



# North Dallas Gazette

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## The Paradox of Love: Trump's United States of Hate

By Dr. Keith Magee

America is experiencing the most perilous of times in recent history as the result of its president, Donald Trump.

Even though Monday morning he stepped forward to speak against the weekend's hate crimes, it lacks residence because of the hate that has been reverberating since his stance against the Central Park Five, his ascendance in the GOP with the birther inquisition of former President Barack Obama, and not immediately condemning the chants of "send her back" aimed at four congressional women of Congress for doing their job.

It remains jarring how he and the leadership of the GOP lack human decency by caging children at the border and proclaiming Baltimore is a predominately African-American city where no humans should live. These hateful words are intentional verbal terrorism to inflame his base and continue to label some human beings as unworthy of being in the same place as White Americans.

### The silence of Christians

What is equally puzzling is the silence of the White Evangelical church in which 81 percent supports and believes he has been called by God.

These blatant domestic terrorist



President Donald J. Trump addresses his remarks Monday, August 5, 2019, in the Diplomatic Reception Room of the White House on the mass shootings over the weekend in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton, Ohio. (Official White House Photo by Shealah Craighead)

attacks, being exercised by White supremacists best known as the Ku Klux Klan and the Nazis, are embedded deeply in how they understand God, practice Christianity and see humanity. And, yet, there are other social justice faith leaders who are grappling with this torture and how to convey the message of God, resulting in a divided gospel.

In the New Testament gospel of Mark 12:28-33, a scholar and scribe, out of curiosity, questioned Jesus, "which out of all the commandments is the most important?" Jesus responds with two statements. The first is how you are to love the "Lord your God with all your heart, your mind, your soul

and your strength." The second one is to "love your neighbor like you love yourself." The implication is very powerful because what it means is to be authentically a follower of Jesus, I have to know how to love me before I can love you.

I recently had a rather challenging dinner conversation with a young Jewish member of the GOP, who I consider close family. He questioned why continuously refer to this president as "it." He asked, "as a Christian (that believes in the same teaching in the Torah) isn't the fundamental teaching of our

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### People In The News...



Alice Walker



PO2 Rachelle Allen

**NDG Quote of the Week:** "As you enter positions of trust and power, dream a little before you think."

- Toni Morrison



## Alice Walker

By Nsenga K. Burton, Ph.D.  
NNPA Newswire Culture  
and Entertainment Editor

Alice Walker, one of the premiere writers of the 20th Century, was honored in July by her hometown of Eatonton, GA for her 75th Birthday (Alice Walker 75). Hundreds of people flocked from all over the country to Walker's birthplace to celebrate the birthday of the Pulitzer Prize winning author.

The activist, who was born February 9, 1944 in Eatonton left in 1961 to attend Spelman College, eventually enrolling at Sar-



ah Lawrence College due to controversy surrounding her political activism at Spelman.

Walker's legacy of activism and storytelling was on full display at the event, which was held at the

Georgia Writers Museum and included a day of activities and events to honor Walker's life and achievements. The event was co-chaired by award-winning author Valerie Boyd, editor of Gathering Blossoms Under Fire: The Journals of Alice Walker, which will be released in 2020 and Lou Benjamin, founder of Eatonton's Briar Patch Arts Council.

Walker, who lived just outside of town, acknowledged this was the first time she had been to Eatonton and was unaware the Plaza Arts Center existed, which is where many of the festivities were held.

The day kicked off with a screening and discussion of the American Masters Documentary, Alice Walker: Beauty in Truth followed by a discussion with the filmmaker Pratibha Parmar and scholar Salamisha Tillet at The Plaza Arts Center.

Celebrants were able to take bus tours of the area and see Walker's birthplace while fellow authors and poets and friends paid tribute to the game changer, who was clearly touched by the praise, humbly thanking the audience throughout the day of events.

An American Marriage novelist Tayari Jones read from the novel Merid-

ian, poet Daniel Black read Walker's short story "Flowers," and poet Kamilah Aisha Moon read Walker's poem, "How Poems are Made." Journalist and author Evelyn C. White offered remembrances of friendship and activism and classically trained Gospel violinist Melanie R. Hill performed a medley of songs honoring the legend.

