



# North Dallas Gazette

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## MNP forum showcases runoffs in Dallas City Council, school board elections

By David Wilfong  
NDG Contributing Writer

Several local elections are headed into runoffs, and candidates in these races were given one more opportunity to face the Monday Night Politics crowd at the African American Museum in Fair Park. The forum is hosted by the *Dallas Examiner* and is routinely held during weeks leading up to elections.

There were five races featured at the forum. Dallas City Council races in Districts, 4, 7, 9 and 14; as well as the Dallas Independent School District (DISD) Board of Trustees seat in District 4 was introduced, and all prospective candidates were present. A forum featuring the mayor's race is scheduled for June 3.

### District 14

The first race presented was the city council runoff for the District 14 seat, where incumbent Philip Kingston is looking to retain the position against challenger David Blewett.

Blewett ran for council before when the seat was open, and Kingston was elected for the first time. He sat out since then and has gotten to know Kingston over the time since. Blewett indicated his observations of Kingston have led him



Current Dallas City Councilmember Carolyn King Arnold (at right) responds to questions from the audience as challenger Dawn Blair (left) listens. The two are vying for the District 4 seat in the upcoming runoff election on June 8. (Photo: David Wilfong / NDG)

to believe it is time for a change.

"I watched him as he interacted with other city council members, as he interacted with friends and neighbors of mine," Blewett said. "And quite frankly I found his personality to be a bit too divisive. And I think it's gotten to the point where it's harmed us in getting things done."

Blewett was not in attendance at the first forum held for the race before the election and took exception to some of the statements Kingston made regarding him and the other challenger in the race; namely the

suggestion they opposed the removal of Confederate monuments and the name changes of local schools. Blewett said Kingston's earlier remarks are simply untrue, and he actually supported the monuments being removed, and while he had issues with the procedural way the school district went about the renaming process for his child's school (formerly Stonewall Jackson Elementary), he served on the committee to choose a new name. He noted Kingston had the opportunity

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**NDG endorses Eric Johnson for Mayor (Stay Tuned)**



**Arnold is the right choice for District 4**

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**DeSoto passes paid parental leave policy**

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**What is Rep. Toni Rose up to?**

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### READERS SOUND OFF!!!

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## People In The News...



Dydine Umunyana



Amelia Ashley Ward

**NDG Quote of the Week:** "Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it. It flies with the last breath of each soldier who died protecting it."

— Unknown



## Dydine Umunyana

(HARVARD) A quarter-century after the genocide in which ethnic Hutu extremists killed as many as a million minority Tutsis in approximately 100 days, Rwanda is a country reborn. How that happened is a story of resilience — and of the unexpected benefits that can come from unimaginable tragedy. It is also, as a panel at the John F. Kennedy Jr. Forum explored on Tuesday evening, a story of the women of Rwanda.

“How Women Saved Rwanda,” co-sponsored by the Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School, the Harvard Kennedy School’s



Wikimedia

Women and Public Policy Program, and the Center for Public Leadership, brought four female survivors of the Rwandan genocide to the Institute of Politics yesterday. After Samantha Lakin, a Ph.D. candidate at Clark University who has worked in

Rwanda since 2013, provided a basic history of the tragedy, the survivors took over, explaining the remarkable rebirth of their country of origin and the scars that remain.

“We had our darkest moment 25 years ago but together we rose back up and moved forward,” said Yvonne Umugwaneza, a mental health and community and social work advocate. Today, as she and her colleagues explained, Rwanda has re-created itself as a country moving toward gender equality.

“Our country is really remarkable,” said Providence Nkurunziza, who counsels orphans and widows affected

by HIV. “This is something we are proud of,” she added, noting the often inaccurate public perception of contemporary Rwanda as being in crisis. “And we have to raise awareness of that too.”

The origins of this remaking lie in the genocide itself. As Umugwaneza explained, more men than women were killed in 1994. Although women were also slaughtered and brutalized, “We had many more women who survived than men, so these women worked together for the country,” she said.

Almost by default, added Marie Carine Boggis, a higher education advocate and public speaker, “Rwanda went from being a traditional

society to having women take over leadership roles.”

This progress has grown on itself, creating a cultural shift. Women “tend to want to be what’s missing. We tend to fill the role that’s empty in our lives,” said Boggis, citing the preponderance of women-led families, as well as cases of young women who took on the role of mothers for even-younger orphans, creating new kinds of families and social supports. “Children who grew up that way realized a woman can do anything,” said Dydine Umunyana, a motivational speaker and the author of “Embracing Survival.” “It created that strength in young girls. We kind of learned

from that tragedy.”

The shift can be seen in the post-genocide constitution. Although this document, which was adopted in 2003, has been criticized for possibly enabling one-party rule (a point brought up by an audience member), it not only condemned the genocide but also mandated that any government organization, including parliament, had to be made up of at least 30 percent women. However, progress toward equality did not end there.

“Women voted for women,” said moderator Ambassador Swanee Hunt, founder of the Women and

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## Amelia Ashley Ward

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Correspondent

Being at the helm of an African-American newspaper that has continuously published for 75 years counts as one of Amelia Ashley Ward’s greatest accomplishments.

In the more than 20 years since she’s taken over as publisher of the *San Francisco Sun Reporter*, Ward has achieved the kind of success that is rare in today’s world of click bait, paywalls and fake news.

By combining commu-



nity activism with powerful content across the pages of her popular newspaper, Ward has played a vital role the elections of San Francisco’s first black woman mayor, London Breed; and

the city’s first black District Attorney, Kamala Harris.

Both Harris, who is now a U.S. Senator and one of the leading Democratic candidates for the 2020 presidential election, and Breed were among the 1,000 or so on hand May 9 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown San Francisco to celebrate the *Sun Reporter*’s 75th anniversary.

“Seventy-five years of still publishing an African American-owned newspaper is certainly a great feeling because we struggle to get advertising and struggle to stay afloat,” said Ward, who also serves as the Chair

of the National Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation (NNPAF), a nonprofit organization that has traditionally focused on pre-professional training and encouraging excellence in the publishing industry.

“We can tell the stories that connect our communities and people who want to talk to our communities know they have to use the Black Press to do so,” Ward said, adding that she doesn’t take for granted that the paper is still in business.

The *Sun-Reporter* was founded in 1944 and it quickly became a social and political advocate for

African Americans on issues like civil rights, discrimination, housing and education as well as a vital source of information at a time when there was little media coverage of Blacks in the mass media.

Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett reportedly acquired the newspaper through a poker game, and the publication, as we know it today, was born out of a merger between the *Sun* newspaper, which Goodlett owned, and another African-American publication, the *Reporter*, which was edited and published by his close friend, Thomas C. Fleming.

Goodlett served as publisher of the paper until shortly before his death in 1997.

Since then, Ward, who started her career as an intern at the *Sun-Reporter*, has run the publication which she said is guided by the wisdom and vision of its founder.

“We had a tribute to Dr. Goodlett who was the first NNPA President to get them into the White House,” Ward said.

NNPA Chairman Dorothy R. Leavell, owner and publisher of Chicago’s *Crusader*

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## NDG Readers Sound Off...

### Letter to the Editor

Dear fellow Texans,

As we enjoy the blessings of family and friends this Memorial Day, let us all take a moment to recollect the reason for this day. Today, we honor the men and women who sacrificed their lives, so that we may enjoy the freedoms we hold so dear.

I ask you to unite with family and friends in a national moment of remembrance at 3 p.m. to reflect on the sacrifices made in defense of our values and to remember our service-members lost in service to

our nation.

For over 150 years, Memorial Day has been a national holiday honoring those who died in service to our nation. Let us remember our history and see our present, so that the thousands of Americans who have served and lost their lives to war, from days past to present, will not be forgotten.

On this day, we remember those who gallantly fought for each one of us. Their courage and sacrifice will always be remembered and honored across this great state, this great nation and most importantly, in our hearts.

Sincerely,

Eliseo “Al” Cantu, Jr.  
Chairman, Texas Veterans Commission

### Tweets to @NDGEditor

@Johnson4Dallas ---- I am truly honored to have earned the endorsement of Congresswoman @RepEBJ in my race to become the next Mayor of the @CityOfDallas. “In my judgment, Rep. Eric Johnson is the right candidate to unite the best of what our city has to offer and push us forward.” #JohnsonForDallas

@Johnson4Dallas ---- I enjoyed tonight’s @CityOfDallas mayoral debate at @PaulQuinnTigers! Jetting back and forth between the city I love and #TxLege has me absolutely energized! So glad to report that things are also progressing in Austin on the People’s Agenda, @NDGEditor!

Tezlyn Figaro ---- @BuzzFeed can you ask your reporter @rubycramer to add MY comment to MY story about MY lawsuit since she called & asked for EVERYONE else’s comment?

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# NDG endorses Carolyn King Arnold

NDG's View

2018 locally, as well as nationally, saw a progressive movement in the sweep through the midterm elections. The voting public is not happy with what is happening in Washington, DC, Austin or Dallas City Hall and demanded change in several elections. However, there is a place for experience. The North Dallas Gazette endorsed Carolyn King Arnold last fall when she faced more than a dozen opponents to reclaim a seat at the horseshoe to represent District 4. Her experience

was the primary reason why we endorsed her in the runoff last December. Once again Arnold faced challenges and finds herself in another runoff election on June 8.

Six months is not enough time to do the job the voters sent Arnold back to City Hall to accomplish in December. She regained the seat she won in 2015 last year following the resignation and conviction of former Mayor Pro Temp and councilman Dwaine Caraway on corruption charges.

Dawn Blair, Arnold's runoff opponent, while not

new to the inner workings of the City of Dallas, having worked for the city for more than 20 years. However, while we agree her insights are essential, city staff and city council members have very different roles. Understanding how to effectively work with the staff is vital knowledge. However, making tough decisions based on input from the city staff, experts, and the residents requires a different type of experience.

