27 – August 26, 2018 at the Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102. Evening performances are at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday and 8:00 p.m.

on Friday and Saturday. Matinee performances are at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Press night is August 2, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Ticket Prices

Preview Performances | Jul. 27 – Aug. 2 (\$24)

Matinee Performances | Aug. 4 – Aug. 26 (\$30)

Evening Performances | Aug. 3 – Aug. 25 (\$34)

Tickets may be purchased online at jubileetheatre.org, in person at the theater Box Office, located at 506 Main Street or by calling 817-

338-4411. Box Office hours of operation are Tuesday – Friday 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and one hour before each performance.

Fort Worth/Dallas area's original home of African American theater. The Jubilee Theatre produces a full season of productions that reflect the African-American culture and experience. Located in the heart of Fort Worth, Texas, the Jubilee Theatre is a point of interest on both natives and tourists' schedules.

Violins & Verse hits stage in Frisco

Violins & Verse, a creative fusion is coming to North Texas on August 18 at the renowned Frisco Performing Arts Center.

Hosted by Mike and Penny this event will feature renowned violinist Ms Traliece Bradford and Mr. Phoenix Abbo, art & spokenword by Penny Cobb Of Verbal Art Poetry Visions of Poetry, and dance coordinated By Katrina Lund.

Tickets are eight dollars and can be brought at

www.eventbrite.com.

This unique artistic flare plans to promote diversity, and engage and inspire throughout its event. They will also offer water, wine and light refreshments.

Come feel the strength and artistry of poetry and violins in a cool space with a great stage surround by art, ambiance and energy. Then sit back and relax as poets and musicians take you on a personal journey that will leave you breath-

less.

Be sure to dress light and comfy. Guests will also have the opportunity to engage in great Prizes, raffles, and conversations.

To get reserve seats, get on the open mic or be a featured performer, be sure to call 972-704-5001.

This highly anticipated show filled with a combination of cultural enrichment and community connection is sure to want you leaving more.

KDT presents 5th One-MinutePlay Fest

The Dallas One-Minute Play Festival (#1MPF) returns for the 5th Annual Dallas One-Minute Play Festival! 1MPF is the country's largest and longest continually running community-engaged theatre project, aimed at exploring local topics, ideas, trends, and seeding conversations for, by, and about artists and citizens in Dallas. The marathon evening of one-minute plays by some of Dallas' estab-

lished and emerging playwrights and directors will have three performances: Saturday, August 11th, Sunday, August 12th, and Monday, August 13th all at 8pm. All Performances will be at Southern Methodist University- Meadows School of the Arts, in the Bob Hope Theater, located 6101 Bishop Blvd, Dallas, TX 75205.

"We're excited to celebrate 5 years of 1MPF in Dallas", says 1MPF Produc-

ing Artistic Director, Dominic D'Andrea. "This moment is our country is full of strife, uncertainty, and a feeling of being more divided than ever. It's also a moment that is fueled with hope, visions of the future, and asking big and important questions. All of this is reflected in the work, and as a community, these artists are grappling with some necessary bigger-picture ideas."



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Dallas short film about Neiman Marcus legend Stanley Marcus premieres

A short film that highlights the extraordinary achievements of pioneering merchant Stanley Marcus will premiere and has been nominated for best documentary at California's 2018 La Jolla International Fashion Film Festival.

In *MR. STANLEY: THE MERCHANT PRINCE*, Dallas-based filmmakers Mike Mullins and Miles Hargrove, along with producers Melina McKinnon Cain and Jason Cirone, chronicle the life of the man who not only changed the face of luxury retailing with Neiman Marcus but also transformed Dallas from a rough-and-tumble cotton market town into a mecca of high fashion.

The premiere of the film will screen at La Jolla IFFF on July 21, 2018. The film



Courtesy photo

is executive produced by Thomas E. Alexander, Arthur E. Benjamin, Michael Cain, Sheri Deterling and John Haden, with associate producers Ashley Akin Pearl, Allan McBee and David Lacombe.