Perhaps the most poignant part of the program was when Walker's daughter Rebecca, read several pieces including "Now That Book Is Finished," a poem Walker wrote about Rebecca when she was a child. Rebecca's son Tenzin,

14, performed an original song he composed entitled, "Sun and Steam," which he played beautifully on the piano. Rebecca Walker's words, expressions of love and gratitude to her mother and Tenzin's performance were symbolic of the reconciliation between Walker and her daughter who had been estranged during a difficult period. Walker's former husband Melvyn R. Levanthal was also in attendance.

The special birthday celebration ended with Walker taking the stage of The Plaza Arts Center

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## PO2 Rachelle Allen

(Mayport, Fla.) – A 2014 Pegasus Charter School graduate and Dallas, Texas, native provides key support as part of combat operations aboard Littoral Combat Squadron 2, stationed at Naval Station Mayport, Florida.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Rachelle Allen serves as an engineman who is responsible to repairing, servicing and maintaining the ship's engines.

Allen credits her hometown for giving her opportunities she would not have had otherwise experienced that has helped in naval ser-



CMC Gary Ward

vice.

"I learned that in order to be a great leader you must be a great follower," said Allen.

LCS is a fast, agile, mission-focused platform designed for operation in

near-shore environments yet capable of open-ocean operation. It is designed to defeat asymmetric "anti-access" threats such as mines, quiet diesel submarines and fast surface craft.

The ship's technological benefits allow for swapping mission packages quickly, meaning sailors can support multiple missions, such as surface warfare, mine warfare, or anti-submarine warfare. Designed to defeat threats such as mines, quiet diesel submarines and fast surface craft, littoral combat ships are a bold departure from traditional Navy shipbuilding programs. The LCS sustainment strategy

was developed to take into account the unique design and manning of LCS and its associated mission modules.

According to Navy officials, the path to becoming an LCS sailor is a long one. Following an 18-month training pipeline, sailors have to qualify on a simulator that is nearly identical to the ship. This intense and realistic training pipeline allows sailors to execute their roles and responsibilities immediately upon stepping onboard.

Allen is now a part of a long-standing tradition of serving in the Navy our nation needs.

"My father was in the

Army and the Marines" said Allen. "He inspired my decision to join."

Allen said she is proud to be part of a warfighting team that readily defends America at all times.

"I am proud of recently reenlisting for six more years because I know I have secured my family's future while also being able to do what I love," said Allen.

Allen is playing an important part in America's focus on rebuilding military readiness, strengthening alliances and reforming business practices in support of the National Defense Strategy.

"Our priorities center on

people, capabilities and processes, and will be achieved by our focus on speed, value, results and partnerships," said Secretary of the Navy Richard V. Spencer. "Readiness, lethality and modernization are the requirements driving these priorities."

As a member of one of the U.S. Navy's most relied upon capital assets, Allen and other sailors know they are part of a legacy that will last beyond their lifetimes.

Serving in the Navy, Allen is learning about being a more respectable leader, sailor and person through handling numerous responsibilities.

## NDG Readers Sound Off...

### Growing Latino Muslim community thriving in Dallas

Great article! Thank you so much.

-- Sakinah G.

### Ed Gray: Is Trump a Racist?

Yesterday, my 6 year old niece asked, "Why do they call it the White House?" I had the pleasure of explaining the false superiority of 'white' people. Humility is a beautiful thing. Pride is so ugly. Thank God for real-

ity checks.

-- Telhare'sha McAdoo

### Will two mass shootings in less than 24 hours be the tipping point in America?

There will never be "a tipping point" for me. Everything has a price. The price for personal choice is that some people will choose wrong. No one can control someone else's actions, however they can control how they respond to those person's actions. If you are worried about

your safety, get a gun and train up. Im not about to restrict access to legal firearms so any idiot with a metal 3D printer can corner the newly created black market.

Additionally, the gun debate is over. Any machinist in the US (421500 people) can easily produce guns illegally. Secondly, 3D metal printing has almost been perfected. Making a gun will be easier than making cupcakes soon. Im far more interested in relevant issues like making sure the US government does not mandate

encryption backdoors in software.

