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Minority contractors, City of Arlington and Texas Rangers with corporate partners, collaborate to bring Texas Live! to life

By Angela Loston
NDG Special Contributor

When Arlington's newest entertainment destination Texas Live! opens on Aug. 9, it will be a fun attraction for Dallas-Fort Worth residents and tourists. It will also be a testament to how the Texas Rangers, a large developer and Arlington involved minority contractors in working on a \$250-million construction project.

Located between Globe Life Park and AT&T Stadium, Texas Live! is a mixed-use venue featuring restaurants, entertainment, hotel and convention facilities. The Cordish Companies, a Baltimore-based development firm, the Texas Rangers and the City of Arlington partnered to build Texas Live! Along with Texas Live!, the hotel Live! by Loews – Arlington, opens in 2019, and is being constructed by a joint-venture partnership with the Manhattan Construction Company and Con-Real. Described as a minority construction company, Con-Real also is a real estate, innovation and technology company. This partnership marks a significant milestone for Arlington as this is the first time a project of this magnitude has had a minority-owned business to serve



Texas Live!, which opens on Aug. 9, showcases how corporate, government, community and minority businesses can partner to create a state-of-the-art development to bring new jobs and attention to Arlington. In the construction process, the business interests not only met, but exceeded goals for minority participation. (Courtesy photos)

as a joint-venture partner overseeing the project.

Since late October 2016, construction has been on-going for the 200,000 square foot dining and entertainment space. A variety of minority contractors have worked on the project. They were awarded contracts to handle insulation, material testing, plumbing, heating and other work. Zed Smith, the chief operating officer of The Cordish Companies, shared a few of the major minority contractors included:

- EJ Smith Construction, a large

minority contractor which provided structural concrete for the project;

- TinMan Enterprises, an African American, woman-owned company which was a material supplier for the project;

- VIVA Railings, an Asian American contractor that provided railings for the project; and

- Smith Interiors Construction, an African American-owned company which did finished carpentry for the project.

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Dr. Wanda M. Austin



EMichelle Paul

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!!!



Dr. Wanda M. Austin

(USC) The USC Board of Trustees on Tuesday appointed Dr. Wanda M. Austin as interim president of USC.

Austin is an American businesswoman who is internationally recognized for her work in aeronautics and systems engineering. She is co-founder of MakingSpace Inc, a systems engineering and leadership development consultant and motivational speaker.

She is the former president and CEO of The Aerospace Corp., an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to the application



of science and technology toward critical issues affecting the nation's space program. From January 2008 until October 2016, Austin led the organization's 3,600 employees and managed annual revenues of \$950 mil-

lion at 17 offices nationwide. As the sixth president, she was the first female and the first African-American president in the 57-year history of the organization.

Austin served on the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology until January 2017, advising President Barack Obama in areas where an understanding of science, technology and innovation was key to forming effective U.S. policy. Austin is currently a member of the Defense Policy Board having previously served on the Defense Science Board and the NASA Advisory Council.

She is an honorary fellow

of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), a counselor of the National Academy of Engineering and a member of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. She sits on the Board of Directors of the Chevron Corp. and Amgen Inc.

She has served on the USC Board of Trustees since 2010. In 2018, she received the USC Presidential Medallion.

She graduated from The Bronx High School of Science, earned a BA in mathematics from Franklin & Marshall College, MS degrees in systems engineering and mathematics from

the University of Pittsburgh and a PhD in systems engineering from USC.

USC interim president's achievements and honors

Austin has many professional achievements and honors including the National Intelligence Medalion for Meritorious Service, the Air Force Scroll of Achievement, the National Reconnaissance Office Gold Medal, the AIAA Godard Astronautics Award, the Career Communications Group Black Engineer of the Year Award, the Horatio Alger Award, the Bob Hope Distinguished Citizen Award, the National Defense Industrial Association

Peter B. Teets Industry Award, University of Pittsburgh Swanson School of Engineering Distinguished Alumni Award, and the USC Distinguished Alumni Award.

Austin is committed to inspiring the next generation to study the STEM disciplines and to make science and engineering preferred career choices. She is the author of Making Space: Strategic Leadership for a Complex World, which explores the leadership principles she learned during her decadeslong journey as an engineer, space industry executive, daughter, wife and mother.

EMichelle Paul

CHARLOTTE, NC (BlackNews.com) -- Melanin Enterprise is the Black professional social network that is designed to enhance the African American social networking experience by providing all-in-one features to meet all of our entrepreneurial, travel, and social needs. Melanin Enterprise or "ME" is a champion for Black-owned businesses. They recognize how necessary it is for our communities' sustainability to build our own social network that can conveniently connect conscious con-



sumers to Black-owned businesses in local neighborhoods.

The owner and creator of Melanin Enterprise is EMichele Paul, a disabled, combat Marine Corps vet-

eran and a single mother originally from Beaumont, Texas. After being honorably discharged from the Marine Corps she earned her bachelor degree in Communications. She created Melanin Enterprise as an alternative to mainstream social networks to empower the Black community to be self-sufficient and proactive in gaining our own economic independence without the use of mainstream social networks. She believes so strongly in her community and the value that Melanin Enterprise provides, that she funded the development

and marketing of Melanin Enterprise, totaling \$20,000, using her personal funds.

EMichele comments, "I have two thoughts that I constantly consider when creating Melanin Enterprise. (1) Build strong partnerships with industry leading black owned brands to provide a unilateral network of black owned businesses that offer the very best services, goods, and products to conscious consumers. (2) I want to know that if my two sons have to go somewhere unfamiliar to them, they will know what hotels, restaurants, or coffee shops

will not shun them away or harass them because of the color of their skin. I want this not only for my children but for every person who is discriminated against just for being who they were born to be."

The social network is very scalable and will continue to grow with the needs of the online community. Currently, Melanin Enterprise has two main features, the "All Black Everything" City Guide and an exclusive, members only, group chat called, RealTalk.

Melanin Enterprise's main feature is the "All Black Everything" City

Guide, which helps conscious consumers discover the best Black-owned restaurants, shops, hotels, spas, bars, and entertainment in cities across America! No matter where they are, all a member has to do is open the app, and they will be able to locate the nearest black owned businesses within 100 miles. Members will be able to check-in, read ratings and reviews, locate the business by GPS, contact the company directly, find business hours, and book reservations if the business has made that function available.

NDG Readers Sound Off...

Students raises voice in Dallas' first youth-led protest

I was unable to attend the protest. But it is good to see that some young folk know that Democracy is a "contact sport". You have to be in it to win it. If you sit at home and watch it happen on TV; the chances are that what happens will be what someone else wants and not necessarily what you want. I am happy to see young folk turn out and show out. Otherwise "45" and his buddies - like Cornyn (will do what they can to disenfranchise, use and abuse... the entire human race.

- Anonymous

Senate race heating up as Cruz makes Dallas campaign stop

That article is riddled with typos, like an 8 year old without spell check wrote it.

- Brent Overton
via Facebook

Hello Brent Overton, Leisa A. White, Scott Hillman Ramirez.

We as a publication go through a million words a month, it is entirely possible we may have a typo, but it is our standard to put out the best possible product we can.

To that end, we want to challenge where there are



within the article typos.

Having said of all that, we do not want to lose sight of the big picture which is the contrast between the two gentlemen who are vying to prevail in the November decision for the Texas senatorial seat.

There is a gaping contrast between Mr. Cruz and Mr. O'Rourke, many of our

lives hang in the balance. That is where we as a publication want to keep the focus if we are down to typos, I would like to make an appointment and review Messrs. Overton, Ramirez and Ms. White's transcript on their English degrees.

- Thurman Jones
NDG Publisher
via Facebook

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Love is the greatest commandment



A.D. Jenkins
NDG Columnist

In the spring of 2007, I stood by my car and something captured my attention. It caused me to stop, reflect and appreciate life and the gift of a child. A week earlier, my neighbor's daughter suddenly passed away because of meningitis. I last saw the little girl on a Friday riding her bike and she died the following Monday.