MR. STANLEY: THE MERCHANT PRINCE is a moving portrait of the visionary man behind "the

store," a colorful, multi-faceted personality whose genius helped create the ultimate retail experience. Set amongst glimpses of celebrities, the fabled Fort-night extravaganzas and "Mr. Stanley's" eye for luxury, the film includes images from the vast reservoir of Marcus archives housed in SMU's DeGolyer Library

and rare footage the UNT Libraries Special Collections.

Labeled "America's Merchant Prince" and "The Melancholy Plato of Retailing," Stanley Marcus achieved international recognition as an arbiter of taste, yet he was also known for conspicuously seeking a culture of inclusion evidenced by his hiring practices, philanthropy, international perspective and community leadership. In the 1960's Marcus was adamant that his company needed to take action to promote racial equality and as a result Neiman Marcus was one of the first companies in the nation to give preference to purchasing from those who employed and trained significant numbers of minority employees.

"There have been films made about fashion greats such as Valentino, Dior, Lagerfeld, Diana Vreeland and Bill Cunningham, but none that features a larger than life retailer who was called Dallas' most internationally famous citizen," said director Mike Mullins. "I have had the good fortune of knowing the Marcus family for many years and his is a story that demands telling – not only on the page but on the screen. We are thrilled that the short film has been recognized in this way."

The feature film includes interviews with among many others, fashion icons Mrs. Salvatore Ferragamo (Wanda), Pierre Bergé, Rosita Missoni, Laudomia Pucci, Leonard Lauder, Carolina Herrera, Hubert de Givenchy, Emanuel Ungaro,

Simon Xavier Guérard-Hermès, Lawrence Marcus and beloved Dallas philanthropists Margaret McDermott and Ebby Halliday.

M3 Films gratefully acknowledges the invaluable support of Leslie Caron and Garza & Harris, Ltd., Lufthansa Airlines, Freeman Leonard and our Kickstarter supporters for helping make the short film possible. Fiscal sponsorship for the film is made possible through Filmmanthropy Fund at the Dallas Foundation.

Following the premiere of the short at La Jolla IFFF, the goal for the filmmaking team is to raise final funds to complete a feature-length documentary. For more information on *MR. STANLEY: THE MERCHANT PRINCE*, visit www.m3filmsllc.com.

SMU invites community to read along and meet author

Lab Girl, a memoir by paleobiologist Hope Jahren, is the 2018 selection for SMU Reads, the first reading assignment for the class of 2022 and an opportunity for the community to join a common reading book discussion.

Community members, alumni, book-lovers and book clubs are invited to read the book and hear au-

thor Hope Jahren discuss it at a free public forum at 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 20, at SMU's McFarlin Auditorium. For more information, visit smu.edu/smureads.

Hope Jahren is an award-winning scientist who has researched paleobiology since 1996 when she completed her Ph.D. at the University of California Berkeley and began teaching and

researching at Georgia Institute of Technology, Johns Hopkins University and the University of Hawaii. She now holds the J. Tuzo Wilson professorship at the University of Oslo, Norway. Jahren studies the hidden life and history of plants, fed by her lifelong passion for science. But *Lab Girl* tells a story more personal than a botany text-

book.

"It is a celebration of the lifelong curiosity, humility and passion that inspire every scientist," says Peter Moore, SMU associate provost for curricular innovation and policy and leader of book selection committee. "*Lab Girl* is an engaging, lyrical and luminous read, which reminds us that we can achieve great things

when passions and work come together."

Past SMU Reads common reading books include *Evicted*, by Matthew Desmond; *Just Mercy*, by Bryan Stevenson; *Station Eleven* by Emily St. John Mandel, Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America by Barbara Ehrenreich; *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* by

Anne Fadiman; *The Devil's Highway* by Luis Alberto Urrea; *Dreams From My Father* by Barack Obama; *Zeitoun* by Dave Eggers; *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot; *The Big Short* by Michael Lewis; *The Other Wes Moore* by Wes Moore and *We Need New Names* by SMU graduate NoViolet Bulawoyo.

WORKERS, continued from Page 1

most Black women, social security makes up at least half of their income stream during retirement, according to the 2014 Black Women in the United States report by the Black Women's Roundtable.

This proposal would result in even smaller social security, death or disability benefits, making the retirement security of older Black women, even more, precarious than it is currently.