-- Jake

### Dallas Police Dept. respond to community concerns regarding DPS patrols

Dallas Police Dept. respond to community concerns regarding DPS patrols. - Kimberly

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# Will two mass shootings in less than 24 hours be the tipping point in America?

By Ruth Ferguson  
NDG Editor

Another day and night in America, more mass shootings in America.

When I wrote this story seven hours ago, it was primarily related to the tragedy in El Paso. Yet for those of us still awake, we are learning about mass shootings in Dayton, Ohio with possibly as many as 9 killed according to early reports by the Dayton Daily News.

Tragically we have reached a point that such events have evolved from rare to commonplace. In the last seven days, we have witnessed two shootings at a Walmart store, and one at a food festival. Currently, the death count stands at 25 lives lost, during this week to just three incidents which rose to national headlines. Sadly, it could go higher as the fate of several victims in El Paso, and now Dayton, remains uncertain.

"The Justice Department joins in mourning with the people of El Paso, Texas. Those who commit such atrocities should be held accountable swiftly and to the fullest extent the law allows," Attorney General William P. Barr said Saturday night.

However, earlier in the day, presidential candidate Mayor Pete Buttigieg's comments at a campaign event reflected the beliefs of many. This is a self-in-

flicted American problem and we can do better.

"America is under attack from homegrown white nationalist terrorism," Buttigieg said. "White nationalism is evil. And it is inspiring people to commit murder, and it is being condoned at the highest levels of the American government, and that has to end."

He spoke of how the attacks from external enemies on 9/11 led to change. But where is the change from those who are seeking to create a sense of fear from within?

Yes, the occupant of the White House in some ways appeals to our inner demons, versus encouraging our better angels. But as NDG's Senior Columnist Ed Gray pointed out this week, he is not the first racist to live and work in the White House. They may fuel the flames, but either the seeds of hate are in the heart of someone, or they are not.

**Same song, tragic second verse**

We hear the familiar words from leaders calling on the nation to join together and keep the victims, their families, first responders, and the community in our thoughts and prayers. And yes, if we believe in the power of prayer, we should never decline a chance to petition the Lord for help. However, some of us might remember that

faith without works is dead.

*"What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,' but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."* **James 2:14-17**

It is not complicated to consider we need fair, balanced, responsible gun control laws. It is not hard to believe we need to value lives more than the fate and profits of the National Rifle Association (NRA) and gun manufacturers.

And yes, we realize, people, not guns, kill people. Denying the need for a meaningful solution is needed is ludicrous. Meanwhile, tragically a 2-year-old and 82-year-old are murdered while shopping on a Saturday morning. Are we not living in denial of our responsibility to help improve our situation?

Instead, the NRA will encourage us to take up our arms. By Sunday morning, a pundit will suggest if someone in Walmart with a legally carried weapon was present, they could have saved lives. Maybe that is true.

But is that the type of country we want to be?

Listening to reports this afternoon while driving by a local WalMart I wondered, will places like this eventually have to install metal detectors? Reportedly WalMart allows shoppers to bring in their weapons openly displayed per the laws of Texas. A manager may request proof of the proper permits. Will this policy change?

It should be noted the shooting earlier this week in Mississippi resulting in the death of two employees, reportedly involved a disgruntled former employee.

However, today's shooting at the WalMart in El Paso and last Sunday at The Gilroy Garlic Festival in Gilroy, California were crimes allegedly committed by young white males with far-right viewpoints shared via their social media accounts. The California shooter died of a self-inflicted gunshot the police announced on Aug. 2, and the El Paso shooter surrendered to police when approached.

Headlines will scream about racism; others will point to mental health issues left unaddressed. Indeed it is complicated, and there are no simple solutions. But as long as leaders motivated by donations insist on ignoring the elephant in the room, we will just keep offering thoughts and prayers.

## What to do after the Capital One breach

In the aftermath of Capital One's announcement on Monday that roughly 100 million credit card applications had been compromised in a data breach, exposing an estimated 77,000 bank account numbers and 140,000 Social Security numbers, many consumers likely have questions and concerns for their own wallets.