On this day, I witnessed the mom kneeling in a squatting position staring at flowers for quite some time in her yard. I thought maybe they planted the flowers together. I could only imagine her agony, grief, and suffering inside. However, actually, only God knew her true thoughts. I felt so powerless,

it hurt me to watch while time stood still.

She was facing the reality that her daughter of 10 years was no longer with her to sing, play, dance and enjoy life. God's angels were dispatched down to earth to escort the little girl to her place in Heaven. No one knows the day nor the hour when our time will be no more here on earth. This is why it's so important to love often, freely and sincerely. It's not a suggestion but a commandment from God.

Children can be a challenge at times, however, I encourage everyone to give children a hug, listen to them, be a part of their world and let them know they are loved unconditionally. In my recent article on the Lost Art: Spiritual Education, I briefly mentioned how disrespectful our youth can be toward their parents, the elderly and people in au-

thoritative roles. Whereas this can be true, we are obligated to stand in the gap and display love.

Love greatly improves a child's self-esteem as their mind develops each day. This is done through positive reinforcement and daily support. Love has been found to be a key element to a child's health. With a steady dose of affection and love, the chance of a child staying healthy is much higher. Also, exercising confidence and love can improve their grades.

Research after research has shown loving your children makes a world of a difference. It does not matter if you prefer new or old parenting techniques, as long as love is embedded in the foundation. We all want our children to grow and enjoy happy and successful lives. Therefore, we spend countless time focusing on the ap-

propriate way to manage, discipline and encourage them. At the end of the day, we fall short on love. Take advantage of all opportunities to appreciate the precious gifts called "children" and then remember the greatest commandment of all is LOVE.

I understood love could not bring the little girl back to life, but she was dearly loved while with us on earth.

Three things will last forever: Faith, Hope, and Love. We are reminded in 1 Corinthians 13:13 that the greatest of these is Love.

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.

This country's despicable treatment of immigrant families is nothing new

By Michelle Hollinger
NDG Special Contributor

The separation of immigrant children from their parents is heart-wrenching and it's wrong, but it's also very familiar.

The general public appears shocked, but our dysfunctional leadership's lack of compassion is really no surprise. It is an accurate reflection of the minuscule value white people place on non-white families - but it's nothing new.

America's child welfare/foster care system is a bastion for the devastating separation of mostly black children from their families under the guise of "abuse" and "neglect." Cultural nuances that contribute to parenting styles are routinely criminalized as black children are removed from their parents' care for reasons that don't meet the "intent to inflict harm" requirement present in most states' definitions of abuse and neglect.

The inhumane treatment of black families has its roots in slavery when children were sold away from their parents

for economic expedience or ripped from them as punishment for daring to defy a master's degrading dictates. Systemic attacks on black people's character often carried out by a hugely complicit media, serve to justify dismantling black families.

One of the most glaring similarities between immigrant and black families is the nonchalant severance of their rights as parents. We're now hearing that immigrant mothers and fathers have been duped into signing legal documents that permanently strip them of their parental rights. Sounds strikingly similar to the poor black parents whose rights have been unjustly terminated in the child welfare system.

The system gets away with it because the public doesn't have a clue and the system counts on the public's ignorance to sustain its revenue-generating "protection" of children from all those "mean," "abusive" parents.

The system benefits from the public's assumption, for example, that most children come into foster care because they were physically or sexu-

ally abused. Horrible parents do exist, just not at the rate you think.

The reality is an unacceptable number of black children enter the system due to a nebulous category called "neglect" so masterfully synonymized with poverty that many are taken from loving homes because their parents are too broke to consistently meet their needs without assistance.

Some black families are terrified of contacting their local agency for help because based on what they've seen, they believe the system is out to get them.

Who can blame them?

Walk into any dependency courtroom and it appears that the child welfare system was established specifically for poor, mostly black families. Ironic, because once upon a time it did not give a damn about black families and denied them services because of the color of their skin. Now, the dysfunctional bureaucracy is funded based on the number of children removed from their homes and adopted into ostensibly "bet-

ter" families.

Like the immigrant children hoping to reunify with their parents, children in the child welfare system also face a hard time getting home. The journey to reunification is an arduous, contradictory process fueled by racially tinged double standards.

What is supposed to be a system designed to help ensure children's safety is instead a stressful maze of court hearings where acronyms and legal jargon are thrown around in a typically adversarial environment that treats parents as criminals.

As we witness immigrant families being severely punished because they entered our country for a better life, the public is right to be outraged. What is happening is inhumane, devastating and just plain wrong. All people deserve to be treated with dignity and respect.

Including black families.

Michelle Hollinger is the author of "Worthy," available at Amazon.com. Contact her at michellehollinger.com.

Parkland providers offer tips for a successful school year

Although it may feel like summer just started, students in Dallas County will soon return to school. Exciting for most, stressful for many, back-to-school season is a time of change for anyone with kids. To ease the transition, Parkland Health & Hospital System providers offered the following tips to prepare students and parents for a successful start to the new school year.

Tip 1 – Establish sleep routines. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) states that getting enough sleep is critical for success in school. Insufficient sleep is associated with lower academic achievement, as well as higher rates of absenteeism and tardiness. “The optimal amount of sleep for children and teens ranges from eight to 12 continuous hours,” said Barbara Durso, MD, lead staff physician at Parkland’s Oak West Health Center. “Weeks before the start of the school year, parents should encourage their kids to go to bed at the same time each night. We also recommend avoiding any activity that stimulates



Myles Tan / Unsplash

the brain, like using electronics or listening to lyric-heavy music, at least an hour before bedtime.”

Tip 2 – Make sure your child has a physical exam. During physicals, pediatricians can ensure children have all required vaccinations and test for vision or hearing problems, high blood pressure, diabetes, and other health risks. If your child is an athlete, pediatricians can also address sports-specific issues like nutrition and injury prevention.

Tip 3 – Make sure all vaccinations are up to date. Before entering kindergarten, Texas students are required to have been vaccinated for Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis;

Polio; Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR); Hepatitis B; Varicella; and Hepatitis A. “Vaccines protect against serious and potentially life-threatening diseases,” Dr. Durso said. “When children are not vaccinated, they are at increased risk and also put others in danger by spreading preventable diseases in their classrooms.” Parkland’s Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC) health centers and Youth & Family centers offer immunizations during scheduled physical exams and without appointments during Walk-in-Wednesdays.

Tip 4 – Back-to-school jitters are normal. “It’s important to remind our children

that they are not alone,” said Cynthia Castillo, LCSW, at Parkland’s Irving Health Center. “Many students, no matter the age, are uneasy about the first days of school. Remind your child it takes time to adjust to a new routine and a new environment.”

Tip 5 – Talk to your kids about bullying and cyberbullying. Bullying can be physical, verbal or social and can happen anywhere – in person or through an electronic device. “Make sure your children know that bullying is not okay and help them understand what to do if they experience it,” Castillo said. Parents can teach their children to stand their ground in a respectful, calm and clear voice. “If speaking up does not seem safe, teach your kids to walk away and find an adult who can help handle the situation.” If parents discover their child is the perpetrator, experts recommend addressing the problem immediately. “Parents should establish that bullying behavior is not acceptable, and that such behavior has consequences. The next step is to find out why your child

chose to bully another child in order to develop the correct plan of discipline.”

Tip 6 – Travel safely. “It’s important to teach kids to be cautious while traveling to and from school,” said Maria Isabel Colunga, Community Development Assistant at the Injury Prevention Center of Greater Dallas at Parkland. “Whether they’re in a car or on a school bus, remind your kids to always buckle up. If they ride bikes, helmets are a must. Another important rule – be aware of your surroundings. If you’re walking, biking or driving, always look both ways before crossing at intersections.”

Tip 7 – A healthy diet is essential. Children who eat a nutritious breakfast do better in school and have better concentration and more energy, suggests the AAP. “It’s important to make sure your child eats breakfast every day,” said Melissa Mendez, a registered dietitian at Parkland’s Hatcher Station Health Center. “Although some schools provide meals, others may not or they may serve food your child doesn’t like. If that is the case, make sure

they have a well-balanced breakfast at home, and a healthy packed lunch. A well-balanced meal will include a fruit, a vegetable, a lean protein, 1-2 whole grain items, and 8 oz. of skim milk.”