There are those who point to Arnold's previous opposition to the proposed deck park near the Dallas Zoo,

suggesting she will stand in the way of progress, we disagree. Arnold has promised the voters to develop smart economics initiatives to help address housing and transportation issues. She also has pledged to work to see the development of workforce and education opportunities through vocational training.

We want to see Arnold have an opportunity to finish the job she started and invite voters to re-elect Arnold. Early voting is May 28 through June 4 and Election Day is Saturday, June 8.

# Irving leaders, Muslims need to make a 360° turn

NDG's View

The North Dallas Gazette (NDG) first and foremost congratulates Allan E. Meagher on his re-election to serve on the Irving City Council representing District 2. Meagher ran another successful and well thought out campaign to guarantee his re-election.

Unfortunately, Irving still has a long way to go as it relates to the full inclusion of all of its residents. In particular, the Muslim community. According to the City of Irving website, there are roughly 240,373 residents as recorded in 2017, from all walks of life. The Muslim community reportedly equals about 40,000 residents. Unfortunately, the lack of regular interaction between the City of Irving and the Muslim community may become a hindrance to the unification of the city in its entirety.

Luckily The Irving 360° Civic Academy was developed to answer questions on how the City of Irving func-

tions. It is designed to give participants a behind-the-scenes look at daily operations and encourage civic engagement. The academy is open to anyone 18 or older who lives or works in Irving. The academy covers Irving's history, government structure, elections and city boards, and commissions, and other topics relevant to the residents of Irving. The classes run for 10 weeks for two to three hours. The Irving 360° Civic Academy could be the cornerstone for ensuring the Muslim community and the city leaders are aligned with an opportunity to position themselves to be stronger.

It is essential for all to have access to leadership and political opportunities as they come in the Irving area. Opportunities to integrate their voice within the community is vital for the Muslim community as well.

It is critical for Meagher and the City of Irving to understand there cannot be an ostracizing of the Muslim community. The 360° Civic

Academy is a starting point for opening the communications and inclusion gap.

**Engagement is a two-way street**

Mr. Meagher, I'm sure you will agree with grandmother's sage advice, "You can lead a horse to the water, but you can't make him drink." "Programs such as the 360° Civic Academy provides an avenue for engagement, but it is incumbent on members of the Muslim community to join fellow Irving residents and follow-through through by enrolling and participating in the academy.

Rodwaan Saleh's campaign was a downpayment on the communities coming together. Although his endeavor to gain election was unsuccessful, we encourage him to build upon his efforts to help organize a coalition and develop alliances to achieve representation at the council level in the future.

Hopefully, Saleh will encourage supporters to get involved in the program. It will allow them to not only

learn more about the city but provide city leaders an opportunity to hear about their issues and concerns. The Muslim community can begin to build relationships outside of their cultural and religious boundaries.

While NDG has worked in the past to gain access and establish communications with Meagher's office and has not been successful, we hope we can start fresh and work together. NDG has always practiced fair reporting and encouraged community activism in Irving and throughout DFW. In earlier elections, we previously endorsed Meagher, and we hope as we move towards celebrating the community's diversity and encouraging unity that we can continue to work together for the good of the entire Irving community. We are seeking to initiate the dialogue for full community inclusion.

NDG wishes Meagher nothing but success for this upcoming term and looks forward to the partnership we will develop.



Mayor  
City of Dallas  
Eric  
Johnson

**NDG endorses Carolyn King Arnold for the District 4 seat on the Dallas City Council and Eric Johnson in the Mayor's race. Election Day is June 8, with early voting running from May 28 to June 4.**



Dallas City Council  
District 4  
Carolyn King  
Arnold

# With paid parental leave, it's a new day in DeSoto and in Texas



**Candice Quarles**  
DeSoto  
City Council

It gives me such great pride to say that as of last month, DeSoto is the first city in North Texas to guarantee paid parental leave for city employees. It was a long road to get here. When I first brought this matter to the city council's attention in 2017, I knew it was a pretty progressive initiative. Yet at the same time, it was so clearly the right thing to do for our new moms, our dads, our families, and our whole city. I am so proud DeSoto stands as a shining example for other cities around Texas and across the country.

With a unanimous city council vote in favor of this measure, city employees will now receive three weeks of paid time off of work after the birth, adoption, or foster of a child. It comes not a moment too soon because all new parents deserve the essential and doctor-recommended time off to bond with their babies. This policy is an essential part of our larger task: fixing a broken system where new parents are forced to piece together vacation time, sick time, and unpaid time off from work just to get a bare minimum of time with their newborns.

This issue is personal for me and so many others. My husband and I have a four-year-old, and I enjoyed the crucial bonding time after

she was born. But it was not a simple thing to do. Due to early contractions at 33 weeks, I was restricted to bed rest before the birth of my daughter, so I used the majority of my sick and vacation time before she was born. My company had a designated maternity leave of 12 weeks, so I had some time with her before putting her into daycare. Even if all goes well in a pregnancy, we should allow new moms and dads the all-important time to care, nurture, and bond with their child. Anything less is putting our women and families at risk.

Before the DeSoto City Council took the vote to pass the paid parental leave measure, we heard lots of moving testimony from people encouraging support

of the policy. One of those who gave testimony was my good friend and fellow local elected official Candace Valenzuela, a School Board Trustee in Carrollton-Farmers Branch Independent School District. With her young son Henry Jacinto in her arms, Candace spoke powerfully about how vital paid leave is for new parents and also for local communities and our city.

"Children are not a luxury item; children are an investment in the long term care and growth of a city. If your city employees are setting an example for that, you're going to have sustainable growth for generations," Valenzuela stated.

The United States is the only industrialized country

in the world that does not guarantee paid family leave for its citizens. But we can do better. I'm hopeful our efforts in DeSoto will spark a wave of paid parental leave policies throughout North Texas, our whole state, and indeed the country. But it should not stop at just paid parental leave. We deserve nothing less than the adequate paid family leave we need to bond with our babies, recuperate from an illness, and take care of our loved ones.

Some will undoubtedly say these policies cost too much or they benefit some people over others. But the truth is all of us benefit from paid parental and family leave. It makes our families healthier, our employees happier, and our com-

munity stronger. And these policies are even a win for the business community. As all companies need top talent, it can be a tremendous recruiting tool for someone looking to start a family one day. This is why many major corporations (Southwest Airlines, Facebook, Bank of America, among others) provide generous Paid Family Leave policies already.

This Spring, we celebrate paid parental leave coming to DeSoto. This year, I hope to join my fellow city council colleagues in cities around the state and the country in celebrating similar policies. We owe it to all the new moms and dads out there, and there is no reason our local governments cannot take the lead.

## Extending patient stays good for health, or hospitals' pocketbooks?

NDG's View

Texas Rep. Toni Rose (D-110) filed a bill (HB 3549) on March 6 which, if passed, would have allowed hospitals to keep patients longer than the current guidelines allow under the "Star-Plus" Medicaid program. Currently, there is a 30-day "spell of illness" limitation, after which a patient must be outside a treatment facility for 60 consecutive days before receiving inpatient treatment again.

The goal of Rose's bill was to remove that limitation, allowing healthcare facilities to keep patients in



*Tex. Rep. Toni Rose*

the hospital longer.

The Star-Plus Medicaid program, administered in Texas by the Department of Health and Human Services, is geared toward persons over 21 years of age in assisted living centers, low income, or other conditions

on a short list of acceptance requirements. Treatment for Star-Plus patients is offered through a wide range of healthcare programs statewide.

HB 3549 would have required any such provider to remove the 30 days of illness restriction for any provider receiving funds for treatment through the Star-Plus program.

However, expanding medical services does not come without a cost, and a financial impact statement authored by John McGeady and Sarah Keyton, both assistant directors of the Legislative Budget Board, out-

lined the potential expense of such a change in policy.

"HHSC estimates the costs to remove the spell of illness limitation under Star+Plus to be \$110.8 million in All Funds, including \$67.2 million in General Revenue Funds, in fiscal year 2020 increasing to \$145.7 million in All Funds, including \$88.0 million in General Revenue Funds, by the fiscal year 2024 for increased Medicaid client services costs including costs related to the Health Insurance Providers Fee based on current Star+Plus enrollment and cost trends," the report read.

"Client services costs are assumed to result in an increase in insurance premium tax revenue, estimated to be 1.75 percent of the increased managed care expenditures. Revenue is adjusted for assumed timing of payments and prepayments resulting in an estimated increase of \$1.3 million in the fiscal year 2020, \$3.4 million in the fiscal year 2021, and between \$2.2 million and \$2.5 million in each fiscal until the

fiscal year 2024."

The report also noted a one-time expense in modifying the systems to adapt to such changes would amount to an extra \$400,000 in the fiscal year 2020.

However, this expense to the taxpayer would mean more revenue for the provider of healthcare services with more extended stays in facilities ... a lot more income. Of note, the

**See BILL, Page 12**

## WARD, continued from Page 2

Newspaper Group; current NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr.; NNPA Publishers Thurman Jones of the North Dallas Gazette and Kerri Watkins of the New York Daily Challenge were also on hand to celebrate the *Sun Reporter's* anniversary.

They also paid tribute to Dr. Goodlett, whom former Mayor Willie Brown immortalized by naming the address at City Hall in his honor.

But the night clearly belonged to Ward, who proudly shared the spotlight with Breed and Harris – the trio entered the hotel's ballroom to Alicia Keys' hit song, "Girl on Fire."

"The Sun-Reporter has been there for us, celebrating our community and telling our stories," Breed said.

Ward said the achievements of many from the African American community like Breed and Harris

"shows you the power of the Black Press and it shows that we are the most trusted voice in our community."

"I was able to put the paper behind young African American women who wanted to ascend to power and help lead in a political way to make our communities and the world better," she said.

Frederick Haynes of Friendship West Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas, also saluted the Sun Reporter, Ward said.