**5 Tips to protect your financial information**

**Sign up for 24/7 credit monitoring** – This way,

you'll find out immediately if someone tries to open an account in your name. WalletHub, for example, offers free 24/7 monitoring of your TransUnion credit report.

**Enable Two-Factor Authentication** – Capital One was hacked, but your cell phone wasn't. So use it as another layer of protection when logging into your email account and financial websites.

**A Freeze Is Better Than an Alert** – It probably isn't

necessary in this case, but if you really want to protect yourself from fraudulent borrowing, freeze your three major credit reports (Equifax, Experian and TransUnion). This will prevent anyone but you from accessing them, thus making it impossible to take out a loan or line of credit. A fraud alert, in contrast, doesn't actually do much.

**Suppress Fraudulent Info** – While you can dispute run-of-the-mill credit report inaccuracies, it's best

to use a process called "suppression" / "blocking" to get rid of negative info resulting from identity theft. In short, this makes it so the records in question can't make a reappearance after they're initially removed.

**Never Respond to Unsolicited Requests for Information** – Don't be surprised if you see an up-tick in unsolicited calls and emails requesting personal information. Just remember: Never answer if you didn't ask to be contacted.



# Going through the Back-to-School health checklist

By Dr. Sarah-Anne H. Schumann  
NDG Special Contributor

August marks back-to-school season, an ideal time for parents to help improve their children's health. Before schedules become packed with classes, homework and extracurricular activities, here's a back-to-school "health checklist" to help give children a better chance to succeed inside and outside the classroom.

## Get a Comprehensive Eye Exam

About 80 percent of what children learn is through their eyes. With that in mind, a child's first comprehensive eye exam should occur before age 1, again at age 3 and before entering school. If no vision issues are detected, school-aged children should have an exam at least once every two years. Also, a school's vision screening is not a substitute for a comprehen-



*Students and parents are excited about the new school year. But it is also to make sure they are healthy as they head back to the classroom. (Photo credit: Lew Miller)*

sive eye exam, as screenings can miss conditions such as poor eye alignment, focusing issues, and farsightedness.

The inability to see clearly can affect a child's physical, emotional and social development, which in turn can affect academic and athletic performance. Children often don't complain if their vision isn't normal, so it's important to look for possible signs such

as squinting while reading or watching television, difficulty hitting or catching a ball, or headaches when watching 3D movies.

Also, be aware of digital eye strain, which is caused by prolonged use of computers or smartphones. Help your child practice healthy vision habits by keeping computer screens at least 30 inches from their eyes, resting their eyes every 20 minutes and blinking frequently

to avoid dry eyes.

## Get a Dental Cleaning

Maintaining proper oral health matters more than just keeping a sparkling smile – it's also important for good overall health. This is especially true for children, as untreated dental problems may diminish attention, decrease self-esteem and limit a child's ability to learn at school.

Tooth decay is largely preventable, yet it ranks as the most common chronic disease among children. About 33 percent of young kids (ages 2 to 8) have cavities in their baby teeth, and 20 percent of kids in the same age group have cavities in their adult teeth. With that in mind, parents should schedule regular dental exams every six months, especially at schools that require a back-to-school dental checkup.

For parents with teenagers, it is important to recognize the risks of opioid

addiction, especially after wisdom teeth removal. If you or a loved one is prescribed an opioid following a dental or other medical procedure, ask your health care professional if there are alternatives, including over-the-counter pain relievers such as a combination of acetaminophen and ibuprofen.

## Get Recommended Immunizations

Many schools require that children are properly immunized before they enter the classroom to help to avoid serious diseases and prevent other students from contracting them. Children's vaccines are 90% to 99% effective and may help protect kids from diseases such as mumps, tetanus, and chicken pox. By helping reduce the risk of contracting potentially preventable diseases such as the flu, children may have fewer school absences.

Parents should check

with their doctor to determine what immunizations are appropriate based on age. Most shots are given by the time children are 2 years old, but some are administered into the teen years. If your child runs a low-grade fever or has swelling in the shot location after the immunization, these minor side effects typically last a couple of days. Apply a cool, wet washcloth on the sore area to help ease discomfort, but check with your doctor about the appropriateness of over-the-counter pain medications.