Tip 8 – Pick the right backpack to prevent injuries. Bags with wide, padded shoulder straps and a padded back help distribute weight evenly, making it more comfortable and easier to carry. Packing light may also help. “Backpacks should never weigh more than 10 to 20 percent of your child’s body weight,” Dr. Durso advised.

Tip 9 – Remember, summer may be over, but it’s not all bad. “Point out the positive aspects of starting school,” Castillo said. “Remind your kids they’ll see old friends and have opportunities to meet new ones.”

Tip 10 – Get to know the resources available for parents and students. For more information about Parkland’s 12 health centers, 12 school-based clinics and other locations across Dallas County, please visit www.parkland-hospital.com.

Plano touts ‘Adopt-a-Buddy’ program to help clear the city’s animal shelters

Let your next adventure begin at Plano Animal Shelter on Saturday, Aug. 18, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Come by and find a sidekick at Clear the Shelters. We are waiving pet adoption fees in a regional effort to get shelter pets into loving homes like yours. Last year we placed 112 pets in forever homes during Clear the Shelters. Help us place even more pets this year!

All adopted animals are spayed or neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. You’ll receive a free collar



City of Plano

and one free month of pet insurance (you must activate). Nearly 230 dogs and cats,

along with several guinea pigs, want to be part of your family.

To help the adoption process go smoothly, bring a valid government-issued photo ID and \$10 to register your pet with the City of Plano (if you live here).

If you live in an apartment or rental home, you’ll need a copy of your lease agreement or a letter from your landlord giving permission to have a pet and a list of any breeds prohibited by the leasing company or landlord.

Our team can’t wait to help you find that purrfect match. Feel free to drop by

the Plano Animal Shelter, 4028 W. Plano Parkway, a few days early to meet the pets in a less busy atmosphere to narrow down your favorites. We look forward to sharing this day with your

family.

Follow us on Plano Animal Shelter Facebook page to see photos of pets with their new families and feel the excitement of Clear the Shelters.

First heat-related deaths reported in Dallas

Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) is reporting the first and second heat-related deaths in Dallas County in 2018. The 70-year-old and 63-year-old patients were both residents of Dallas. The cause of death was confirmed by the Dallas County Medical Exam-

iner’s Office. For medical confidentiality and personal privacy reasons, DCHHS does not provide additional identifying information.

DCHHS conducts syndromic surveillance with hospital emergency rooms and the county medical examiner to monitor and track cases of heat-related illness

and death in Dallas County.

“Dallas County residents need to be aware of the severity resulting from heat-related illness during high temperatures,” said Ganesh Shivaramaier, DCHHS interim director. “Adults and children need to take measures against heat stress when outdoors. Whether

you are working or have a recreational activity, being outdoors for even a short amount of time can cause serious illness.”

Heat-related illness also occurs indoors. While many people struggle with paying the AC bills during the sum-

See HEAT, Page 11

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Companies invited to compete in Richardson challenge

The 21st annual Richardson Corporate Challenge kicks off Aug. 10 at Galatyn Plaza at 5:30 p.m. The Corporate Challenge is an Olympic-style competition coordinated by the City's Parks and Recreation Department to encourage fun, fitness

and friendships among area workers. People traveling near the Galatyn Business Park area around that time can expect traffic delays as participants from 57 local companies take part in the kick-off event.

The 2018 Corporate Chal-

lenge is sponsored by GEICO Texas and features 22 events ranging from athletic sports such as soccer, volleyball and bicycle racing to non-athletic contests such as dominoes, cornhole and Texas Hold 'Em.

Since the program's incep-

tion in 1998, the Corporate Challenge has raised \$2.27 million for Special Olympics Texas and its programs across the region. It is the only event of its kind in Texas, and is believed to be one of the three largest multi-day corporate competitions in the U.S.

NorthPark Center collecting school uniforms and school supplies for homeless children

Family Gateway and NorthPark Center will partner for a Back-to-School Drive during August. Throughout the month, shoppers can donate gift cards or monetary donations outside the Concierge Center (Level One near Neiman Marcus); donations of school supplies, uniforms, belts, socks, and underwear will also be ac-

cepted in the mall management offices near Dillard's.

On Saturday, Aug. 11 from 1 to 4 p.m., shoppers taking advantage of tax-free weekend at NorthPark Center can buy uniforms, school supplies, or gift cards and donate them to the children and families at Family Gateway. Staff members and ambassadors from the nonprofit will be

stationed in NorthPark Center's NorthCourt (Level One between Nordstrom and Macy's) to collect the donations. Shoppers are invited to enjoy music by DJ Blake Ward, enter a raffle for NorthPark Gold, and learn more about Family Gateway's mission.

Founded by Mayor Annette Strauss more than 30 years ago, Family Gateway

serves families of all kinds and is the only shelter that will accept multigenerational families, families with boys over 14, same sex families, and unmarried couples with children. The agency serves as the point of entry (triage point) for Dallas County for families with children who are experiencing or near homelessness. Interventions provided

include assessment and diversion, emergency shelter and supportive housing, case management, adult and children's services, and an education program.

"Partners like NorthPark Center make our life-changing work possible," said Ellen Magnis, CEO of Family Gateway. "We are excited for this partnership and can't wait to see the

community come together for this back-to-school drive."

Homelessness is a traumatic experience for children and can make school a challenge. Providing uniforms and school supplies will help equip them with the tools and confidence they need to succeed this upcoming school year and beyond.

Federal racketeering charges filed against Arlington-based moving company that was the subject of a recent BBB investigation

A federal grand jury has indicted 12 people on criminal conspiracy and racketeering charges in relation to a nationwide moving company scam. One of the companies – President Moving Services based out of Arlington, Texas – was the subject of a 2018 Better Business Bureau investigation. The Department of Justice says the individuals used several affiliated moving companies located throughout the United States.

The indictment alleges the moving scheme operated between April 2013 and July 2018. The defendants are accused of stealing from customers who hired them to move their

household goods.

To trick victims, the businesses allegedly lied to consumers about how long their companies had been operating, saying they had been in the industry for years when the companies had only been created a few months prior.

Once contacted, the businesses allegedly provided moving estimates that were much lower than their competitors, only to later increase the price once the customer's household goods were inside the moving truck. The allegations mirror what BBB discovered in its own investigation.

Complaints filed with BBB allege President Mov-

ing Services, also known as President Moving and Storage LLC, demanded thousands of dollars more than the agreed upon price for an interstate move. Additionally, both the Department of Justice and BBB found consumers who claim they never received their household goods.

The Department of Justice says it found the individuals defrauded more than 900 customers. To date, BBB has received 91 complaints against President Moving Services, with 69 receiving no response.

The Department of Justice has asked victims to call the Victim Hotline at 1-800-424-9071 or email hotline@oig.dot.gov.

Plano PIO David Tilley named 'Nextdoor Neighborhood Champion' in Law Enforcement

Plano Police public information officer David Tilley has been named one of Nextdoor's 2018 Neighborhood Champions in Law Enforcement. There are only 35 winners nationwide

out of the 900,000 law enforcement officers on Nextdoor. Only three of them are from Texas (Plano, Odessa and Houston).

Nextdoor released this statement regarding Officer

Tilley:

"PIO David Tilley is receiving national recognition as one of Nextdoor's 2018 Neighborhood Champions

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SPECIAL EXHIBIT
June 5 – Sept. 3, 2018 | Included with Museum admission

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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 Strouhan, White House Photographs, John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, Boston.

Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD provide guidelines for free and reduced-price meals

Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD announced its 2018-19 policy for providing free and reduced-price meals for children served under the National School Lunch Program & School Breakfast Program following the current income eligibility guidelines.

The Student Nutrition office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by anyone on request.

Letters are being provided to the households of the children in the district about free and reduced-price eligibility benefits. The letter will show the family can apply for these ben-



Beau Wade / Wikimedia

efits.