"The theme of the night was 'Truth Marching On,' so Haynes spoke on that topic and then he summarized it by borrowing a phrase from Muhammad Ali when he was beating the drums and said, 'The Champ is here,'" Ward said.

"Like with Kamala Harris, when everyone in the community is down and out and no one thinks they can do, the Sun Reporter will rise and be like 'The Champ is here,' and they will fight the battles," she said.

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# Texas Senate approves constitutional ban on personal income tax

By Richard Lee  
Texas Senate News

(AUSTIN) Voters could enshrine a ban on a personal income tax in the state constitution under a measure approved by the Senate late Monday. Texas' lack of an income tax is one of the major drivers of the state's economic success, said bill sponsor and Prosper Senator Pat Fallon.

"Every day more people move to Texas seeking an opportunity to make their lives better for themselves and their families," he said. "A big part of that is they know that a larger portion of what they earn will be kept in their pockets and not go to the government because Texas has a climate that is business-friendly, low-tax, high-prosperity and we have reasonable regulation."



Sharon McCutcheon / Unsplash

Many Texans, said Fallon, are under the mistaken impression that the state constitution explicitly prohibits a personal income tax, but it's more complicated than that. At issue is the "Bullock Amendment," named for the late Lt. Governor Bob Bullock, who pushed for the amendment in the early 90s. It requires that any personal income tax

proposal be first approved by a majority of Texas voters.

While that's not likely, as Fallon cited recent polling showing that more than 70 percent of Texans oppose an income tax, there is a way it could still become law. Any statute can pass the Legislature with a simple majority, meaning that 51 percent of lawmakers could hypotheti-

cally put the question of creating an income tax before voters. It takes a 2/3s majority of the Legislature to place a constitutional amendment on the ballot, however, so any future bills that seek to repeal this proposed income tax ban would require the support of a supermajority of lawmakers in both houses.

One issue raised by those opposed to the legislation is the unintended impact it could have on the business franchise tax. The resolution would place this exact language in the constitution: "The legislature may not impose a tax on the net incomes of individuals, including an individual's share of partnership and unincorporated association income." A possible issue arises due to the use of the term "individual" in place of

"natural person" as exists in the Bullock Amendment today. According to the fiscal impact statement by the Legislative Budget Board, the term could open the door to legal challenges of the franchise tax. "The term 'individuals' is not defined and could be interpreted to include entities that are currently subject to the state's franchise tax," it reads.

There are places in state law where the definition of "person" includes a corporation or other business interest. Subject to a lawsuit, if a court rules that "individual" means "person", and affirms that "person" applies to corporations, then it could theoretically strike down all or part of the levy. The Comptroller's biennial revenue estimate projects that tax will bring in more than \$6 billion in revenue

over the next two years, so a court ruling exempting some, or all, businesses from the franchise tax could introduce a significant deficit into the budget.

In response, Fallon emphasized that his proposal could only apply to personal income taxes. "The legislative intent of HJR 38 is that an individual is just like what it sounds: a single human being," he said. "There's no case law we can find where an individual is described by anything other than a single human being." More than that, he said, the amendment couldn't apply to the franchise tax. "The margins tax is not an income tax, the margins tax is a tax on gross margins," said Fallon. "So even if this didn't say 'individual' and said

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## Local ZΦB Chapter awards Scholarships to five Dallas County Seniors

Last weekend Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, Kappa Zeta Chapter, in conjunction with Stork's Nest Charity Fund of Dallas, awarded five scholarships to seniors throughout Dallas County. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., Kappa Zeta Chapter announced their 2019 scholarship recipients on May 18, at a presentation held at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library in Dallas.

Irma Lerma Rangel Young Women's Leadership School graduating senior Paola Rojas, holding a weighted GPA of 4.12 was awarded the Rhetta Wash-



(L-R) Bryan Robinson II, Trinity Perkins, Paola Rojas, Tori Carter, Chasity Jenkins (Photo credit: All Tearicka)

ington McCoy Tech Scholarship. Paola plans to attend the University of North Texas. Her future goal is to improve public education in

Texas as a part of her career in education.

The Josie Washington Scholarship was awarded to Trinity Perkins, the Desoto

Early College High School achieving a weighted GPA of 4.75. Her future plans include becoming an OBGYN focused on working to improve women's health.

Grand Prairie Fine Arts Academy graduating senior Tori Carter was awarded the Fairrilla White Scholarship. Tori has a weighted GPA of 4.40 and plans to attend Howard University. Her future goals include continuing to mentor young students through dance with her non-profit organization.

The inaugural Circle of Pearls Scholarship was awarded to Chasity Jenkins

a graduating senior from Duncanville High School who has earned an unweighted GPA of 3.6. Chasity plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin. Her future goal is to be a leader in the communications field.

The Juanita Buchanan Scholarship was awarded to Bryan Robinson II from Lakeview Centennial High School in Garland. Bryan's achievements include earning a 3.54 weighted GPA, 200+ volunteer hours and earning the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boys Scouts of America. The future

Tuskegee University student plans on majoring in veterinary medicine.

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated was founded on the campus of Howard University on January 16, 1920. The Kappa Zeta Chapter was chartered in 1931 in Dallas and celebrates 88 years of uninterrupted service to the Dallas community.

The Kappa Zeta Chapter has awarded over a quarter of a million dollars in scholarships to local students, and has mentored over 1,000 young girls and women.

## Carrollton Fire Rescue encourages pool safety for Memorial Day weekend

The week before Memorial Day (May 20-26) has been designated Healthy and Safe Swimming Week and the month of May is National Water Safety Month. The goal of these efforts is to maximize the health benefits of swimming by minimizing the risk of illness and injury.

Everyone plays a role in preventing injuries and illnesses when it comes to the

water we swim, play, and relax in. Just two hours and 30 minutes of physical activity every week, including water-based physical activity, can benefit an individual's health, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Studies have shown that children with asthma may have fewer symptoms when swimming regularly compared with other asthmatic

children. Children also benefit socially from interacting with other kids in pools.

Swimmers can prevent fatal and non-fatal drowning by learning swimming skills, wearing life vests, and swimming under the close supervision of parents, caregivers, or lifeguards who know cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

According to the latest CDC statistics, drowning is

the leading cause of unintentional death among children ages 1-4 years, the second leading cause among ages 5-14 years, and ranks sixth overall among the leading causes of unintentional death in the United States. Three children die every day as a result of drowning.

From 2005-2014, there was an annual average of 3,536 fatal unintentional

drownings (non-boating related) in the United States – about 10 deaths per day, per CDC data. According to the report, about one in five people who die from drowning are children ages 14 years and younger. For every child who dies from drowning, another five receive emergency care for nonfatal submersion injuries. From 2015-2016, the annual average increased to

3,694, showing a more than 4 percent rise in two years over the average for the previous nine years.

Carrollton Fire Rescue (CFR) encourages parents to watch young children while in the bathtub and to designate a responsible adult to supervise their kids when swimming or playing in or around water. Water watchers for preschoolers should

See SAFETY, Page 6



## A Big Year for District 6



**Joyce Foreman**  
Dallas ISD  
District 6  
Trustee

The last bell for 2018-2019 school year will soon ring. Many students will rush out the door, while some will linger to say “good bye” to close friends and teachers. But before everyone switches into summer mode, I’d like to thank our teachers for their hard work this school year which is evident by the many accomplishments that we see daily in the students. I would also like to thank our administrators, parents for another successful year!

THANK YOU for your hard work and dedication. Your efforts make District 6 the shining gem of southwest Dallas.

### District 6 Takes To The Stage

At the beginning of this school year, the ATT Performing Arts Center received a grant from Disney to bring the Disney Musicals in Schools programs to schools in the Dallas area. Ronald E. McNair Elementary is one of the five Dallas ISD schools selected to participate in the program. The student performers lit up the stage at the AT&T Performing Arts Center in a showcase performance featuring a musical number from their production of Disney’s The

Lion King Kids. The performance group also wowed local audiences with the full shows at their campus. I’m especially excited that this program marks the beginning of a theater program for McNair. And I look forward to many show-stopping performances in the future.

### A Little Extra Goes A Long Way

After a district-wide focus on boosting student participation in extracurricular activities, I’m elated to report that the district is well on track to meet its 2018–2019 goal of having 76 percent of students involved in at least one extracurricular activity. Dallas ISD offers more than 200 extracurricular and after-school programs for

students in pre-K through grade 12 at no cost. The activities are designed to meet the specific needs and interests of students and provide them with an opportunity of experiencing activities they might not have access to otherwise. District 6 schools, in particular, offer a variety of extracurricular activities to include, but not limited to, athletics, visual and performing arts, robotics, debate, UIL academic competitive teams and more. I encourage parents to take advantage of the summer break to help their students explore interests that they may further pursue through extracurricular offerings during the upcoming school year.

### Summer Tips

Dallas ISD offers summer programs and enrichment opportunities in partnership with several community organizations. The district offers more than 100 options with emphasis in the arts, science, technology and other areas that will help prevent summer loss by reinforcing what students learned during the year in fun and interactive sessions. To learn about the summer program opportunities around Dallas ISD, click here. Enrollment dates vary per program and campus.

Also, remember to check community service organizations such as the Girls and Boys Clubs, the YMCA and YWCA and Girls, Inc. Talk

to the churches in the community, as well as the local businesses that may sponsor camps. Lastly, keep an eye out for camp offerings from area sports organizations.

The key is to keep your children mentally and physically engaged, not just entertained all summer. Help them avoid the dreaded “summer learning loss” by identifying ways to expand their minds and move their bodies in the home, in the community, in a class or at a summer camp.

I wish everyone a safe and exciting summer vacation. And we look forward to seeing you at one of our schools on August 19 to begin a new and exciting school year!

## Collin College students place at Dallas-Fort Worth NATS singing competition

Seven Collin College students placed at the Dallas-Fort Worth Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing competition in March. The students participated in six different vocal divisions.