Any paid family leave proposal that ignores the caregiving responsibilities that families are facing for older relatives is outdated. According to the AARP Policy Institute, each year, 40 million American adults assist loved ones with tasks of daily living.

Family members are helping with eating and bathing; household chores;

and nursing tasks so people can age in place. Surprisingly, of these 40 million family caregivers, about 25 percent are millennials, between the ages of 18 -34 years old. One in three employed millennial family caregivers earn less than \$30,000 per year – that includes nearly 30 percent of Black family caregivers.

We urge policymakers to deliver paid family leave programs that fit the times and their constituents' di-

verse needs. Black workers and their families need and deserve #RealPaidLeave. Our nation deserves nothing less.

Melanie Campbell is president/CEO, National Coalition on Black Civic Participation, convener, Black Women's Roundtable. Campbell is one of the hardest working leaders in today's Civil Rights, Women's Rights and Social Justice Movements. Campbell brings together Black

women nationally and in key states to build power for black women and girls, families and communities.

Jennifer Tucker is senior policy advisor, Black Women's Roundtable. While in her early forties, Tucker shared caregiving responsibilities for her mother, who was living with Parkinson's disease, with her young sibling, while being the parent to an elementary age child and working full-time. A few

years later, she was back in the caregiving role to her sibling for eighteen months.

The Black Women's Roundtable (BWR) was established in 1983 as the women and girls empowerment arm of the National Coalition for Black Civic Participation. BWR is comprised of a diverse group of Black women civic leaders representing national, regional, state-based and international organizations and institutions.

DFW, continued from Page 5

Dallas Love Field, stop curbside parking in 2001.

"There are more vehicles than ever at the Airport, and

we want to keep traffic moving while providing safer access to our terminal," said Sean Donohue,

CEO of Dallas Fort Worth International Airport.

February 2015 compared to 2018, vehicle traffic increased by more than 245,000.

To help ease the transition, airport officials announced plans to add 1,200 one to two-hour parking spaces at all terminals at no extra cost. Employees in

yellow vests outside of the terminals will help people adjust to these changes until the new rules become effective in September.

The airport does not have

plans at this point to write tickets, but instead, the employees will instruct drivers to move along. Only vehicles left at the curb unattended will receive a ticket.

NDG Book Review: *Game Changers: The Story of Venus and Serena Williams*

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Those are the rules.

Every game has them, and rules are mostly helpful. They make it clear how to play and who can win — although sometimes, they don't make any sense. Sometimes, they're downright dumb and in "Game Changers" by Lesa Cline-Ransome, illustrated by James E. Ransome, those rules are made to be grand-slammed.

Serena and Venus Williams were about a year-and-a-half apart in age but were "as close as two sisters could be." Wherever you'd find Serena, you'd find



Venus. Where Venus was, there was Serena — especially on the tennis court.

Before the sun was up most days, the Williams girls were awake and standing on the court in their Compton neighborhood, getting rid of trash and broken glass so they could practice their serves and backhands. People laughed at their father, Richard, because he believed that his

youngest daughters could get themselves out of Compton, but he held fast to the dream.

When most kids were outside playing, Venus and Serena would practice. When they weren't practicing with "secondhand" equipment, they ran laps and took ballet lessons. They also had to learn to drop to the ground quickly because of gangs and gun violence in their neighborhood.

But that all paid off when, by age ten, Venus won "every single one of her sixty-three junior tournaments" and Serena was "not far behind." At fourteen,

Venus played professionally. A year later, Serena did the same thing.

Fans were astounded at the girls' talents but some people were upset when they saw two Black girls in what had been "a nearly all-white sport." Venus and Serena's father had anticipated that, though: years before, he hired kids from the neighborhood to yell every nasty thing they could think of and his daughters learned to ignore them.

In 1998, the Williams sisters faced one another for the first time, but it wouldn't be the last. It didn't matter then that Venus won —

Serena's time would come and when it was her turn to beat her sister, Venus cheered as loud as everyone else, just as she still does today.

For a child — especially one who's laser-focused on a sport or a dream — there are few books out there that are as inspirational as "Game Changers." Just be aware of the age of said child before you give this book.