Applications have become available online and may be accessed by visiting cfbisd.school lunchapp.com. Paper applications will not be mailed, but are available at the Student Nutrition Of-

fice and from the cafeteria manager at each school site.

Criteria for Free and Reduced-Price Meal Benefits

The following criteria will be used to determine a child's eligibility for free or

reduced-price meal benefits:

Income

Household income that is at or below the income eligibility levels

Categorical or Automatic Eligibility

- Households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) Program Participant

- Child's status as a foster child, homeless, runaway, migrant, or displaced by a declared disaster

• Child's enrollment in Head Start or Even Start
For full details regarding income guidelines, how to apply and deadlines visit the website or speak to the Student Nutrition Office at your child's campus.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

Send stories and suggestions to
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Tips to save more during back-to-school shopping on Tax Free Weekend in Texas

As parents (and savvy shoppers) prepare to map out their game plan for back-to-school shopping during the sales tax holiday weekend in Texas, Experian has offered even more ways to save money.

During this annual sales tax holiday, you can buy most clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks (sold for less than \$100) tax-free from a Texas store or from an online or catalog seller doing business in Texas. In most cases, you do not need to give the seller an exemption certificate to buy qualifying items tax-free.

This year's sales tax holiday begins Friday, Aug. 10, and goes through midnight Sunday, Aug. 12.

The sales tax exemption applies only to qualifying items you buy during the sales tax holiday. Items you buy before or after the sales tax holiday do not qualify for the exemption, and there is no tax refund available.

Create a back-to-school budget to guide your spending. Building a back-to-school budget will keep you focused when shopping — and help you avoid buying unplanned items.

Scout out school supplies you already have before going to stores. A key

to save money on back-to-school shopping is simply to audit the supplies you already have. While you find useful items, make a list of all the pens, pencils, notebooks, highlighters, art supplies, backpacks, and other necessities. You can also spend some time checking out closets and dressers to find out what clothing still fits.

Take advantage of stores that price match and save extra money on school essentials. Stores like Walmart and Target will often price match — which means it's a good idea to compare prices on school essentials with different retail and online stores. If you find better deals online, talk with customer service to show them the discount at another store to receive a price match. You can also set price alerts on websites like CamelCamelCamel.com to track Amazon.com pricing to know when is the best time to buy a particular item.

Check to see if your state has a sales tax holiday. One of the best ways to save a little money on those purchases is to shop during your state's sales tax holiday when sales tax is waived on certain items.

Not all states offer them, but keep an eye out, because your state may make a last-minute announcement.

Stay focused on your back-to-school shopping list by shopping alone. One strategy to help you shop faster — and help you stay on budget is to shop without the kids (if possible). Shopping alone can help you be strategic as you shop down the aisles and focus on the necessities you need (e.g. school supplies, electronics). As children get older, they will want to be involved in certain shopping decisions (e.g. clothing, shoes), which is an opportunity to teach them about budgeting.

Visit consignment and thrift stores (or swap clothes with other parents). Most back-to-school spending is going toward clothing and accessories — so finding ways to lower spending on that category is key. If your child is old enough, you can give them a certain clothing budget and take them to second-hand store to buy things they want. Another option is to organize a clothing swap with other parents you know — or consider selling older clothes at garage sales or online.

WE'VE GOT A LOT OF

NEW



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On August 18, 2018, DART will launch new, flexible ticket options. While fares will increase, fare capping will help you get the best deal with every ride.



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NEW Ways to Board

Our new GoPass® Tap reloadable transit cards will allow you to board trains and buses with just a tap — no cash needed.



NEW Places to Go

DART GoLink® service will expand to new neighborhoods in Rowlett and Plano.

Learn about our new fares and ticket options at DART.org/Fares



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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.

Toncé 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 Tamara 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 West Dallas Chamber of Commerce is hosting a **Brown Bag Lunch** with Police Chief, Renee Hall on Aug 16 from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. at Goodwill Industries of Dallas, in Dallas. Renee Hall will be speaking at the event on her role with Dallas, and her vision for our future. Admission is free. For more information visit westdallaschamber.org.

The **Chocolate and Art Show Dallas** will be held on Aug 16 and Aug 17 from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. at Lofty

Spaces, in Dallas. Indulge yourself in some of Dallas' finest up-and-coming artists, photographers and creators. This event will have live music, live body painting, free chocolate fondue, vendors, food and drinks, and more. You must be 21 to attend this event. For more information and to purchase your tickets, visit chocolateandartsshow.com.

Irving
Sheet Music Candles
will be held on Aug 13 from
7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the

The library will be transforming ordinary candles into works of art using sheet music. Limited space available and is only available to adults. Register in advance at the Valley Ranch Library information desk.

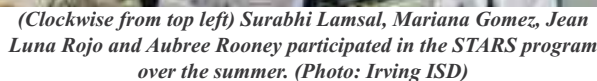
Indian Heritage Celebration will take place on Aug 11 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Cimarron Park Recreation Center, in Irving. In honor of India's Independence, the community is invited to this celebration.

The **Red Cross Lifeguard Class** will be held on Aug 16 to Aug 18 from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at North Lake Natatorium, in Irving. 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

Test must be completed one week before class or must have instructor approval. Successful completion of the course will result in American Red Cross Life Guard/First Aid, CPR-Professional Rescuer, and AED certifications.

You must register in person at the North Lake Aquatic Center. \$150, due no later than one week prior to class start. For more information contact (972) 721-0860.



While most high school students spent their summers working at a local restaurants or relaxing poolside, four Irving ISD scholars swapped the serving trays and beach towels for lab coats and petri dishes as interns at UT Southwestern Medical Center research labs.

Mariana Gomez and Aubree Rooney of MacArthur, Jean Luna Rojo of Irving, and Surabhi Lam-sal of Singley were among the 51 participants in the hospital's STARS program.

Launched in 1991, STARS (Science Teacher Access to Resources at Southwestern) aims to im-

prove the quality of science education in North Central Texas by making the vast educational resources at UT Southwestern available to middle and high school science teachers and students.

For eight weeks, the students worked alongside a faculty host in a research laboratory.

In addition to the research, students participated in group meetings with the program's 51 participants – selected from a pool of more than 900. They also heard from renowned researchers in various seminars and presented their own research last week.

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Go Further

Actress Regina King Shines in *Seven Seconds* on Netflix

By Allison Kugel

With an acting career spanning four decades and multiple awards and nominations, Regina King has effortlessly embodied countless memorable characters across the big and small screens.

From thought provoking films like *Boyz n the Hood*, *Poetic Justice*, *Jerry Maguire* and *Ray*; to lighter fare like the *Legally Blonde* and *Miss Congeniality* franchises, Regina King brings a special sparkle to every role she's tackled. On the small screen, King's presence in past television series like *Southland*, *The Boondocks*, *The Leftovers*, *Shameless*, and her Emmy-winning turn in *American Crime*, have highlighted some of the more significant social issues of our time, both with ironic humor and with poignant drama. Wherever art is imitating life in a significant way, Regina King has been tapped to play a pivotal role in the project.

What audiences may not know is that King is also an accomplished television director, with a growing resume of credits including smash hit television shows from *Scandal* and *Greenleaf* to *The Good Doctor* and *This Is Us*.

Her most recent Emmy-nominated performance as Latrice Butler, grieving mother of a teenage son who is the victim of a death by auto, hit and run by a group of Jersey City police officers, is a true tour de force and a defining role in a long and treasured career.

Allison Kugel: What drew you to playing Latrice Butler in *Seven Seconds*?

Regina King: I was actually drawn to the role of [prosecutor] KJ Harper (played by Clare-Hope Ashitey), and [series creator] Veena Sud was sure that she wanted me for the



Actress Regina King is making a name for herself on the Netflix original *Seven Seconds*. She recently sat down for an in-depth Q&A with writer Allison Kugel. (Courtesy photo)

role of Latrice. I liked the pilot script and decided to take that dive into the emotional pool.

Allison Kugel: You play the mother of a teenage boy who is killed by a police officer. What was your creative process in tackling such an intense role?