Founded in 1944, NATS is the largest association of teachers of singing in the world. The organization celebrates the art of singing through a series of competitions and programs that are designed to showcase talented singers and performers. Events are held annually in each region.

“The NATS experience provides our singers the invaluable experience of learning and preparing an audition for a panel of jurors each semester,” Music Professor Casey L. Carter said. “Through dedicated hours of study and practice, our ap-



(Collin College students placing at the NATS competition included; (Front Row, left to right) Karla Silva, Jacqueline Cuesta, Marla Nelson, Marlie Dismuke, Diana Balley, (Back Row, left to right) Edward Balley, Michael Martin, Taylor Hankey. (Photo: Casey L. Carter)

plied vocal students memorized, polished and performed three to seven new pieces of music each semester and they compete in the regional and area NATS auditions.”

Collin College student Michael Martin won first place in the Graduate Men’s division of the competition. He said he has been working

on his classical voice technique for the last two years and was thrilled to be able to participate in the competition this year. He will be transferring to the University of North Texas next fall.

“Winning first place in the Graduate Men’s Division felt like the culmination of years of hard work, intense supervised study, and con-

firmed that I had made the right decision by coming to Collin College to study music,” Martin said. “I am forever grateful to Professor Carter, DFW NATS, and Collin College for allowing me the opportunity to seek out and attain my true potential.”

For Collin College student Marlei Dismuke it was her first experience performing in a NATS Master Class and singing opera. She placed fourth in the Freshman Women division.

“I honestly went in not expecting to place, I just wanted to do my absolute best since I was still new,” she said. “It was a pleasant surprise to keep moving on in the rounds throughout the day when I was there. In the end it was a really good experience.”

Top singers from each re-

gional category will advance to a national online screening round, where participants will submit a video of their performances for adjudication by a panel of national judges and the chance to perform at the national auditions at St. Olaf College in Minnesota in June.

The students who placed in the competition include:

Div 4: Young High School Men: Edward Balley, Richardson-second place

Div 7A: Freshman Women: Marlei Dismuke, Plano-fourth place

Div 7B: Sophomore Women: Karla Silva, Allen-fifth place

Div 11A: Junior Women: Diana Balley, Richardson-fifth place

Div 11B: Senior Women: Jacqueline Cuesta, Carrollton-fourth place

Div 14: Graduate Men: Michael Martin, Plano-first place

Div 14: Graduate Men: Taylor Hankey, Wylie-second place

Collin College serves more than 55,000 credit and continuing education students annually and offers more than 100 degrees and certificates. The only public college based in Collin County, Collin College is a partner to business, government and industry, providing customized training and workforce development. In addition, the college operates the Collin Higher Education Center, which has an enrollment of 3,500 each year in partnership with The University of Texas at Dallas, Texas Woman’s University, Texas A&M Commerce, Texas Tech and the University of North Texas.

## SAFETY, continued from Page 5

provide “touch supervision” – being close enough to reach the child at all times. Because drowning occurs quickly and quietly, adults should not be involved in any other distracting activities such as reading, being on the phone, or mowing the lawn while supervising children, even if lifeguards are

present.

Formal swim lessons can protect young children from drowning. However, even with lessons, constant, careful supervision when children are in the water, and barriers, such as pool fencing to prevent unsupervised access, are still important.

Parents and caregivers are

also encouraged to take CPR training. CFR offers training on the first and third Saturday of each month at Crosby Recreation Center (1610 E. Crosby Road) and also offers Basic First Aid training. The department has a goal for as many citizens as possible to obtain a CPR/AED course completion card, so they are extending a challenge to the

local community: get trained, save a life. The next scheduled CPR/AED course is set for Saturday, June 1 from 9:15-11 a.m. and is \$20 for residents and \$22 for non-residents. The next scheduled Basic First Aid courses are set for Saturday, May 18 and Saturday, June 15 from 12:30-3:15 p.m. and are \$15 for residents and \$16.50 for non-resi-

dents.

For those needing a nationally-recognized course completion card required by an employer (such as a day-care worker), the next Heartsaver CPR/AED courses are Saturday, May 18 and Saturday, June 15 from 9:15 a.m. to 12 p.m. and cost \$50 for residents and \$55 for non-residents.

Children ages 10+ are eligible to take any of these classes as well.

To register for the upcoming courses, visit [cityofcarrollton.com/signupnow](http://cityofcarrollton.com/signupnow) under the Education section. Visit [cityofcarrollton.com/poolsafety](http://cityofcarrollton.com/poolsafety) for more safety information and the theme for this year’s National Water Safety Month.

This is 

This is **Anthony**.  
He's **accomplished** a lot on his own,  
like graduating from **college**,  
finding a **job**, and moving  
into a new **apartment**.  
But when it comes to  
**planning for the future**,  
he could use *a little* guidance.



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**Dallas**

The **Thai Culture and Food Festival** will be held on May 25, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Buddhist Center of Dallas, in Dallas. Thai Community Center of North Texas presents two fun-filled days showcasing Thai food, culture, classical music, dances and arts. Admission and parking are free and proceeds benefit the Thai Community Center.



Thaifestdallas.com

Dallas Farmers Market on May 26.

Competitors will concoct their finest margarita and offer samples from 5-8 p.m. for a margarita competition at the West End in Downtown Dallas. The winner of the Best Margarita in Dallas

will be announced at 8:45 p.m.

Sampling tickets include a tasting card allowing samples and votes for favorite margaritas from each participating establishment.

General Admission tickets do not include margarita

samplings, they only grant access to the festival area. Visit You taste, sample and vote for your favorite margarita. The best margaritas from the D-FW area will be at Dallas Farmers Market on May 26.

For more information visit [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com).

**Celebrate Ramadan: Public Iftar**

on May 26, from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Klyde Warren Park, in Dallas. Muslims worldwide are fasting from sunrise to sunset during the month of Ramadan. Meet your Muslim neighbors and share Iftar, a post-sundown meal, at Klyde Warren Park (across from the Dallas Museum of

Art). Food will be available at 8:30 p.m. for up to 50 people. Come curious, fellow Muslims will be on hand to answer questions. Kids can have fun with a pinata, glow sticks and balloons.

**Grand Prairie**

**Def Legend** (Def Leopard Tribute) will be held on May 27, at 12 p.m. at Lone Star Park, in Grand Prairie. Visit Lone Star Park for live horse racing and live music tribute band Def Legend. Shows on the Courtyard of Champions take place between races (starting after the fourth race) and for an hour after live racing is finished. The concert is free

with \$5 general admission. Gates open at noon, first post time at 1:35 p.m. for more information visit [www.lonestarpark.com](http://www.lonestarpark.com).

**Irving**

The **Irving Memorial Day Ceremony** will be held on May 26, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Park, in Irving. Honor Irving veterans at a Memorial Day Service hosted by the Veterans Memorial Park Committee at the Irving Archives building (the old Central Library), followed by a ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Park's Wall of Commemoration.

# Carrollton Workforce Services Department receives statewide honors

The City of Carrollton Workforce Services Department was named the 2019 Strategic Human Resources Department of the Year by the Texas Municipal Human Resources Association (TMHRA).



Courtesy photo

The Strategic HR Department of the Year award recognizes the outstanding contributions that HR team members have made in the past 18 months to their city and the employees they serve and acknowledges the efforts made to enhance and further the mission of the organization while aligning strategic HR practices and programs.

Carrollton Workforce Services was presented with the prestigious award for its efforts to cultivate an inclusive and collaborative organizational culture that encourages employees to achieve the City's internal goal of making the Carrollton Difference by working Better, Faster, and Friendlier.

"We're honored to have

been named the Human Resources Department of the Year," Workforce Services Director Samantha Dean said. "Our team is committed to strategically creating a corporate culture that is the Carrollton Difference and providing innovative solutions that meet the needs of City employees at all levels in the organization."

Workforce Services recently introduced the City's New Hire Orientation Program, which provides new employees with a comprehensive introduction to the Carrollton Difference, information about various processes from eight different departments, a walking tour of Downtown Carroll-

ton, and CPR training. Additionally, the department partnered with CareATC last year to continue services offered at the Employee Health & Wellness Center for covered employees and dependents to obtain free health care as a way to maintain a stable health plan and mitigate increasing healthcare costs. Workforce Service also continues to offer guidance in the strategic direction of each City department as it relates to staffing and succession planning.

The City of Carrollton municipal government has also been named the Best Place to Work in Carrollton by Star Local Media

through the Readers' Choice Awards for the past two years.

For more information on working for the City of Carrollton and to learn more

about the Workforce Services Department, visit [cityofcarrollton.com/jobs](http://cityofcarrollton.com/jobs).

## BAN, continued from Page 5

something else, it's still not the same thing."

Regardless of potential court rulings, other members worried that the amendment could be tying the hands of future legislatures. Brownsville Senator Eddie Lucio said that while he per-

sonally opposes an income tax, future lawmakers may see a need.

"If they're going to vote to not have a state income tax in the future, they're shutting down an option for other legislatures," he said. "I'm not for shutting down options."

Lucio said he preferred an interim study on the issue, so voters know the exact impact of what could effectively be an irreversible ban on a state income tax might be.

Ultimately, the measure passed the Senate with the 2/3s approval necessary to be placed on the November ballot.

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# Robin Thicke returning to Dallas stage for June 7 show

The nonprofit AT&T Performing Arts Center and AEG Presents Robin Thicke, five-time GRAMMY Award nominee, diamond-selling performer, actor, entrepreneur, and philanthropist, will perform at 8 p.m. Friday, June 7 at Strauss Square in the downtown Dallas Arts District.

Before his solo albums *The Evolution of Robin Thicke* and *Blurred Lines*

made him a household name he wrote and produced songs for Michael Jackson, Marc Anthony, Pink and Christina Aguilera all before he was 21.