Truly, there's no mistaking the message inside here. Author Lesa Cline-Ransome makes it clear that the Williams sisters' determination was how they got where

they are, and the afterword fills in a lot of blanks. That's great, if you're an adult or older child so beware: don't let the illustrations — colorful, wonderful artwork by James E. Ransome — fool you. See them, and you might think this is a book for smaller children but really, it's more for bigger kids.

Even so, with the right approach, the message will sink in so let this book grow with your preschooler while your grade-schooler absorbs it now. For kids who love tennis or need a stick-to-it-iveness reminder, "Game Changers" is a great match.

Furniture from China contributes to deforestation in central Africa

(UCLA) Is your new coffee table contributing to the deforestation of African rainforests?

If the furniture comes from China or other parts of Asia, there's a good chance it is.

While much attention has been devoted to Chinese demand for exotic animals as a driver of poaching in Africa, UCLA researchers revealed another way the continent is being exploited — the Chinese demand for wood. And this time, United States consumers are a driving force.

A study published in *Area*, a journal of the Royal Geographic Society, combined economics and conservation biology and discovered an increase in Chinese timber imports from Central Africa that coincides with loss of tree cover.

According to United Nations data, between 2001 and 2015 exports of wood to China doubled from countries in the Congo Basin — with half coming from two countries: Cameroon and the Central African Republic. Looking at satellite imagery, the UCLA researchers found that the exports correlated with a loss of tree canopy. Researchers also looked at other potential drivers of deforestation, such as palm oil production and population growth, but only exports to China showed a positive correlation.

Although people from other countries buy wood fur-

niture made in China, "their imports pale in comparison to U.S. imports of such furniture," the paper noted. Trevon Fuller, lead author of the study and assistant adjunct professor with UCLA's Center for Tropical Research, said shoppers can fight the problem by making eco-conscious choices.

"Consumers in the U.S. are buying a lot of cheap furniture that's made in Asia," Fuller said. "They could instead buy sustainable alternatives like bamboo furniture or sustainable wood" such as products certified by the Forest Stewardship Council, which come from responsibly managed forests.

Another fix could be new regulations from African governments. The paper found Gabon was the top source of hardwoods until 2010, when the country enacted regulations prohibiting the export of uncut logs. The regulations forced companies to purchase wood that has already been cut at local mills, making it harder for illegally forested wood to be taken, Fuller said. Since then, the timber industry shifted to neighboring countries.

The Congo Basin is the second-biggest source of hardwoods used to make furniture in China, Fuller said. With more than 1 million Chinese-born people living in Africa, the country has had a huge presence on the continent for decades. However,

stopping all logging isn't a viable solution. In parts of the basin, timber is the largest industry — eliminating it would destroy livelihoods.

"But if harvested timber isn't sustainable, it's very detrimental to the environment," Fuller said.

Fuller witnessed how the logging industry led to destruction in the African rainforest, which is home to numerous vulnerable species including gorillas, pangolins and forest elephants — along with multiple birds and reptiles.

"In 2016 I was in southwest Cameroon," he said. "Sometimes you're driving and you just see these massive parts of the country that have been deforested. It's shocking the contrast between mature forest and the deforested area."

For the past two years, teams of UCLA students have been working on another solution with Taylor Guitars — which uses ebony to produce musical instruments. Their goal is to develop ebony production methods that are sustainable for the environment and local economies. Ebony takes 80 years to mature, so one potential answer is "co-cropping," which means growing another revenue-producing crop such as bush mango alongside the trees to provide an alternative stream of income.

"The approach gives com-

munities short-term benefits, allowing fruits to be sold and consumed, along with longer-term benefits for selective harvest of ebony," said Tom Smith, UCLA professor of evolutionary biology and a coauthor of the timber study.

Both the paper and the ebony project are products of UCLA's Congo Basin Institute, a regional base for scientific research and education that was created to address the region's environmental and social problems — and to

give African scientists a place to conduct research without leaving the continent.

Reporting from Rwanda, Smith said hardwood exports to Asia are likely to increase further because of a new port in Kribi, Cameroon.

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Mick Mulvaney turns away from consumers to help payday lenders

By Charlene Crowell

Every payday, working Americans are reminded of the multiple tax deductions that pay for government. If you're like most people who work for a living, the biggest deduction is for federal taxes.