Back-to-school season is an exciting time for many children and their parents. Consider these guidelines to help encourage your child's health and success throughout the school year.

*Dr. Sarah-Anne H. Schumann is the Regional Chief Medical Officer for UnitedHealthcare of North Texas and Oklahoma*

## Parkland's outpatient centers work to keep communities healthy

Delivering high quality, cost-effective care to a growing number of uninsured patients can be a challenge for any health-care organization. And with a focus on preventive screening, the staff of Parkland Health & Hospital System's Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC) health centers have received a stamp of approval for their efforts in reminding patients it's time for a checkup.

"We focus on preventive screenings as a way to keep our communities healthy," said Jessica Hernandez, Senior Vice President of Operations for Population Health. "One way to do that is to reach out to them directly."

And reach out they do – to the tune of more than 4,000 reminder cards a month.

"We send monthly reminder letters for vaccinations, preventive care, cancer screenings, among



others," said Anjum Varshney, RN, PCMH CEC, Associate Director of Performance Improvement for Population Health. "Currently we're sending reminder cards for all of the COPC and Parkland Center for Internal Medicine patients."

If a current phone number is available for its homeless patient population, staff members of Parkland's Homeless Outreach Medical Services (HOMES) program will try to contact individuals and remind them of upcoming screen-

ings or vaccinations. If a patient presents to one of Parkland's HOMES medical vans, clinical staff will provide the vaccinations or screenings that are due.

Since the network of neighborhood-based health centers came to fruition in the late 1980's, staff has worked to provide primary and preventive care services for individuals in historically underserved areas of Dallas County. In fiscal year 2018, Parkland recorded more than 1 million outpatient visits, and that number continues to rise.

Local health centers across the U.S. serve 28 million patients – a number that continues to grow along with the demand for affordable primary care. In addition to their long history as healthcare homes to millions, health centers produce innovative solutions to the most pressing healthcare issues in their communities and reach beyond the walls of conventional medicine to address the social determinants of health affecting special patient populations. This year, the National Association of Community Health Centers and Health Center Advocacy Network have joined forces to celebrate National Health Center Week – "Rooted in Communities" – from Aug. 4-10, 2019.

"Our goal is to provide the highest possible quality of care for every individual in a cost-effective manner. Ensuring that our patients receive their health screen-

ings and vaccinations on time is critical to not only their health but the health of the community as well," said Noel Santini, MD, Senior Medical Director, Ambulatory Services at Parkland. "From newborns to senior citizens, Parkland's 12 Dallas County health

centers, along with our network of Youth & Family clinics based in Dallas-area schools, are here to meet the needs of the entire community."

For more information about services available at Parkland, please visit [www.parklandhospital.com](http://www.parklandhospital.com).

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# DART announces several service changes beginning on Aug. 12

The North Texas region has evolved and Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) has too. To better meet the needs of our customers, beginning August 12, many of DART's bus routes will be improved to get you to your destination quicker and easier.

The goal during service changes this summer is to provide more logical and more direct routes, which will improve connections and service for the entire system. Customers will now have expanded service hours on weekdays and weekends, more frequency for some routes and better on-time arrivals with DART's new adjusted schedules.

The addition of 41 New Flyer XN-40, CNG-fueled



buses to the existing fleet will support DART's goal of increased frequency and improved service. Enhanced features on the new buses include USB ports located at each seat that allows customers to charge their electronic devices while riding, larger interior InfoTransit monitors and flush-mounted tinted win-

dows.

Look for new timetables and schedules before Monday, August 12. Customers can go online to [DART.org/](http://DART.org/) zoom or [transporteDART.org](http://transporteDART.org), or call DART Customer Service at 214.979.1111, for additional details on route adjustments.

## Bus Routes

Modifications are being

made to improve on-time arrivals and departures to routes 11, 81/82, 111, 350, 428, 504, 513, 536, 541, 571 and 841. Minor schedule changes will be seen on routes 110, 161, 410, 372, 451, 452, 486 and 502.

Several routes have new schedules and slight changes to help make connections with bus and rail easier with reduced wait times. Those routes include 52, 206, 208, 210, 278, 283 and 426.