The public discovered Thicke when he burst on the scene with the sexy and romantic *Lost Without You* in 2006 and then he lit up the music charts with *Blurred Lines* with T.I. Unfortunately, the song led to a lawsuit by the family of

Marvin Gaye. Thicke enjoyed moderate success with his *Get Her Back* in 2014, a song which reflected a bit of real life as he was trying to woo his ex-wife back. The song was more successful than those pursuits.

Summer Walker, known for her affinity for R&B, soul, pop and alternative music, will open the show.

Ticket prices for Robin Thicke range from \$39.75

to \$129.75 and can be purchased, beginning May 17 at 10 a.m., online at [www.attpac.org](http://www.attpac.org), by phone at 214-880-0202 or in person at the AT&T Performing Arts Center Winspear Opera House Box Office at 2403 Flora Street.

The Box Office is open 10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and before performances – closed Saturdays and Sundays.



# North Texas Performing Arts – Dallas presents Mary Poppins Jr.

North Texas Performing Arts - Dallas is presenting Disney's *Mary Poppins Jr.* North Texas Performing Arts brings this Disney tale to the stage with students in grades 3-12.

Mary Poppins Jr. is directed by the NTPA – Dallas Program Director Christian Black. Christian is a former student of NTPA and a graduate of the University of Oklahoma with a BFA in Drama: Acting Emphasis. After a year-long artistic fellowship at the Tony-Award winning Dallas Theater Center, Christian returned to North Texas Performing Arts as an instructor in 2017 and was pro-



Courtesy photo

moted to Program Director for NTPA's Dallas troupe in January 2019.

"Mary Poppins is such an iconic character in the Disney universe, making sure you hit on every nuance of the character is quite the challenge," said Black. "I was excited to have the op-

portunity to work on Mary Poppins, it is a classic story that transcends our generations. It is as popular today as it was when it first premiered."

The jack-of-all trades, Bert, introduces us to England in 1910 and the troubled Banks family. Young

Jane and Michael have sent many a nanny packing before Mary Poppins arrives on their doorstep. Using a combination of magic and common sense, she must teach the family members how to value each other

again. Mary Poppins takes the children on many magical and memorable adventures, but Jane and Michael aren't the only ones upon whom she has a profound effect. Even grown-ups can learn a lesson or two from

the nanny who advises that "Anything can happen if you let it."

The performances are at the Latino Cultural Center, 2600 Live Oak St. in Dallas. For Tickets go to [NTPA.org](http://NTPA.org).

# Deep Ellum hipster honky-tonk opens second outlet in Irving

A honky-tonk in quotes from Deep Ellum is opening a second location, this one in an entertainment zone to the west.

Mama Tried, the Nashville-style honky-tonk from veteran bar owner Brooke Humphries, will open a location at the Toyota Music Factory in Irving.

According to a release, it'll open in August, occupying a corner space next to the performance stage in Texas Lottery Plaza. It'll be open for lunch, happy hour, dinner, late-night dining, and Sunday brunch, with Southern cuisine and comfort food.

Humphries says in a statement that she's thrilled to be joining the ranks at Toyota Music Factory, calling it a "natural fit" for the second location.

She opened the first Mama Tried in 2018 as a combination restaurant-bar, dance hall, and live music venue spotlighting classic country, dance party, no pop country, outlaw country, bluegrass, and Kentucky bluegrass. She and her team invested much sweat equity transforming the location at 215 Henry St. at the corner of Canton Street into a funky-cool bar with accompanying outdoor space.

Humphries says that Mama Tried is "a good time if you enjoy good ol' country music."

"I'm real proud of it," she says. "There's nothing like it around here, and country is all I listen to these days, so I'm stoked."

Humphries has the golden touch with a diverse portfolio of bars and restaurants that includes trailblazing bars, such as Barcadia and Beauty Bar; her dance bar in East Dallas, It'll Do Club; her coffee shop, Mudsmith; and her fun American concept, Pints & Quarts, located at the Centrum in Oak Lawn.

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- > Mandatory Parent Meeting June 6th, 5pm, CVC Room M115

INFO AND REGISTRATION AT:  
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## NDG Entertainment: Memorial Day, Martha and music available in DFW

### Dallas

The **Memorial Day Program** will take place on May 27, starting at 11 a.m. at Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery, in Dallas.

Seating is limited so it is suggested that visitors arrive early and bring lawn chairs or blankets. The event is free. For more info visit [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov).

The **SDCC Music Lounge: The Blues** will be presented on May 25, at 7:30 p.m. at South Dallas Cultural Center, in Dallas. The world touring, award-winning blues legend Zac Harmon comes to SDCC. Harmon is a guitarist, organist, singer and songwriter whose distinctive style combines the best of old-school soul-blues artists



Eventbrite.com

with modern lyrics and themes.

For more information visit [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com).

The **DSO Memorial Day Concert and Fireworks Display** will be held on May 27, at 8:15 p.m. at Flag Pole Hill, in Dallas. The Dallas Symphony Orchestra begins its outdoor Parks

Concert series with the annual Memorial Day concert at Flag Pole Hill near White Rock Lake. A rousing program of patriotic music will culminate with a fireworks display. The casual, outdoor concert is free to attend.

The **Dallas Festival of Books and Ideas** will be held on May 28, from 6:30

p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture, in Dallas. Shape the future of Dallas through powerful ideas at the fifth annual Dallas Festival of Ideas. Since 2015, the city-wide event has aimed at shaping the city of the future by igniting, uniting and energizing Dallas residents. Join nationally known speakers and prominent local leaders as they present and discuss ideas to unite and energize the city. Be a part of "The Connected City."

**#HearHere: A Conversation with Martha Stewart** will be held on May 29, at 7:30 p.m. at Winspear Opera House, in Dallas. The Emmy Award winning television show host, entrepre-

neur and bestselling author will appear as part of a speaker series. For tickets visit [www.attpac.org/on-sale/2019/martha-stewart/](http://www.attpac.org/on-sale/2019/martha-stewart/).

### Fort Worth

The **73rd Charles Schwab Challenge** will take place on May 20 to May 26, at Colonial Country Club, in Fort Worth. The historic PGA Tour tournament, held annually since 1946 at Fort Worth's Colonial Country Club, has been renamed the Charles Schwab Challenge. Tournament play opens on Thursday, May 23. Masters top 10 finishers Xander Schauffele, Brooks Koepka, Jon Rahm and Patrick Cantlay are among the players expected to compete. For more information visit

[www.charlesschwabchallenge.com](http://www.charlesschwabchallenge.com).

**Warbird Ride Day** will take place on May 25, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Vintage Flying Museum, in Fort Worth. Visit a PT-13 Cornell, C-47 Skytrain, T-34 Mentor and A-26 Invader. Admission to the event is \$10 for adults, and \$8 for senior citizens, military and teens. Children age 6-12 are \$5 and under 6 are free. Tours of the museum are included. The aircraft will be available for rides for an additional cost, depending on the aircraft type and seat position selected. Flights can also be booked during the event. For more information visit [www.vintageflyingmuseum.org](http://www.vintageflyingmuseum.org).

## Mercury One presents 12 Score & 3 Years Ago: The Unfinished Promise of Unity

Presented by Mercury One, *12 Score & 3 Years Ago: The Unfinished Promise of Unity* is an unforgettable, immersive, pop-up museum exploring slavery and abolition, celebrating the lives of black heroes and innovators in the United States.

Held over Independence Day celebrations during the weekends of June 29 – 30 and July 4 – 7 at Mercury Studios, the exhibit provides over 100 artifacts, photographs, and historical documents, five eye-opening augmented reality experiences, and educational tools that provide a fascinating insight into our country's history. The museum will equip visitors to leave as modern-

day freedom fighters.

Mercury One's *12 Score* is an annual exhibition, following up on last year's "Rights and Responsibilities" museum pop-up. For the first time, the exhibit is partnering with five world-class organizations including: The African American Museum of Dallas, The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, Frontiers of Flight Museum, Dallas Historical Society, and Old Red Museum of Dallas County History and Culture. The museum will also host a retail boutique of beautiful jewelry, artwork, eco-friendly accessories, and more from local African American artisans.

Curated by Mercury One

Associate Curator Courtney Mayden, a few of the highlighted artifacts include: a 19th Century covered wagon, a note from Abraham Lincoln, mourning dress worn by Mary Todd-Lincoln, Brown Bess Musket from the Revolutionary War, the 1936 Olympic Torch, The Negro Motorist's Green Book (1949 Edition), Martin Luther King and the Montgomery Story comic book, plaster cast of George Washington Carver's hands and face, replica of the Resolute Desk from the Oval Office, and more.

Another first, the museum will be providing a series of augmented reality experiences, from a covered wagon to a photo from

Abraham Lincoln's second inauguration. A visit to *12 Score* will conclude with a moving look at slavery today, as millions remain locked around the world.

*12 Score & 3 Years Ago: The Unfinished Promise of Unity* will run from June 29 - 30 and July 4 - 7 at Mer-

cury Studios located at 6301 Riverside Drive, Irving, TX 75039. Self-guided tours are available every 15 minutes between the hours of: 8AM – 8PM (June 29); 11AM – 5PM (June 30); 9:30AM – 5PM (July 4); 12PM – 7:30PM (July 5); 8AM – 7:30PM (July 6); 11:45AM – 5PM (July 7). General ad-

mission tickets are \$20 for adults; \$10 for children; \$15 for seniors. Tickets may be purchased online at [www.mercuryone.org/education/temporary-exhibit/](http://www.mercuryone.org/education/temporary-exhibit/).

Walk-ups are also welcome. For more information, visit [www.mercuryone.org](http://www.mercuryone.org) or call (972) 499-4747.

## DSM's Miss Saigon is a sight to see

By Rachel Hawkins  
NDG Staff Writer

Dallas Summer Musical's *Miss Saigon* follows the story of a young Vietnamese woman named Kim who falls in love with an American GI in the middle of the Vietnam War.

In this doom romance, the musical takes place in Saigon, which is later named Ho Chi Minh City, Atlanta, and Bangkok.