Regina King: Being a mother myself, and the mother of a black young man, there are certain fears you have that are unique to having a black child in America. You have fears as a parent when your kids are growing up, because you can't control everything. But there are those experiences that are specific to black children that are not the same for others. You experience a bit of it, yourself, as a child growing up in America. Unfortunately, it's our culture and something you grow up with. You then carry that perspective with you throughout your life. So, I had that going into this role. I also spoke to a mother whose son was murdered by a police officer. Hearing her pain up close and personal, and her feel-

ing safe enough to share it with me, I would say that combination of things was how Latrice was birthed into *Seven Seconds*.

Allison Kugel: Is the story a fictional account or based on true events?

Regina King: It was based on the truth as far as the regard for black American kids and the law, and how they are regarded in America. That part of it is true, of course. So many examples have had similar outcomes to this story, but it was not taken from one specific person's story.

Allison Kugel: While you were shooting *Seven Seconds*, did you think about the parents of Trayvon Martin, Philando Castile, Michael Brown, Tamir Rice and so many young men who've lost their lives in similar circumstances? And did you feel a responsibility to reflect these parents' pain in your performance?

Regina King: There was a responsibility to accurately portray their pain, their lives, and their stories, absolutely.

Allison Kugel: Do you

think a series like *Seven Seconds* has the power to impact hearts and minds for change, or to simply reflect what is going on in society?

Regina King: I think both. What's reflective for me is not reflective for you. Seeing it in a television show or in a movie creates an opportunity for each of us to see the other's perspective. I feel that the series *American Crime* (the ABC series for which King won an Emmy) was very similar in that way.

Allison Kugel: Do you take a role like this home with you?

Regina King: I tried not to take it home with me. But again, a bit of this lives with you. It is the narrative of a part of the fabric of what America is. Unfortunately, you are always living it. It took a lot out of me; I'll be

honest. It was the closest to an experiential role I've ever had. I've known people who have been victims of police brutality, but no one who was closer than a friend or a distant family member. Because it was a friend or a distant family member, I wasn't with them in their day-to-day struggle of what that experience brings. You go through life hoping that you never personally have an experience like that, but you know that the odds are greater than not that you will, because of who you are. It's crazy to even say this, but you feel blessed or lucky that your child has made it to twenty-two (King is referring to her 22-year-old son, Ian).

Allison Kugel: What is so remarkably upsetting about your statement is that even if you are regarded by soci-

ety as successful, you are thanking God that your son has made it to the age of twenty-two.

Regina King: Made it to twenty-two without having a criminal record, and without having an experience with the police where you may not survive; you may not come home. Unfortunately, that is something you feel gratitude for. He has had an experience with the police pulling him over, and him having to sit down on the curb. He was let go after they ran his license plate and his ID. He was pulled over for being nineteen and driving his girlfriend home. That's not a normal reason to be pulled over.

Allison Kugel: Let's talk about your most recent

See KING, Page 10

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KING, continued from Page 9

Emmy nomination for *Seven Seconds*. Now that you have an Emmy win from 2015's *American Crime*, is the pressure off somewhat for this upcoming ceremony, or are the nervous butterflies still there? And what's the feeling in your body when you're sitting there listening to the names of the nominees being called out?

Regina King: All three times being nominated felt different. But there is nothing like the first anything, right? It's totally surreal. The second time is kind of like, "Nah-uh, really?! How did I find a hundred-dollar bill again in the exact same place?!" It's one of those feelings. Not to be frivolous about it, but it's like, what are the odds?

Allison Kugel: I don't think it's a luck thing. You really are such a gifted actor, and your performance in *Seven Seconds* was a tour de force.

Regina King: Well, I mean, what are the odds of walking by that same corner again and finding that same bill?

Allison Kugel: Do you let that stuff, like awards and accolades, or critics, shape you at all? Do you ever find yourself being very conscious of, "What are the critics going to think?" "What are the nominating committees going to think?"

Regina King: First and foremost, I'm focused on doing good work. I'm not thinking, "Ooh, this is gonna get me an Emmy!" (Laughs)

Allison Kugel: (Laughs) There are people like that in your business. You know that, right?

Regina King: I joke, but yes, I know! The first time, I wasn't even in the Television Academy. Becoming a member of the Television

Academy and knowing all that goes into voting, with all the material that's out there, it's a lot. Since my last name starts with a "K," I fall right in the middle of all the names. When you're voting, and you see all the titles of the shows and the people's names, first it starts with the Z's and then it goes all the way to the A's. Then the next category starts with the A's and goes all the way to the Z's, in that same pattern. So, I don't take it lightly that someone was able to get to "K" for King and get to "S" for *Seven Seconds*. I don't take that lightly, that not only did they make it that far, but they made it that far and they watched and stayed. I don't take that lightly because those are my peers.

Allison Kugel: What do you see as your higher purpose in all that you do, from parenting your son to your work. And what spiritual philosophy do you subscribe to?

Regina King: Overall, just trying to walk in my truth. I recently did a panel talk (Entertainment Weekly's Women Who Kick Ass Comic Con Panel) and [actress] Chloe Bennet said something that I definitely subscribe to. She said, "At this moment in time I can feel a certain way and say a certain thing, and then in 2022 I might contradict that just because I'm in a different place at that point." For me, I can only be in my truth right now, in this moment. If I am walking in that truth, if I share an opinion right now about something, in the year 2022 I will not say, "I didn't say that in 2018." I would know I said it, because in that moment it was true for me.

Allison Kugel: Right. You would say, that was me then. I saw this beautiful

tribute on your Instagram feed to actress Marla Gibbs. Marla gave you your first big job playing her daughter on the show *227*, when you were fourteen years old. You thanked her for all that she did for you as a mentor. You say, among many other things, "She taught me how to be a professional." I want to ask you about some other influential people you've worked with over the years, and what your takeaway was from working with these people. Let's start with Tupac Shakur, who you worked with in 1993's *Poetic Justice*.

Regina King: I would say he's a man that walked in his truth. Man, did he ever. That would be the biggest takeaway, in that he was just unapologetic, and it was beautiful.

Allison Kugel: And working with Tom Cruise in 1996's *Jerry Maguire*?

Regina King: An example of a consummate professional. If you hear anybody say that they don't like that guy, hmmm, I don't know. I'd have to go back and look in the books on that person. He's a good guy, and he is a professional. He is that same example of what Marla [Gibbs] was, and I saw from him that it exists when you're on that mega level.

To read the full interview, log on to www.northdallasgazette.com.

Catch Regina King's Emmy-nominated performance in the limited series, *Seven Seconds*, streaming now on Netflix. Follow her on Instagram @iamregina and on Twitter @reginaeking.

Allison Kugel is a syndicated entertainment columnist, and author of the book, *Journaling Fame: A memoir of a life unhinged and on the record*. Follow her on Instagram @theallisonkugel and at AllisonKugel.com.

PIO, continued from Page 5

for his superb use of Nextdoor to better serve his community.

Tilley won this recognition based on the tremen-

dous amount of appreciation ('Thanks' and replies) he has received from neighbors in response to his Nextdoor posts.

Nextdoor will be officially honoring Officer Tilley the week of July 23rd on its social media channels, as the finale to its summer safety campaign."

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For information about the Army ROTC program at Texas Christian University, please contact Eddie Smith at eddie.smith@tcu.edu, call 817-257-6461 or visit goarmy.com/rotc/le98.



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New national poll finds consumers still want financial regulation

By Charlene Crowell

A decade ago, the entire nation suffered through a financial crisis that led to the brink of a global financial collapse. While Wall Street reckoned with its risky practices, America's families suffered lost wealth of nearly \$2 trillion, half of it coming from communities of color who were targeted for high-cost and unsustainable mortgages.

Now a new poll finds that even with the passage of a decade, consumers still support financial regulation and related enforcement.