A new Parkland shuttle, Route 706, will connect remote UT Southwestern Medical Center employees with other medical district facilities as well as the train system. It will operate weekdays, every 20 minutes, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Bus routes 404, 409,

466, 467 and 583 will experience DART's newly adopted service standards which created a new category of bus routes upgraded to rail standards. That means 15-minute service during peak times, 20 minutes midday, 20-30 minutes other times, and with hours of service improved to run from about 4:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.

## Route Restructuring

Changes to several routes are designed to straighten, simplify and/or improve access. Areas affected include West Dallas, Oak Cliff, the Medical District, Northeast Dallas and South Dallas, and include routes 52, 59, 161, 404, 409, 426, 428, 453, 466, 502, 547 and 583.

## Express Routes

Following extensive customer feedback, a series of changes will be implemented on the six express routes serving downtown Dallas. The changes eliminate "loops," which have hindered schedule reliability, while extending service into new employment areas such as Uptown and Cedars. Expect slight schedule adjustments to routes 205, 206, 208, 210, 278 and 283.

## GoLink Expanded Service

Paul Quinn College will be added to the current Inland Port zone and Collin College-Spring Creek Campus will be added to the current North Central Plano/Chase Oaks zone for both GoLink and UberPool services.

## New apprenticeship aims to offer job pathways to DCCCD students with disabilities

This summer, a group of Dallas County Community College students will take part in the newly established "Exploring Apprenticeship" program. The initiative, funded by a grant from the Texas Workforce Commission, aims to provide workforce opportunities for students with disabilities.

"The grant is designed for a small cohort of seven to 10 students to ensure individual learning challenges can be addressed by instructors," said Karrie O'Neal, the program's lead instructor.

The students are vetted by local vocational rehabilitation counselors.

DCCCD Chancellor Dr. Joe May, along with Texas Workforce Commissioner of Labor Julian Alvarez III, were a part of the apprenticeship's re-

cent unveiling during an open house at Richland College's Garland Campus.

The primary focus is placed on exposure and awareness through interactivity and project-based learning coupled with interactive site visits over a two-week period. The culinary registered apprentice program at El Centro College and the CVS registered pharmacy technician program at Richland College are among anticipated site visit locations.

DCCCD is one of only two institutions in the state offering the pilot program this summer.

For more information, contact Joyce Williams, workforce and community initiatives office, at 214-378-1794 or by email at [williamsjoyce@dcccd.edu](mailto:williamsjoyce@dcccd.edu).

## Dallas Cowboys donate \$50,000 to El Paso

In the wake of the recent tragedy in El Paso, Texas, the Gene and Jerry Jones Family Foundation and the Dallas Cowboys have committed \$50,000 to the El Paso Community Foundation Victims' Fund, established to assist those families affected by the Aug. 3 shooting.

The El Paso Community Foundation is working with the County of El Paso and the City of El Paso to help those impacted by Saturday's incident.

The El Paso Community

Foundation has waived all administrative and credit card fees associated with donating to the families. The City of El Paso encourages anyone wishing to make contributions to the victims to visit <https://payments.epcf.org>.

The NFL Foundation, of which Cowboys Executive Charlotte Jones Anderson is the Chair, will also be announcing a donation of \$50,000 to the El Paso effort.

"Our hearts and support are with the entire El Paso

community and especially with the families of the victims of this very tragic event," said Anderson. "Our organization has long enjoyed a wonderful following from the people of El Paso, and our wish is that so many others in Texas and around the country will be inspired to assist the loved ones who are grieving."

The Dallas Cowboys have very close ties to the City of El Paso as a very large percentage of the area's football fans have been strong

supporters of the Dallas Cowboys for decades. The Cowboys annually activate community outreach programs in the El Paso area — including youth and high school football camps and public education grant opportunities.

Additional outreach opportunities will be promoted as scheduled for local North Texas residents wishing to support the El Paso Community Foundation and the Victims' Fund.

## Texas Can Academies uniform drive continues until Aug. 12

Texans Can Academies, a non-profit school system serving students who have struggled in a traditional high school setting, is sponsoring a back-to-school drive, Countdown to Class, for their students who need assistance getting ready for the upcoming school year.