*Miss Saigon* opened May 14 and will end on May 26. It is strongly recommended for ages 12 and above due to its scenes which contain sexual content and strong language.

The musical itself can be compared to a movie, due to its intense and well-acted scenes, which will include strobe lights, gunshots, and pyrotechnic effects.

*Miss Saigon* also includes Cameron Mackintosh's Broadway hits like "Last

Night of The World", "The Movie in My Mind", "The Heat is on in Saigon", "I'd Give My Life for You", "Kim's Nightmare (Fall of Saigon 1975)", and "The American Dream".

*Miss Saigon* is based initially on Giacomo Puccini's opera *Madame Butterfly*, which also tells the tragic tale of a doomed romance involving an Asian woman abandoned by her American lover.



# Despite dreams of prosperity, many African Americans not financially ready to retire

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Correspondent

The nation's leading public interest group providing seniors and others with information that empowers them to choose how they live, AARP, regularly publishes a retirement calculator that individuals and families can use to provide a personalized snapshot of what their financial future might look like.

One simply has to answer a few questions about household status, salary and retirement savings (such as an IRA or 401(k)), include information about supplemental retirement income (such as a pension or Social Security), and consider how long

they intend to work to generate information that will inform their expected lifestyle as a retiree.

The tool is designed to help potential retirees determine the amount of money they'll need to retire "when — and how — they want."

Unfortunately for most African Americans, even the most sophisticated planning tools lead to the same result: retirement has fast become a pie-in-the-sky dream.

"As a whole, Americans are bad savers. But, I believe it's worse for African American communities because they don't have access to the right educational opportunities," said Cory Chapman, the Managing Partner and CEO of EFC Wealth Man-

agement.

"Being raised by a single mom with three kids, I understand the struggle of just trying to pay the bills and get food on the table. Growing up, saving money was an afterthought and never discussed," Chapman said.

A report published earlier this month demonstrated how African Americans, Latinos and other minorities will have a more difficult time calling it quits than white Americans.

The report, published on the financial website The Motley Fool, revealed that the troubling disparity in retirement readiness between white Americans and minorities can be explained largely by income and

wealth disparities that persist throughout our lives.

"Caucasians didn't lose as much wealth during the Great Recession and have recovered more of it, so white households now hold close to six times the wealth of African American or Hispanic households," the report's authors said.

Median earnings for white households recovered from the recession by 2016, but earning levels for both black and Hispanic households remained below 2007 levels.

Caucasians now earn close to twice as much as minority households do, according to The Motley Fool.

"The African American community is skeptical

when it comes to saving," Chapman said.

"Growing up, we were taught by our grandparents that we couldn't trust banks and we were better off burying money in the backyard," he said.

Understanding how money works is actually getting worse with each new generation — black children aren't learning basic life skills in school, Chapman continued.

"We need to be teaching children about planning strategies to generate wealth. Retired African American clients that come into my office are still just trying to make ends meet," Chapman said.

"They don't feel like they

can save money when they are trying to put their kids through college and help them buy a home or car. They are forgetting about themselves and their own retirement," he said.

The most recent MassMutual State of the American Family Study found that there are differences in retirement planning among different cultural groups.

African Americans fall short on executing life-changing measures such as accumulating wealth, being better prepared for retirement and building up savings.

According to the American Family Study, 84 percent of African Americans

See RETIRE, Page 12

## MNP, continued from Page 1

to be on the committee as well but was not.

"I voted for Mockingbird Elementary, and am proud to have done so," Blewett said.

Kingston relied on his past performance on the council as the reason to continue his role at the horse-shoe.

"I have a six-year track record of creating the most progressive policy changes in the City of Dallas of anyone who's currently on council, and I'd be willing to be argued with about previous members of council," Kingston said, citing rest breaks for construction workers, preservation of historic buildings and paid sick leave. He also touted himself as a solid supporter of the LGBT community and people of color.

"I have a really thorough-going commitment to not just quality, but also equity," Kingston said. "And that means investing more where we haven't invested, where we've deprived people. And that means really paying attention to a racial equity lens around the council."

### Dallas ISD District 4

The race for the DISD school board position in District 4 features a runoff between Karla Garcia and Camile White, both looking to sit on the Board of Trustees for the first time.

Garcia, a first-generation American, said she is running for students like her; who are coming from low-income backgrounds and looking for a way up. She is a product of DISD schools and was able to reach her collegiate educational goals successfully. Garcia's stated goal is to be the "expectation and not the exception."

White is a long-time active DISD parent, as well as, a DISD graduate herself. She has 19 years in education, and 23 years in political activity, helping to elect others in the local area. She emphasizes "I'm not new here," and says her experience in seeing how the process moves up close will give her an advantage for her constituents.

Garcia and White are what is left of a field of four candidates in the original round of voting, with Garcia receiving 1,093 votes to

White's 847.

### District 9

District 9 on the Dallas City Council covers an eastern section of the city, which includes the White Rock Lake area. Erin Moore and Paula Blackmon survived the first round of voting and are headed to a runoff for the seat.

Blackmon, who led the race in the early round of voting with 3,200 votes to Moore's 2,761, were present at the first forum for the race. She has experience serving on the staff of former Dallas mayors Tom Leppert and Mike Rawlings, and as an adviser to former DISD Superintendent Mike Miles.

"I believe I have the best understanding of how all these things work and don't work," Blackmon said.

Moore is currently an employee of Dallas County, working with Commissioner Theresa Daniels, and has extensive experience "on the other side of the mic" addressing the council on various issues. The daughter of an immigrant, and a member of the LGBT community, Moore said she wants to be a strong voice for minorities at city hall.

"I'm used to fighting the hard fights for communities that are traditionally underrepresented, and communities that simply don't have a voice," Moore said.

### District 7

In District 7, Adam Bazaldua and Tiffinni A. Young are vying for the seat currently occupied by Kevin Felder. While the spot is still being contested, Felder was eliminated in the first round of voting and will not return to council.

Bazaldua is a teacher in DISD and ran unsuccessfully for the seat in the last election. His stated campaign focus is on affordable housing, building coalitions, increasing transparency and accountability in local government. He also pointed to past problems in the district's leadership and said it was time to move forward.

"We need to restore the trust in the public," Bazaldua said. "We have lost it. We have had too much corruption in our city, and we need someone who is going to stand for integrity and moral leadership, and I hope to be that for you."

Young is a former coun-

cil member who grew up in the district and has been active in local politics since she was in high school. She was instrumental in getting the city's youth council up and running, and then as a councilmember getting it back after a hiatus. She echoed some of the same issues Bazaldua brought up, adding that her experience will be vital when it comes to potentially redrawing the city's political lines.

"We really want to stay focused on this redistricting issue," Young said. "We know it's a very important issue, we've got to press that issue. We know for a number of years South Dallas has been looked at. We're talking about the eastern part of the district, but we really need to stay focused on what's happening in South Dallas."

### District 4

In District 4, Carolyn King Arnold — who only recently won back her seat after the resignation and conviction of Dwaine Caraway on corruption charges — is in a runoff race against Dawn Blair. Arnold held the lead in the first round of voting with 1,747 votes to

Blair's 841. In regards to the district's recent problems, Arnold rebuked an audience member's question about the district's troubled past and rumors of her being involved, stating she was not afraid of answering any questions regarding her past performance on the council.

"In this position, you have to be a strong warrior," Arnold said. "You must be, and I'm going to stay strong and true. And any conversation we have, you don't have to worry about trying to belittle me as an individual. You come talk to me."

Blair comes to the table with a history of working inside city hall. She said she and her coworkers supported Arnold when Blair first arrived, but now thinks the district needs a stronger leader.

"My opponent has experience in asking staff for answers," Blair said. "I know how to provide those answers. Because that's what I've done for over 20 years with city experience."

The runoff election will be held on June 8, with early voting running from May 28 through June 4.



# Dallas Police Chief Hall announces DPD To You(Th) summer jobs program

Dallas Police Chief Renee Hall recently announced the launch of a summer jobs program for 15-year-old youth from some of Dallas' most underserved communities.

The program is in partnership with Safer Dallas and is being fully supported via private funding, with AT&T and the Mark Cuban Foundation serving as its founding, primary sponsors.

Participating sponsors include Target, Pepsi, Flying Cross, DISD, Imprimis Staffing, Big Brothers Big Sisters, United Way of Metropolitan Dallas, and the Dallas Regional Chamber. Additional partners include Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas, City of Dallas Youth Commission, and City of Dallas Park and Recreation Department.

One of Dallas Police Chief U. Renee Hall's strategies is to collaborate with business leaders and community stakeholders to engage youth in underserved communities as they navigate the daily challenges they may face because of their current circumstances. The ultimate goal is to create a comprehensive program to captivate youth ages 14-17 to help them learn leadership skills and provide workforce development while building trust to achieve long-term positive engage-

ment. In turn, this will result in stronger, safer communities and possibly a reduction in youth violence. This summer will see the launch of Phase I of that program by providing employment and leadership development opportunities for fifteen-year-olds.

"We know that during summer months, there are thousands of youth who are out of school, without activities to occupy their time," Chief Hall said during the announcement, adding, "it's in those moments of idle time where our youth can make decisions that could possibly impact their lives forever. We want to ensure that they make positive decisions and to give them opportunities that will not only shape their future but begin to build a strong work force for the City of Dallas."

DISD and Big Brothers Big Sisters are working to select the youth. The students attend or live near Lincoln, Wilmer-Hutchins, Bryan Adams, New Tech, South Oak Cliff, and Spruce High Schools. The schools were chosen based on higher than average crime statistics and higher than average arrests amongst 14-18-year-olds.

Imprimis Staffing is in the process of onboarding the students while Workforce Solutions Greater

Dallas finalizes job sites. The program will officially launch on June 10th with an orientation and students will report to their non-profit or government agency locations on June 18.