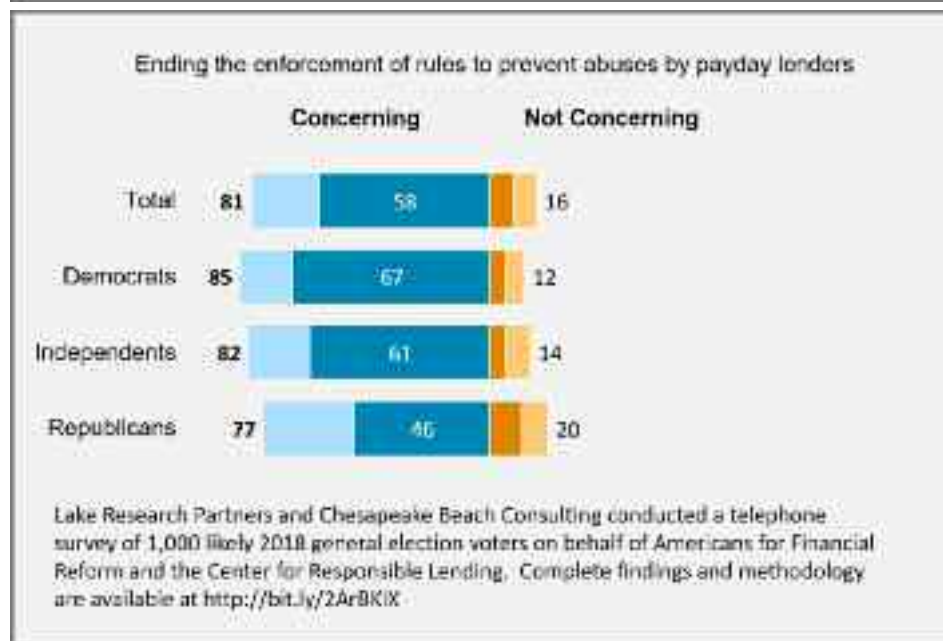
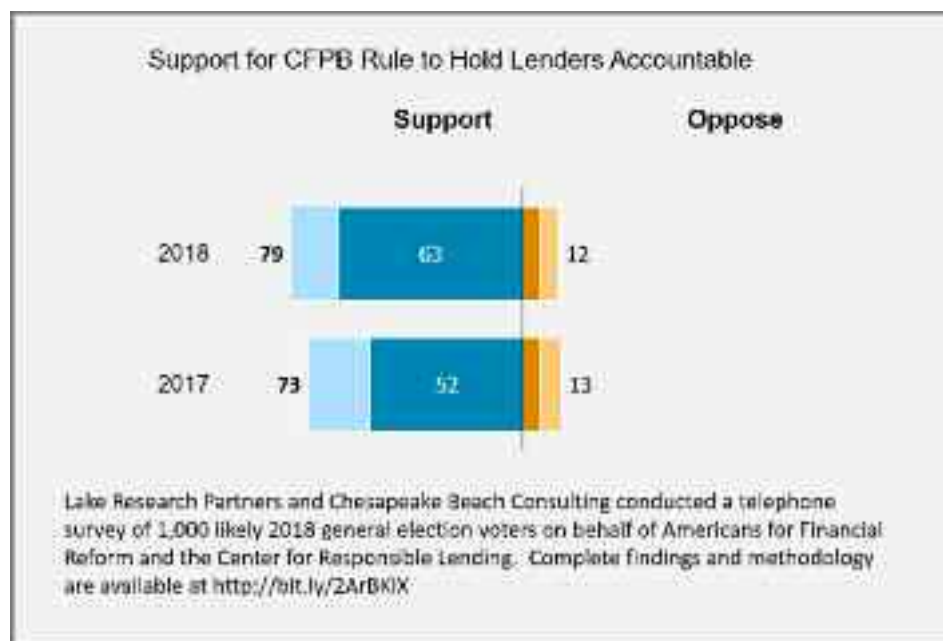
Moreover, when it comes to payday and car-title lending, consumer scorn has grown even stronger over the past year for these small-dollar, debt trap loans that come with triple-digit interest rates.

The 2018 poll, conducted by Lake Research Partners and Chesapeake Beach Consulting, found that among respondents more than 90 percent viewed regulation of financial services to be very important, and registered support across partisan affiliations.

Among Republicans, 85 percent supported regulation, compared to 92 percent of independents and 96 percent of Democrats.

Further, a growth in the number of consumers supporting a rule to hold payday lenders accountable increased six percentage points in just the past year. Believing that payday lenders prey upon those who have the fewest financial resources – low-wage earners, working families, and elder Americans, 79 percent of survey respondents want the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to hold these predatory lenders accountable.

A similar poll taken in



2017 tallied support of a CFPB payday rule at 73 percent.

When asked about the lack of enforcement against abuses by payday lenders, 81 percent were concerned about CFPB's inaction. And again, these strong responses crossed party lines: 77 percent of Republicans, 82 percent of independents, and 85 percent of Democrats.

The telephone survey of 1,000 likely 2018 general election voters occurred between June 28 to July 7,

2018, and has a margin of error of +/- 3.1. The effort was jointly underwritten by Americans for Financial Reform (AFR) and the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL).

"Ten years after the financial crisis, the public knows what it wants," noted Lisa Donner, AFR executive director. "But Wall Street and high-cost lenders are constantly pushing for deregulation and spending vast amounts of money to get it."

The current federal deregulation trend can be traced

to an executive order signed by President Donald Trump on January 20, 2017, and

then published in the Federal Register on February 3.

The order directed all federal offices to repeal two existing regulations for every new one proposed. Secondly for Fiscal Year 2017, the incremental cost of every newly proposed regulation could not bring any costs.

To put it plainly, no proposed regulation could cost a cent. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) was granted the sole authority to review and decide any requested written exceptions.

That official is Mick Mulvaney, who joined the Trump Administration as its OMB Director and has dually served as the Acting CFPB Director since late 2017.

So it is particularly noteworthy that 80 percent of survey respondents expressed concerns with three recent Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) developments:

Curbing the enforcement of fair lending rules;

Ending enforcement of payday lending rules; and

Restricting public access to the Bureau's complaint database

The 2018 survey results speak to the stark differences between CFPB today and its era before Mulvaney's arrival.

As of July 2017, CFPB received approximately 1.3

million consumer complaints that were investigated and in turn led to a series of enforcement actions that totaled \$11.9 billion of restitution, forgiveness and other enforcement.

As many of these were class action cases, an even larger number of consumers -- 29 million were helped.

Broad consumer contact and confidence was bolstered by the 41 cities where CFPB held either field hearings on a given issue or public town halls, 169 visits to military installations and 63 appearances to testify before Congress.

"Before Mick Mulvaney's tenure at the agency, the CFPB was a champion for working families -- giving back billions of dollars in relief to consumers who were cheated by financial companies," noted Mike Calhoun, CRL president.

"Now, under the CFPB's current leadership, payday lenders have preferred access because one of their own is leading the consumer bureau," continued Calhoun. "We need to build on CFPB's previous success, not block its progress of protecting consumers from abusive financial practices."

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

HEAT, continued from Page 4

mer, DCHHS urges residents to seek a cooling shelter, seek assistance for AC services and help with their utility bill. Many utility companies are sensitive to high rising bills during the

summer and have assistance programs available. DCHHS also has information on its website to help those in need of AC services and utility bill assistance.

Individuals suffer from heat-related illness when their bodies are unable to compensate and properly cool themselves. Simple practices will keep you safe and healthy during the scorching days of summer.

I, RACHNA SAHU, daughter of Kashi Nath Sahu, holder of Indian Passport No. H0603056 issued at Bangalore on Sep 11, 2008, permanent resident of, QR-2A, Street-1A, Sector-8, Bhilai Durg CHHATTISGARH 490009, India and presently residing at 7200, Marquis Lane, IRVING, TX-75063, USA do hereby change my name from RACHNA to RACHNA SAHU, with immediate effect.

Dallas selected to receive a financial empowerment grant

NEW YORK -- The Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund (CFE Fund), with support from JPMorgan Chase and others, this week announced they had selected ten cities to receive \$20,000 each in addition to technical assistance over 6-9 months in order to identify and plan for their local municipal financial empowerment strategic priorities. Texas led the list with Dallas, Fort Worth and El Paso each receiving a grant. Other cities are Albuquerque, NM; Anchorage,

AK; Durham, NC; Portland, OR; Rochester, NY; Saint Paul, MN; and Tulsa, OK.