It's a tax that people pay rather than face the ire of the Internal Revenue Service. It's also an expenditure that is made with the expectation that our democracy will also live up to its promises to be "of, by and for the people".

Yet when it comes to the current leadership at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), that adage no longer applies. Instead, Acting CFPB Director Mick Mulvaney has changed the Bureau from one that provided protections and restitution to scammed consumers into a full-fledged protection of financial service firms.

The unfortunate result for citizens is that we're just not getting any value from this key office these days. The Dodd-Frank Consumer Protection and Wall Street Reform Act is clear as to the responsibilities given to CFPB. Under the previous director, billions of dollars were returned to consumers for a host of illegal and deceptive acts by predatory financial institutions. These achievements were accomplished with the support of a dedicated staff.

The only difference now is that Mulvaney has no interest in fulfilling the law as it was enacted. And for the public, we're just not getting what the law promised. Allow me to count the ways this appointed official is cheating American consumers.

In May and at Mulvaney's direction, CFPB announced it would end rule-making plans to address bank overdraft fees. Overdraft fees are charged when the cost of a given transaction is more than the amount of available funds in an account.

Often marketed as a 'customer service', these fees average \$35 per transaction but cost consumers an estimated \$14 billion each year. Charges are incurred with ATM withdrawals, electronic bill payments, and paper checks. The financial institution repays itself with the next deposit to the account, ahead of other transactions. Many banks manipulate transaction posting orders, driving up the number of fees incurred. The consumers hardest hit by these fees are those who can least afford them: consumers who those who live paycheck to paycheck and/or maintain low balances in their accounts.

"Mulvaney's decision to halt the CFPB from moving forward on addressing abusive overdraft fee practices will severely impact poor families and communities of color," said Rebecca Borne, Senior Policy Counsel at the Center for Responsible Lending in response.

In June, Mulvaney disbanded the Bureau's 25-member Consumer Advisory Board. Mandated by Dodd-Frank, this volunteer group meets twice a year. On Mulvaney's watch, however, no in-person meetings were ever convened. In response to the firing of volunteers, one former CAB member, publicly commented:

"We now have a CFPB which has political advisers

who essentially are not interested in protecting American consumers," said Ruhi Maker, a senior staff attorney at the New York non-profit law firm Empire Justice Center. "They are interested in serving those people who prey on American consumers and make profits on the backs of American consumers who have the least ability to afford it."

Also in June, Mulvaney publicly sided with the payday industry's efforts by joining the leading payday lenders' association in filing a joint motion to delay the compliance date for the CFPB's rule on payday loans for 445 days.

The average payday loan may only be \$365 but comes with an average triple-digit interest rate of 361 percent and \$458 in fees – payable in full, usually within two weeks. The lender requirement of full payment triggers a long-term trap for borrowers: 75 percent of all payday fees are stripped from borrowers stuck in more than 10 loans a year. Similarly, 85 percent of car-title loan renewals occur within 30 days of a previous one that could not be fully repaid. Additionally, one out of every five borrowers end up losing their vehicle to repossession.

Today, 15 states and the District of Columbia have enacted interest rate caps on payday loans. CRL research found that consumers in these states save \$2.2 billion each year that otherwise would have been paid for predatory fees.

In spite of these findings, the multi-billion-dollar payday lending industry remains adamantly opposed to a rule that provides only two

basic provisions: an ability-to-repay standard, and payment protections. The first requires lenders to make a reasonable determination before loan approval that consumers can afford to repay the loan. The latter provision denies lenders from taking repayment from checking accounts after two consecutive efforts failed.

Now, to make matters even worse for consumers, President Donald Trump's U.S. Supreme Court nominee, Judge Brett Kavanaugh, if confirmed by the Senate, would be a likely ally to Mulvaney. As a member of the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals, Judge Kavanaugh has a record of opposition to the structure of the CFPB, which he has termed to be unconstitutional. In the October 2016 ruling in PHH v. CFPB, he wrote: "The concentration of massive, unchecked power in a single Director marks a dramatic departure from settled historical practice and makes the CFPB unique among independent agencies."