The students will work Tuesday through Thursday and weekly participate in Mentorship Monday, where they will tour of various corporations and organizations and have lunch and learn sessions to gain insight into various diverse careers, meeting area civic and business leaders. They will also participate in a "Shark Tank" style entrepreneur day sponsored by the Dallas Regional Chamber.

Additionally, there will be a city-wide youth community service day with law enforcement officers from agencies throughout the area serving as volunteers also. The service day will be sponsored by the City of Dallas Youth Commission and the City of Dallas Park and Recreation Department and is open to youth citywide.

The Dallas Police Department and Safer Dallas extends its appreciation to AT&T and the Mark Cuban foundation for serving as the founding sponsors of the DPD to You(th) program. DPD also appreciates the support of the program's participating sponsors and

partners in this endeavor.

For information regarding youth participation in the program, please contact, counselors at: Lincoln, Wilmer-Hutchins, Bryan Adams, New Tech, South Oak Cliff, and Spruce High Schools.

For participation in the Citywide Youth Service day or interest in

hosting a Mentorship Monday, contact, Elizabeth Saab, City of Dallas, External Relations Manager, Elizabeth.Saab@DallasCity-Hall.com.

For donations or sponsorship opportunities, contact, Calvert Collins Bratton, President, Safer Dallas, Calvert.Collins@Gmail.com.

## RETIRE, continued from Page 11

believe the American Dream means financial security; 78 percent in not living paycheck-to-paycheck; and 77 percent in owning a home.

However, based on the study, many African Americans don't have tangible assets needed to make those goals happen now.

The study revealed a disconnect between African Americans' financial situations and their hope toward the future.

Some key findings from the survey:

- Outside of retirement accounts, only 37 percent of African Ameri-

cans own wealth-building products such as stocks and mutual funds.

- Only 35 percent believe they are doing a good job of preparing for retirement.

- 33 percent have less than one month of funds saved for a crisis and less than 25 percent have amassed more than six months' of emergency savings.

- 58 percent are actively involved in educating their children on finances versus 48 percent of Caucasians. Forty-percent rely on family members for information

"The study shows African Americans want to improve their finan-

cial situations and are hopeful about the future," Evan Taylor, African American market director for MassMutual, told Black Enterprise Magazine.

"At the same time, it sheds light on the financial struggles and inequities that the African American community continues to battle," Taylor said.

"Those contradictions indicate a need for greater financial education and discipline for the whole family to achieve economic success. In fact, the biggest financial regret expressed by respondents was that they wished they had started saving and investing sooner," he said.

## BILL, continued from Page 4

healthcare industry was the third highest contributor of funds to Rose's campaign, according to Votesmart.org, with \$23,500 in donations. Donations included funds from organizations like the Texas Hospital Association and Border Health PAC, known for working to influence lawmakers. The latter of which was noted by

TransparencyTexas.org for a "lavish gift" of \$75,000 to "notoriously conservative" Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton.

The real goal and impact of the bill may never be known. Like many bills, HB 3549 seems to have "died in committee." NDG reached to Rep. Rose's office but did not receive a response.

After being filed on March 6, the bill was read for the first time and referred to the Human Services committee on March 18. Once in committee, HB 3549 was scheduled for hearing on April 23, after which the committee took no action on the bill. There have been no amendments offered, and no indication the bill will move forward by the time the current legislative session ends.



# Upcoming DFW area job fairs

## May 24 ADT Home Security Hiring Event

The ADT Home Security Hiring Event will be held on May 24, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 2727 LBJ Freeway Fourth Floor STE 436, in Farmers Branch. Please submit your application via Indeed prior to attending and you will be contacted by Human Resources via email to schedule an interview. As a Professional Sales Consultant you will be meeting with new homeowners to determine which home security package will be meet their needs while providing excellent customer service and completing the sales process. You 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!

## May 29 Hiring Event at the Hilton Anatole

The Hiring Event at the Hilton Anatole will be held on May 29, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 2201 N Stemmons Fwy, in Dallas. Come along to meet with our HR team, and department managers to interview for your next position in the Best Hotel Company!

Bring a copy of your resume and feel free to check out our open positions online at anatolejobs.com We will be interviewing for the following:

- Food & Beverage
- Culinary
- Engineering
- Security
- Guest Services/Front Office
- Housekeeping
- SPA

## May 30 Technology, Security Clearance and Cyber Security Career Fair

The Technology, Security Clearance and Cyber Security Career Fair will be held on May 30, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Plano Centre, in



Plano. Technology, Security Clearance and Cyber Security Career Fair invited All technology professionals.

Whether attendees are actively job seeker or simply curious about opportunities available in the current job market climate, there is no better way to meet recruiters and hiring managers actively looking to fill immediate Technology and Engineering openings.

To learn more visit [www.10times.com/targeted-job-fair-dallas](http://www.10times.com/targeted-job-fair-dallas).

## June 6 "MONEY MOVES" Young Adults Hiring Event

The "MONEY MOVES" Young Adults Hiring Event will be held on June 6, from

1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at W.H. Adamson High School, 309 E. 9th Street, in Dallas. UPS, Amazon, Walmart, the City of Dallas, and FedEx will be attending this event. For more info visit [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com).

## June 6 Dallas Job Fair

The Dallas Job Fair will be held on June 6, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Dallas Market Center, in Dallas. Open the doors of opportunity

when you meet and interview with the top hiring companies in Dallas. This career fair will allow you to learn about the businesses that are hiring and what their hiring needs are. Tired of sending your resume

over the web to get no responses back? Put a face with a name and make a great first impression. Register today, and you could get hired live at the next career fair in Dallas. To register visit [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com)

## Paid Internship opportunity for writers, college students in the Dallas Area

The *North Dallas Gazette* has an internship position available. The goal is to provide students and aspiring writers an opportunity to gain published clips, experience and professional feedback.



The position is for up to 20 hours a week at \$8.00 per hour. Applicants must have reliable transportation.

Send resume and writing samples to: [businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com](mailto:businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com)



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## NDG seeks Intern Video Producer

The *North Dallas Gazette* is a community-driven newspaper with a digital presence seeking a new Video/Audio Producer Intern for our new video platform and to assist with the growth of our media company through quality video production.

The Producer will be responsible for recording, editing and preparing final draft of our video content in our in-house studio. The producer will record and broadcast via Facebook weekly shows. Afterwards using Final Pro Cut and other related tools, the footage will be finalized and uploaded to our YouTube channel.

The right candidate will have the following skills:

- Experience using video and audio production and post production techniques and software for live streaming and final YouTube videos.
- Experience using digital content software
- Basic graphic design experience
- Create content based upon agreed criteria
- Understand how to use various social media platforms for live video events
- Good time and project management skills
- Attention to detail as it relates to spelling and grammar
- Provide regular status updates to stakeholders and management

The work will be completed at our studio located at Regal Row & Stemmons with a schedule of up to 15 hours a week. Pay rate is \$12-15 per hour.

Resumes must be sent to [ngarcia@northdallasgazette.com](mailto:ngarcia@northdallasgazette.com) to be considered.





**BETHEL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP, CARROLLTON (A NEW PLACE TO BELONG)**

**NOTICE:** *New You, Pastor Woodson serves the community by providing "Professional Therapy and Counseling Services" on a "Sliding Fee" scale. To schedule an appointment call the Pastoral Counseling Center at 972-526-4525 or email the church at [www.bethelbiblefellowship.org](http://www.bethelbiblefellowship.org)*

**May 26, 9:45 am**

Please join us in our quiet time, "Prayer and Meditation" followed by Morning Worship. You will be blessed and inspired as we celebrate service to God, our community and all mankind.

**May 29, 7 pm**

You are invited to join us for Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Senior Pastor Woodson, Pastor Larry Gardner, Pastor Bernadette and others as we study a new book by Dr. Henry Cloud, *Never Go Back*, to things that didn't work the first time, with supporting chapters and verses. Spiritual maturity is God's desire for you; it's Time to Grow in the Word of God.

**June 1, 10 am – 12 Noon**  
Ladies, you are invited to join us at our first Saturday, monthly Women Ministry, (W.O.R.T.H) Women of Restoration, Truth and Hope. This is great fellowship and plenty of fun.

Dr. Terrance Woodson,  
Senior Pastor  
1944 E. Hebron Parkway  
Carrollton, TX 75007  
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[www.bethelbiblefellowship.org](http://www.bethelbiblefellowship.org)

**FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH IN ALLEN "THE SHIP" We are Saving You a Seat!**

**May 26, 9:45 am**

You are invited to 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.

**May 29**

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.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed. D.  
Senior Pastor  
2450 K Avenue #300

Plano, TX 75074  
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[www.theship3c.org](http://www.theship3c.org)  
[www.visitF3c.org](http://www.visitF3c.org)

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

**May 24, 8 p.m.**

All men are invited to Men's Ministry meeting each Friday night at 8 pm, (IBOC promotes proactive male leadership.)

**May 26, 10 a.m.**

Please join us for our Morning Service; and don't forget to invite family and friends to join us as we cel-

brate our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**May 27, 7 p.m.**

You are invited to Monday School to see what God has to say to us in His Holy Word.

Pastor Rickie Rush  
7701 S Westmoreland Road  
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[www.Ibocchurch.org](http://www.Ibocchurch.org)

**MT. OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO (MOCOP) (Uniting the Body of Christ for World Impact)**

**May 26, 10 a.m.**

Join us for Morning Wor-

ship 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.

**May 29, 7 pm**

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

Dr. Sam Fenceroy, PhD  
Senior Pastor and  
Pastor Gloria Fenceroy  
300 Chisholm Place  
Plano, TX 75075  
972-633-5511  
[www.mocop.org](http://www.mocop.org)

**SHILOH MBC IN PLANO (WHERE COMMUNITY BECOMES FAMILY)**

**May 26, 8 and 11 am**

You are invited to our Worship Services as we honor God for His goodness and faithfulness.

**May 29, 7 pm**

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

Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.  
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# Know your armor



Send email to: [businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com](mailto:businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com) to sign up for Sister Tarpley's weekly electronic newsletter.