The CFE Fund's CityStart initiative offers mayors and their administrations a structured approach to identify financial empowerment goals, convene stakeholders for sustainable success, develop concrete strategies, and ultimately craft an actionable blueprint rooted in local priorities and opportunities.

"Cities control a host of policies, programs, and funding streams that can

transform the lives of residents with low incomes on a large scale. Across the nation, more and more city leaders are embracing high-quality financial empowerment programs to improve the financial stability of their city residents and communities," said Jonathan Mintz, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund.

Janis Bowdler, President of the JPMorgan Chase Foundation said, "City lead-

ers have tremendous potential to promote the financial health of lower- and middle-income residents. This is not only good for families and communities but also for a city's bottom line."

Selected cities, working with the CFE Fund, each will construct and then host a day-long municipal financial empowerment "boot camp" event that brings together key local constituencies, including leaders from city agencies, mayoral leadership, local funders, com-

munity organization partners, and financial institution representatives.

Based on issues identified in the boot camp, as well as mayoral priorities, the CFE Fund will work with each city to craft its municipal fi-

nancial empowerment blueprint identifying actionable implementation steps. CityStart cities have historically leveraged their engagement with the CFE Fund to further their commitment to this work.

LIVE, continued from Page 1

According to Smith, the minority goal participation for the Texas Live! project was 25 percent, but The Cordish Companies exceeded the benchmark by securing 30 percent minority involvement on the project. He said approximately 25 percent of the total number of minority contractors were African American. More than \$13 million was spent with local minority contractors for the project.

"We tried to cast a wide enough net to ensure that a large number of small businesses and minority businesses knew about the project and knew how to participate in contracting with us on the project," Smith said.

Gerald Alley, president and CEO of Con-Real, said working with the city, Cordish and the Texas Rangers was a positive experience. Alley believes Cordish and the project leadership's desire to be engaged with the community while building Texas Live! can stand as a model for other cities to use when building major construction jobs similar to this one. Alley shared his company was selected as a prime contractor to build the conference center for Texas Live!, which will open in 2019.

"Sometimes cities and private firms tend to measure the success of a project on the brick and mortar that

is built rather than their interaction with the community," Alley said. "By focusing on the impact of the community, their projects will be more sustainable over the years because the community would be stakeholders in the investment of the success of the project."

Smith said The Cordish Companies relied heavily on Con-Real and the Manhattan Construction Company to choose the subcontractors and minority contractors for the project. The Cordish Companies also hired DLB Consultants, a Dallas-based, business development, consulting firm, to help facilitate and handle outreach efforts with the local minority contractors. The consulting firm hosted several events to provide more information on the project and encourage contractors to submit bids on the job and invited thousands of contractors to pre-bid meetings.

Demetria Bivens, president of DLB Consultants and the Minority and Women Business Enterprises (M/WBE) consultant for the Texas Live! project, hosted an event, the Project Overview/Briefing for Local M/WBE Businesses, in early January 2017 at Globe Life Park. Contractors were pre-qualified to ensure they had the experience and resources to perform tasks associated with

the construction phase.

Before construction, The Cordish Companies formed the Community Advisory Committee, a group of city, community and industry leaders within Arlington and Tarrant County, to advise and assist Cordish with its community development initiative which they use on the development of national projects. Part of the effort was not only engaging with minority contractors but also to help with hiring a diverse workforce. They also offered internships and apprenticeships for residents.

"Fundamentally, we've taken the position that as we work on projects across the country, we have a responsibility to ensure that local and small minority businesses have an opportunity to participate on our developments," Smith said.

Bivens said more than 25 individuals served as members of the Community Advisory Committee and helped to spread the word about contracting opportunities for minority and small business owners. They included leadership from the City of Arlington, the University of Texas at Arlington, the Arlington chapter of the NAACP, Arlington Black Chamber of Commerce and other groups.

According to Cordish, Texas Live! has brought 2,000 new construction jobs to Arlington and Tarrant County and will bring 1,025

permanent jobs once it opens. The Cordish Companies is forecasting the new entertainment site will attract more than three million visitors annually to Arlington, which already has 14 million yearly visitors. Texas Live! will open with a grand opening celebration scheduled for Aug. 9-12.

For more information on Texas Live!, visit texas-live.com.

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Upcoming DFW area job fairs

Aug 11 Warehouse shipping & receiving operators hiring event

The warehouse shipping & receiving operators hiring event will be held on Aug 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Medline Distribution Center, in Wilmer. You must possess: High School Diploma/GED, preferred English speaking, reading and comprehension skills, ability to read pick labels, packing slips and other common warehouse documents in English to ship product/fulfill orders, prior warehouse shipping or warehouse receiving experience operating, hand truck, cart, forklift reach truck, order picker, walkie rider, etc. Preferred ability to pass drug test and background check. Be sure to pre-apply online prior to attending at Medline.com/careers MEDLINE INDUSTRIES Distribution Center Wilmer, TX EOE m/f/d/v.



Aug 15 Schneider – School event in Dallas

The Schneider – School event in Dallas will host a truck driving recruiting event on August 15, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Vision Truck Driving School, in Dallas. You will have the opportunity to speak to one of their recruiters about obtaining a CDL, driving opportunities, pay and benefits, military programs, requirements, terminology clarification, and any other questions you may have.

For more information you can contact David Price at 817-716-1835 or priced2@schneider.com. To learn more visit schneider-jobs.com/company-drivers/recruiting-events/details/school-event/tx/dal-

las/2018-08-15-900am

Aug 15 Dallas Professional Job Fair

The Dallas Professional Job Fair will occur on Aug. 15 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Sheraton Dallas Hotel by the Galleria, in Dallas. These job opportunities could include: inside sales reps, outside sales reps, account executives, retail managers, account managers, insurance sales, customer service, technical sales, sales managers, pharmaceutical sales, tele-sales, sales trainer, merchandiser, mortgage brokers, financial planner, route sales,

retail sales, retail management, human resources and much more. Parking 2 to 4 hours is \$5. Be sure to bring 10-15 resumes, dress business professional, and email your resume to 19879-21-mh2006@apply.max-hire.net. To register for this free event and to find out more information visit www.eventbrite.com.

Aug 15 Urgent Care Center Virtual Career Fair

The Urgent Care Center Virtual Career Fair will take place on Aug 15 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on the Carenow Urgent Care Clinic website.



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August 12, 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.

August 15, 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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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.

August 15

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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August 10, 7 p.m.

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

August 12, 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.

August 13, 7 p.m.

You are invited to Monday School to see what God has to say to us.

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August 12, 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.

August 15, 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.

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August 12

You are invited to join us during our 8 am and/or our 11 am Worship Services. Sunday School will start at 8:30 a.m. We would love to have you at all our worship services.

August 15, 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;

See CHURCH, Page 15

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Dennis Jarvis / Flickr

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"This is why I weep and my eyes overflow with tears. No one is near to comfort me, no one to restore my spirit. My children are destitute because the enemy has prevailed." Lamentation 1:16.

The story is told of a lady's family and friends. "We walked into the worship service. I pushed my Mom's wheelchair into the room among many, many others. This was no ordinary worship service. This wasn't our first time. The organizer recognized us and asked if we would assist in handing out the songbooks. About only 20 percent of the participants could actually use them. For most of them it sat on their laps.

"Why does life have to be reduced to this?" I questioned and prayed silently to the Lord. "If Jesus walked through this room, how many would He restore?" I continued to ponder. There were miraculous signs that Jesus did. Also, *"The apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade," Acts 5:12.*

When is the last time you saw a miracle? Perhaps you prayed for someone and they were instantly healed. The disciples were working people. They turned the world upside down not because of their knowledge of Jesus, but because of their outflow of the power of Jesus through them to others.

You see, I was in a dementia and Alzheimer's elderly care nursing home unit where my mom resided. A few chairs over sat the father of my older sisters' longtime best friend. Next to him was my brother-in-law's grandmother. They were all once successful people - doctors, lawyers, business leaders, and stay-at home moms. They had, at one time, lived in fine southern homes. But they now lived in one-half of a single room. Some patients could recognize their loved ones, others could not.