"Indeed, other than the President, the Director of

the CFPB is the single most powerful official in the entire United States Government, at least when measured in terms of unilateral power," Kavanaugh wrote. "That is not an overstatement."

Instead of protecting consumers from predatory lenders who bilk hard-earned monies from unsuspecting consumers, Mulvaney is directing CFPB to

extend his steady string of actions that benefit financial services.

Unfortunately for consumers, CFPB's Acting Director is either forgetting or ignoring taxpayers who just want to be treated fairly.

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

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Crown Castle is also notifying any interested party that believes the proposed action may have a significant impact on the environment that a Request for Environmental Review (Review) may be submitted to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Such Request may only raise environmental concerns. Information regarding the project may be found under file number A1105488 on the FCC website www.fcc.gov/asr/applications. The Request must be filed with the FCC within 30 days of the notice being posted on the FCC website. The FCC strongly encourages that all Requests be filed electronically at www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest. Requests may also be mailed to: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554, ATTN: Ramon Williams. The Request must also be served upon Crown Castle by mailing a copy to 2000 Corporate Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317 ATTN: Legal Department."

REBUILD, continued from Page 8

the City's older residential neighborhoods."

The expanded programs are part of Carrollton's Neighborhood IMPACT initiative. Neighborhood IMPROvement in ACTION has been designed as a one-stop shop concept for

all things related to neighborhood integrity.

"IMPACT empowers residents to feel better about their homes, their neighborhood, and their community, and these programs play a key role in that initiative," said Scott

Hudson, Environmental Services Director.

For more information about these grant programs and to find out if your property is eligible and apply, visit cityofcarrollton.com/impact or call 972-466-4299.

Upcoming DFW area job fairs

July 20

ADT Hiring Event

The ADT Home Security Hiring Event will be held on July 20 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 2727 LBJ Freeway Fourth Floor STE 436, in Farmers Branch. They are looking for talented sales & customer service professionals to join the ADT Residential Sales Team. Applicants should be goal-oriented, entrepreneurial-minded and comfortable working in a performance-driven environment. As a Professional Sales Consultant you will be meeting with new homeowners to determine which home security package will meet their needs while providing excellent customer service and completing the sales process. They will provide you with professional paid training and on-going support from management to ensure your success in this long-term career with rapid advancement opportunities. To apply visit Indeed.com.



July 26

Macy's Hiring Event

Macy's will conduct on-the-spot interviews and extend job offers for open positions on July 26 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Northpark Center, in Dallas. Available positions will vary by location but may include positions in Asset Protection. Associates are an integral part of bringing the magic of Macy's to life, and they perform a number of functions that are critical to offering our customers the best experience when they shop in our store. To apply and learn more visit www.macysjobs.com/.

July 26

Dallas ISD Teacher Job Fair

The Dallas ISD Teacher

Job Fair will be held on July 26 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Fair Oaks Park, in Dallas. Check-in starts at 5 p.m. Registration is required to attend this event.

Do not forget to bring your teaching certificate or proof of teaching eligibility. To register visit JobFairing.com. Dallas students have big dreams for the future, but they also face big challenges.

They deserve great teachers who can help them break through barriers and build the life they dream of. Dallas ISD gives talented educators a chance to be-

come one of those teachers and make a difference for kids in the Dallas community. Come join us and teach where you are needed the most, in Dallas.

July 26

Starbucks Hiring Event

The Starbucks Hiring Event will take place on July 26 at Northpark Center, in Dallas.

Macy's will be conducting on-the-spot interviews and extending job offers for open Starbucks positions. To apply visit www.macysjobs.com

July 26

Dallas Career Fair

The Dallas Career Fair will be held on July 26 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Plano Event Centre, in Plano. Register for this event and receive immediate access and

your VIP pass to this event. Use your VIP pass at the entrance and get in front of hiring managers. Admission is free. Be sure to dress professionally and bring plenty of resumes. To register visit choicecareerairs.com.



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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.

July 22, 9:45 a.m.

Join us in 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.

July 25, 7 p.m.

Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Senior Pastor Woodson, Pastor Larry Gardner, and others conducting a new book study with "The Red Sea Rules" by Robert J. Morgan, 10 God-Given Strategies for Difficult Times, with supporting chapters and verses. Spiritual maturity is God's desire for you; it's Time to Grow in the Word of God.