"David fastened on his sword over the tunic and tried walking around, because he was not used to them. 'I cannot go in these,' he said to Saul, 'because I am not used to them.' So he took them off."

(1 Samuel 17:39)

David, the young shepherd boy, heard the challenge from the Philistines to send someone to fight Goliath. No one volunteered to fight except David. King

Saul reluctantly agreed and offered David his armor.

David put on the weighty equipment, but quickly concluded he could not fight in this heavy armor. He gave it back to king Saul.

God equips each of us in such a way that is unique to our strengths and abilities. David knew who he was and who he wasn't. David was trained as a shepherd to use another weapon. For David, it was a slingshot. David showed great maturity in realizing he could not be effective with Saul's armor.

What are the gifts and talents God has given to you? Have you ever tried to accomplish a task with tools you were not trained to use?

God allows each of us to develop skills that are unique to our life. He will not call you to use someone else's tools.

However, this is only half of the equation. These talents must be mixed with faith. Talent alone is not enough. Faith alone is not enough. It is only when the two are combined that God's power is released and

manifested in the physical realm.

Sometimes we admire the talents of others and seek to emulate them. The temptation arises to be someone we are not. This is a mistake. Let God live His life through the unique you.

Mix your unique gifts with faith today; you will be surprised at the power of God that will be manifested.

Ask God to help you to be sensitive to other people's needs and feelings. Ask Him to help you to love them and encourage them through special touches, like remembering special occasions through phone calls, prayers, notes, cards, visits, even small gifts at times.

Ask God to help you to always make other people feel special and valued, for we are all His creation and deserve to be valued. Pray that through your words and actions, that God will be glorified and lifted up, and that people will be drawn unto God in the precious name of Jesus.

## UMUNYANA, continued from Page 2

Public Policy Program and Eleanor Roosevelt Lecturer in Public Policy at the Kennedy School. She cited "a massive push from the bottom" with as many as 15,000 village councils made up of women. She also noted how the women in parliament made room for others: Although 30 percent of seats are specifically set aside for women, she explained, "a significant number of those 30 percent said, 'I have great name recognition — I'm going to give up my seat for one of my sisters who is not as accomplished and run against the man.'" The result is a parliament that is now 64 percent female, resulting in major changes in gender-based violence protections and inheritance laws, which had previously excluded women.

The progress does not mean the loss is forgotten, however, and each panelist shared how difficult it can be to move forward.

Boggis, who came to the U.S. at 17, initially sought to leave the tragedy behind for college and a new life. "It was not until the Save Darfur movement was getting started that I realized I had to speak up," she recalled, citing campus activism during her undergraduate years at the University of New Hampshire, where she is currently

a senior director of admissions at the law school. "Because if I didn't, who else would?"

Umugwaneza described how her mother would repeatedly return to the site of her ruined home, a return her only surviving child did not understand until her mother finally located two orphaned relatives — one, a boy of 9 living on the street. "I was her only child, but she didn't rest until she found something she could hold onto from her family," said Umugwaneza. "She kept reminding me that I was responsible for them. I think she had found something to live for."

That pain is being passed on. Now living in the U.S., Nkurunziza has a 5-year-old daughter whose school regularly hosts a grandparents' breakfast. But neither Nkurunziza nor her husband have living parents, because of the genocide, so her daughter has no one to take. "She's 5, there was no way I can make her understand," said Nkurunziza. "After 25 years," she explained, the tragedy "is transitioning to another generation."

"I've realized how much the world needs to know what happened in Rwanda," said Umunyana. "We are fragile, but it doesn't make us weak."



Mother's Day 2019, left to right: Philip Lott, Sister Tarpley's youngest grandchild, Sister Tarpley, Sheila Tarpley Lott and David Lott, a 2019 High School graduate from Hebron High School in Carrollton, TX and the oldest grandson.

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

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

**Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com**

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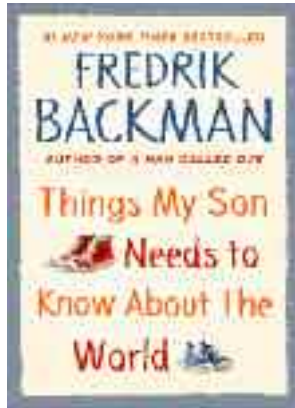
# NDG Book Review: Things My Son Needs to Know about the World

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

There are so many things you want to leave your children.

Heirlooms will someday be theirs, obviously, but your gifts won't be objects. You want to leave them reminders of you, memories to make them laugh, advice to make them think, words they'll take to heart. You want to leave good people as your legacy, and you might start with "Things My Son Needs to Know about the World" by Fredrik Backman.

As the father of a son, Backman knows that there



are things that every Dad wants to tell his son. The first is that when you have a boy-child, it's inevitable that you'll embarrass him at some point, either by bringing up something he did once that was enormously

cute or by something you'll wear or say or do. To you, your son will "always be the tiny one-year-old boy standing naked in the hallway..." and he needs to understand that.

He also needs to know that you did your best. Because, well, you'll do something wrong because you "didn't know," just like every parent for centuries "didn't know" everything there was to know. Even though you have the internet, you're going to mess up, but you have the best intentions and isn't that the point?

A good father gives ad-

vice on the big things, but he doesn't ignore the insignificant: like, how to act at big stores, for instance, and how to furnish your first home. He should learn about sports so he can fit in, even if he never actually plays. He should watch for the day when he realizes that he's got too much "stuff," and that goes double with a baby in the house.

Remind him that his dad will someday be like his granddad, and forgive him for it. Tell him to listen to his mother because she's smart; always be a gentleman, which he can do when

he's also treating a woman as an equal; and know that "words matter. Be better."

Here's what you need to understand before going further: if you are a fan of author Fredrik Backman's novels and that's what you're expecting here, this book is a big, fat "nope." That's because "Things My Son Needs to Know about the World" is not a novel.

However...

If you can forget about wanting a fictional tale, what you'll find instead is a sometimes-sweet, sometimes-bumbling, sometimes-funny love letter from father to son and husband to

wife. Now, keep in mind that Backman is amusing but he's no comedian: "poop" plays way too big a part in this book, and the humor can feel forced. And yet, you know you can't resist a story that opens its heart like this one does, to tell a tale of love, and giving in to get more of it.

For parents, this'll be a sweetly welcome respite when you need something light on the subject of childraising. If that, then "Things My Son Needs to Know about the World" is your book. If you want a novel, though, alas... leave it.

# The best part of the 2019 Mazda MX-5 RF might be the price

By Frank S. Washington  
NNPA Contributor

DETROIT – Thirty years. That's how long the Mazda MX-5 has been around. It was a hit from day one and now it has reached icon status.

When Mazda tried to change the name from Miata to MX-5 diehard fans refused to go along. Many people still call it Miata, so do I. But in the interest of journalistic accuracy I'll use MX-5 in this space.

What made the MX-5 so popular was the fact that it was a roadster and over the years Mazda has had the good sense to keep it a roadster in the best British tradition of Triumph and MG.

What that means is a two-seat light weight ragtop with a great power to weight ratio. And they've added a hardtop convertible for those who want to drive in cooler weather.

I had the hardtop and driving it was still a lot of fun. I had the six-speed manual; there is a six-speed automatic. I could and did skirt through traffic. The car had great acceleration and maneuverability; it was not overtly fast, but it was awfully quick. Interestingly enough I never felt like I was in a small car until I got out of the MX-5.

Still, the interior was not cramped. Shifting was easy. Other than the windows,



everything was manual: the seats and the tilt telescoping steering wheel. Outside noise got in but somehow it wasn't road noise.

The sport suspension was firm but not harsh. Cornering was great, the brakes were solid and the sight lines were good. Never did I feel overwhelmed or undersized by other vehicles. At first, I thought the steering wheel could have been a little thicker. But after a day or so I found it to be just the right size.

This is the fourth generation of the car and what they have done is bring it into the 21st Century from a connectivity standpoint. It now has USB jacks and it can stream and it has satellite radio amongst other things including Bluetooth and a navigation system. It even had heated seats.

Designers pinched the hood and grille and they now swoop down to meet the front fascia. They did the

same thing in the rear. They added LED headlights and LED daytime running lights. They tightened the sheet metal and overall gave the MX-5 a much more contemporary look.

But that was just for openers. Engineers gave the MX-5 more punch by increasing horsepower and torque. The net results are 181 horsepower at 7,000 rpm and 151 pound-feet of torque at 4,000 rpm, an increase of 26 horsepower and 3 pound-feet of torque, respectively.

The car got 26 mpg in the city, 34 mpg on the highway and 29 mpg combined.

Mazda said, "The numbers only tell so much, though; power is more usable throughout the engine's entire range, with the engine responding more quickly to every input."

I never had to downshift to generate more power. What's more, there was a spot at the exit of the Lodge Freeway onto Telegraph

Road North. The pavement is not completely flat. There were short rolls that the MX-5's suspension picked up. The thing I noted was that I could not feel the vibrations through the steering wheel. That's engineering.

I had the Club RF trim package. It included a limited-slip rear differential,

Bilstein dampers, shock tower brace and a black roof. The top retracted into its storage compartment with the push of a button in a rel-

atively swift 13 seconds without intruding into the cargo area.

The coupe weighed just 115 lbs. more than the soft top. There was a rearview camera (it's the law) and blind spot alert which is needed in a car as small as the Mazda MX-5.

Mazda calls it the Gram Strategy, save weight by shaving off a few pounds here and a few pounds there. They used more high strength tensile steel in the

structure and that made the frame stronger but lighter. Weight was shaved off of the air condition system, the seats, suspension, transmission, driveshaft and instruments. The roadster weighs about 150 lbs. less than the car it replaced.

The 2019 Mazda MX-5 RF was a great car. The best part may be the sticker. As tested, it was priced at \$38,335.

Frank S. Washington is editor of AboutThatCar.com.