A \$75 donation will pro-

vide one pair of pants, two shirts, socks and a belt for one student.

"Many families do not have the cost of clothes and school supplies available in their budgets and face challenges in having the materials needed," said Richard Marquez, President, and CEO of Texans Can Acad-

emies.

According to the 2018 National Retail Federation survey, families spend an average of \$685 per household to get their children ready for the new school year.

From now until the first day of school on Aug. 12, Texans Can Academies is

hosting their annual Countdown to Class 2019 Uniform Drive to raise funds to benefit students at their 14 campuses across the state of Texas. The funds from the drive will provide brand new clothes that fit properly to wear as the school's uniform of khaki pants and white collared shirts.

## City staff seeking input on affordable supportive housing

The Office of Homeless Solutions (OHS) will host the final community input meeting this week to discuss proposed sites for affordable housing units. Residents are encouraged to give feedback from 5:30

p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on August 7 at the Audelia Road Branch Library.

The proposed affordable supportive housing units will give tenants access to comprehensive services to aid in achieving long-term

housing stability. These are housing units and not a homeless shelter. Supportive services may include case management, medical services, behavioral health services, employment and life skills counseling, evic-

tion prevention programs, recreational events and tenant advocacy.

The City-owned sites were discussed with the full City Council on May 15, 2019. OHS is currently seeking proposals for the

construction and operations of affordable supportive housing units. The Request for Developer Interest closes on August 15, 2019.

Staff will evaluate proposals and provide award recommendations to City

Council for approval November 2019. Following City Council approval, staff will post a second series of community engagement meetings with the selected development team to discuss project details.



## Dallas Symphony Orchestra leads six Dallas ISD summer programs

Representatives from Dallas Symphony Orchestra taught music lessons at several Dallas ISD elementary schools during the summer.

Students learned the basics about reading music sheets and interacted with a variety of instruments, most of them for the very first time.

"DSO organized the first Youth Concert for Dallas ISD students almost 100 years ago," said Jamie Allen, DSO Director of Education. Since then, both entities have collaborated to supplement the district's music curriculum with high



Dallas ISD students enjoyed making beautiful music together with the Dallas Symphony this summer (Image: Dallas ISD)

level concert training and experiences that are not otherwise available.

"For young musicians, the overall goal is to provide those students who want to

play an instrument with lessons free of charge," Allen said. "We want to remove

all barriers to making music as it provides so many opportunities artistically and beyond."

DSO hired over a dozen highly-trained professionals to teach daily music lessons. Students had their own instrument and were allowed to take it home for practice.

Marcela Ingram teaches math at Kahn Elementary School and is the summer site supervisor at the campus. She saw the students were noticeably excited to partake in music lessons and try out different instruments.

"Every week they have to pass a test in order to take their instrument home," Ingram said. "They have to learn responsibility and discipline because they have to keep up with a notebook, bring their instrument every day."

The Young Musicians Program is a collaboration between DSO and Dallas ISD's Extended Learning Opportunities. The summer programs took place at the following elementary schools: Halliday, Silbersteinm, Kahn, Webster, Moreno and T.G. Terry.

## UT Dallas earns recognition for first-generation student success

Fernanda Roman and Helena Vaquera came to the U.S. from Mexico with their families when they were young children. Their parents saw education as a priority but could provide no firsthand experience at navigating a college campus such as The University of Texas at Dallas.

When they arrived on campus, Roman and Vaquera found their bearings through programs such as the First Generation Living Learning Community, where they became roommates, engaged with faculty and staff mentors, and found the resources they needed to do well in college.

"It's been a great support for us. It really helps give us experiences that wouldn't otherwise happen," Vaquera said.

The experiences gave them the confidence to succeed academically and

even land internships with the Consulate General of Mexico in Dallas. This fall, both will continue at UT Dallas, where Roman will be a political science sophomore and Vaquera a neuroscience senior.

Engaging first-generation college students like Roman and Vaquera and tracking their successful experiences are among the reasons why UT Dallas has been selected to be a member of the inaugural nationwide cohort of First Forward institutions.