The service began with singing. Only a few voices could be heard among the patients. A simple message followed. Then, something remarkable happened. The speaker said they would now close with a well-known song. It began this way; "Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so." Suddenly, the voices in the room got louder. Patients that were not singing before were now singing. I looked over at my mom.

She was whistling the tune. Yes, the presence of Jesus was walking through the room. But it wasn't in the way I thought He'd come. Sometimes the presence of God can show up in the smallest and simplest acts. Jesus had worked miracles in the residents.

It is good to praise God for He is an awesome and a Holy Being. Thank Him for the life He gave to you.

Appreciate the beautiful blessings that God has provided in the earth around us and the simple, but important, things of life.

Thank God for family--birth family, extended family, and church family. Ask for forgiveness for taking them for granted sometimes, and ask God to help you to always show your appreciation and love to them. Thank God for tak-

ing care of you. Thank Him for answering your prayers in the way that He knows is best.

Thank Him for always being here for you. And thank Him in the name of

Jesus for He paid the price on the cross for you to come boldly before God. And when you pray, God listens; when you listen, God talks; and when you believe, God works.



Sisters in Christ, (L to R): Florinda Igwe, Sister Tarpley and Carla Barnes after Sunday Bible Study.

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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

NDG Book Review: *Better Late Than Never*

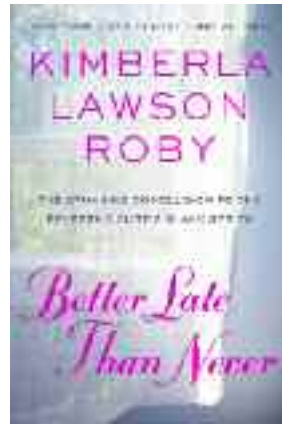
By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Life has handed you a lot of chances.

You've taken some, for good or not. Others, you've passed up, and regretted it. Maybe you'd be richer today. Maybe you'd be poorer. For sure, you'd have an existence unlike what you have now and, as in the new novel "Better Late Than Never" by Kimberla Lawson Roby, you wonder what might've been...

First Lady Charlotte Black was tired.

Every Sunday for nineteen years, she'd gotten up, put on her finest clothes and her best face, and gone to



church with her husband, Reverend Curtis Black, leader of Deliverance Outreach. That's a lot of Sundays, a lot of dressing up, of pretending to be nice to people Charlotte really didn't want anything to do with.

She was going to tell Curtis soon that she was taking a sabbatical, but she had to wait because of drama: their daughter, Curtina, was having some sort of pre-teen phase and Curtis's sister, Trina, was sick.

In the meantime, Charlotte coped by drinking vodka.

Twelve-year-old Curtina's parents were always treating her like an infant.

They never let her leave the house whenever she wanted and she had strict bedtimes, even on weekends. As for hanging out with her friends, forget it. Her parents even took her

phone away! It was so unfair and it would be much worse, had Curtina not caught her mother drinking.

Blackmail was a good thing. Secrets were even better.

The phone call that Curtis Black received from his brother-in-law was one he never thought he'd get.

It had been decades since Curtis had seen his sister, Trina. At eighteen, he'd left home, escaping an abusive father, abandoning Trina and their mother with an angry, bullying alcoholic. Leaving had been self-preservation; Curtis had been planning an escape for years by then and he hadn't

seen Trina but a handful of times since. Now her husband had called to tell Curtis that she was dying.

That brought back every bad memory Curtis had. Was it too late to replace them with answers and better kinds of memories?

All good things, as they say, must come to an end and, alas, that includes characters and book series. In "Better Late Than Never," it also goes for the Curtis Black family.

But fear not – author Kimberla Lawson Roby doesn't send readers away with a whimper in this book. No, this novel goes out with a gentle bang that includes

the scandals you need but not the profanity you don't. That gives this novel – the entire series, in fact – a curious soap-opera feel, but churchy: everybody in the Curtis Black series has some sort of mess attached to their lives at some point or another and it's oh-no delicious but God forgives and so, eventually, does everybody else.

If you're not familiar with Curtis Black, don't start here; go back to Book One and dive in. You'll be happier that way. If you're a fan, though, "Better Late Than Never" is the end of the line, and how could you miss your chance?

The complicated relationship between sports and politics

By Denise-Marie Ordway
Harvard University

A new study suggests serious sports fans are likely to show strong support for the U.S. military — a finding that could help explain why some Americans react negatively to athletes kneeling during the national anthem.

The study does not specifically address sports fans' opinions about the national anthem or athletes kneeling during it as a form of political protest. However, for some fans, the military and "The Star-Spangled Banner" are closely linked, said one of the authors, Michael Serazio, an assistant professor of communication who teaches a course on sports, media and



NFL Oakland Raiders players kneel during the National Anthem at a game against Washington (Photo by Keith Allison / Wikimedia)

culture at Boston College.

"In the minds of those fans, the anthem and the [American] flag and the military are possibly interlocking in a way that to protest in the

presence of one is to protest all of those elements," he told Journalist's Resource.

Serazio teamed up with Emily A. Thorson, an assistant professor of political sci-

ence at Syracuse University, to investigate the relationship between sports fandom and certain political attitudes. They discovered they're closely intertwined, "despite what some fans and commentators might wish to believe," they write in the resulting research article, published in Public Opinion Quarterly.

They found that, generally speaking, Republicans are no more likely than Democrats to identify as sports fans. However, all sports fans in the United States are more likely to have right-leaning beliefs about the armed forces and economic mobility. Fans are more likely than non-fans to say they support the military and believe a

person's economic success is a direct result of his or her hard work.

"Ideological messaging is omnipresent in sports culture," Thorson and Serazio write. "This study takes a first step toward unpacking the complicated relationship between sports and politics."

The findings are based on the results of a survey conducted in November 2016, shortly after San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick shocked fans by sitting on his team's bench during the national anthem to protest racial injustice and police violence.

Kaepernick's refusal to stand spurred a national debate about the appropriateness of big-name athletes

protesting at sporting events. Other football players who followed his lead have been called "unpatriotic" for sitting or kneeling during the anthem at the start of games.

Serazio said the timing of the survey was a coincidence. However, a number of the people who participated mentioned Kaepernick's protest and made comments such as "disrespecting the national anthem should be immediate cause for termination."

The survey, which focused on a nationally representative sample of 1,051 adults, asked questions about sports fans' identity, their political attitudes and their opinions about the politicization of sports.

Dallas Police provide update on search for Roy Cook

Dallas Police Deputy Chief Thomas Castro held a press conference to provide an update and timeline on the search and investigation of Silver Alert, Roy Cook. Officers have been continually searching for Cook for a week and continue to ask for the public's assistance in locating him. If anyone knows the location of Roy Cook, they are asked to call 9-1-1 or the Dallas Police Department Missing Per-

sons Unit at 214-671-4268.

Between 12:20 a.m. - 12:30 a.m. on Aug. 2 a video captured Cook leaving his home on foot. The family became aware of his disappearance and notified the police at 3 a.m. when a search was launched. They reached out to area hospitals and homeless shelters. The only lead received on the first day was a report by a DART bus driver indicating that Cook was at bus stop



near Jim Miller/Great Trinity Forest, and then at Buckner train station. However, video from those areas did

not provide any sightings.

A Silver Alert was issued on Friday, Aug. 3 and the search continued including

the trails and wooded area near Cook's home. The Dallas Police also reached out to area law enforcement agencies in the southern sector of Dallas. On Saturday, Aug. 4 the police met with the family but had no real update on disappearance. DPS assisted in the search via helicopter over I-20, Dowdy Ferry, Trinity Forest area, and along Trinity River. The search has continued throughout the

week, including looking at Cook's financial accounts which showed no activity.

Deputy Chief Castro acknowledged the family's frustration, and admitted the Silver Alert could have been issued sooner. Otherwise he attempted to assure the public this disappearance has received priority efforts. The next step is a large search effort taking place at the Lincoln Memorial Park on Aug. 9 at 8 a.m.