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July 22, 9 a.m.

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

July 25

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.

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July 20, 7 p.m.

All men are invited to Men's Ministry meeting each Friday night at 7 p.m.,

July 25, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study class; you will learn what

(IBOC promotes proactive male leadership.)

July 22, 10 a.m.

Don't forget to invite family and friends to join us for our Morning Service as we celebrate our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

July 23, 7 p.m.

Join us in Monday School; come and see what God has to say to us.

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July 22, 10 a.m.

Join us for Morning Worship Service as we praise and worship God for His Honor and His glory. Don't forget to comeback at 7 p.m. for our Brazilian Church.

God has to say to us. Come to be encouraged by God's plan for your spiritual growth and His glory.

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July 22

You are invited to join us at our Friends and Family Day, during our combined 10 am Worship Services. Sunday School will start at 8:30 a.m. We would love to have you at our services.

July 25, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our

See CHURCH, Page 15

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Dennis Jarvis / Flickr

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"Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised."

(Job 1:21)

Can a caterpillar fly? If you said, "No," you would be partially correct. Actually, a caterpillar can fly, but it must have a transformation first.

The butterfly begins life as a caterpillar, a wormlike larva that spins a cocoon for itself. For weeks, the larva remains hidden within the cocoon as it undergoes metamorphosis. When it's time for the butterfly to emerge, it must struggle and fight its way out of the cocoon.

We might be tempted to help this process by tearing open the cocoon - but that's the worst thing we could do. The struggle makes it strong and enables it to fly. Butterflies need adversity to become what God intended them to be. We must do this

also.

The book of Job is the story of a wealthy and successful community leader named Job. He was a successful and righteous businessman with huge holdings of livestock and real estate.

One day Satan came before God and God asked him, "Where have you come from?" Satan replied, "From roaming through the earth and going back and forth in it," seeking someone to destroy. God said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? He is blameless and is an upright man; a man who fears God and shuns evil." Notice that God pointed Job out to Satan!

God gave Satan permission to put Job through a trial of adversity. Job's herds were stolen, his servants were murdered, and all of Job's children were killed by a sudden tornado. Through his trial of adversity, Job grows in strength, wisdom and faith. His entire perspective on God is transformed by his suffering. He was even accused of sin by his closest friends.

We must get beyond the immature notion that God is interested only in making us

healthy, wealthy and wise. More than anything, God wants us to be like Christ, in whom He is well pleased. And, the road to becoming like Christ often leads through the wilderness of adversity. In order for the butterfly to fly, there must be a transformation process that is often developed through adversity.

Always give all glory and honor to God the Father,

His Son Jesus and to the Holy Spirit. Pray for a closeness to God like you have never felt before. Seek God's face and His desire for you. Ask God to increase your thirst for His presence.

While God will always be your heavenly Father, and you will be His child through the precious blood atonement of Jesus Christ, pray that God will help you

to stay close to Him and to flee from sin, so that your fellowship with Him will not be strained by sin. Ask God to bring to your mind any sin that you may have, repent from it and turn fully

to God.

Always thank God. And, don't forget to love, respect, appreciate God; and lift up all your praise to God, in the precious name of Jesus.



Sister Tarpley with the new superintendent of Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD, Dr. John Chapman, his wife Mrs. Mando and their youngest son, Peyton, their oldest son is in college. They were at a reception welcoming Dr. Chapman and his family to the district.

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CHURCH, continued from Page 14

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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 from there and went on to college and later became a city councilmember in Carrollton.

Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com



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The wait is over! Chevrolet and the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) are proud to announce our six Fellows selected for Discover the Unexpected (DTU) 2018 - a life-changing journalism fellowship.

Chosen from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) nationwide, our DTU 2018 Fellows each receive a \$10,000 scholarship, \$5,000 stipend and a journalism adventure in the 2018 Chevrolet Equinox.

Our DTU 2018 Fellows are geared up and ready to go discover stories of inspiration and innovation in our African American communities. Follow us and show our HBCU students some love along the way. The journey begins!



NNPA.ORG/DTU

#DTU2018, #ChevyEquinox, #Chevy, #NNPA