The First Forward designation, an initiative of NASPA-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education and The Suder Foundation, recognizes higher education institutions that help improve experiences and advance outcomes of first-generation students. Participants are able to access professional development, community-

building experiences and resources of the Center for First-generation Student Success.

Courtney Brecheen MPA'09, PhD'17, senior associate dean of undergraduate education, said the designation recognizes the collaborative effort at UT Dallas that helps students succeed.

"Our greatest strength is in the diversity of departments and programs already committed to first-generation students," she said. "We are able to leverage these programs of ours that already serve high percentages of first-generation students."

As a First Forward institution, UT Dallas will be able to engage with peer institutions that are also creating environments to improve the experiences

See FIRST, Page 8

## WALKER, from Page 2

for a candid conversation with Boyd, author of the award-winning biography *Wrapped in Rainbows: The Life of Zora Neale Hurston*. Walker and Boyd's tête-à-tête ended with an invitation for all attendees to take the stage and dance with the celebrated author to

two of her favorite songs, "Rock Steady," by Aretha Franklin and "As" by Stevie Wonder, concluding a lovely day of celebration of one of the 20th Century's greatest writers.

This article was written by Nsenga K Burton, Ph.D., founder & editor-in-

chief of *The Burton Wire*. An expert in intersectionality and media industries, Dr. Burton is also a professor of film and television at Emory University and co-editor of the book, *Black Women's Mental Health: Balancing Strength and Vulnerability*. Follow her on Twitter @Ntellectual or @TheBurtonWire.

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# Minnie's Food Pantry opens new location this week

Minnie's Food Pantry is opening its doors for service for the very first time on Wednesday, Aug. 7 at their new home located at 661 E 18th Street in Plano. For the last four months, Minnie's Food Pantry has been working diligently to create a "Happy Place" for those in need, in an effort to not only put food on their tables but allow families to receive additional resources in an effort to transform their lives.

"For multiple reasons, we felt the time had come for us to expand and find our forever home in Collin County," says Jackson, Minnie's Food Pantry founder. "There remains a growing need to combat food insecurity, and we continue to have our desire to provide numerous programs including job skills training that help families gain long-term food security. That need for more expansion, and the oppositions we were facing from landlords, gave us the perfect opportunity to grow."

Through 11 years and over 9.7 million meals served, Minnie's has moved from shopping-center locations of 500 square feet to 16,000, but now has a 28,343-square foot stand-alone home of its own to serve as distribution hub, state-of-the-art volunteer

center and a resale boutique. The facility, which was identified and obtained through the help of collaborative realtor Cawley Partners.

In support of the expansion of Minnie's Food Pantry's facility Green Mountain Energy Sun Club has generously provided a solar system to reduce its carbon footprint and to mitigate some costs associated with increased utility bills in a larger home.

"The Green Mountain Energy Sun Club is proud to partner with Minnie's Food Pantry in the shared mission of creating sustainable communities by providing renewable energy and addressing food insecurity," says Sun Club Executive Director Stacy Mehlhoff. "Minnie's move will double its capacity to serve the community, but that doesn't mean a greater burden on the environment or higher electricity bills. More than 50 percent of the facility's electricity usage will be offset by a new 120 kW solar array donated by Sun Club."

Wells Fargo Bank's CEO, Mr. Parker recently volunteered at Minnie's Food Pantry on June 19 where he also announced a \$200,000 Wells Fargo donation in support of Minnie's Food Pantry's expansion efforts.

The donation demonstrates the company's continued focus on strategic giving for local needs, while also working to address housing affordability, financial health, and small business growth as part of the recently-announced philanthropy strategy.

HEB once dubbed Minnie's Food Pantry as the "Taj Mahal of food pantries" and for the past 5 years has continued to join forces with the food pantry to continue the mission or reducing hunger in North Texas, recently donating \$50,000.00 towards the expansion of Minnie's Food Pantry's forever home.

Home décor superstore, At Home has committed to bringing a new level of beauty to Minnie's Food Pantry by utilizing their design team to decorate Minnie's Food Pantry's brand new M-Powerment Center, consisting of a training facility, office space, conference rooms and resource lounge.

New community partners such as Varidesk have also answered the call to action, using their office-expertise by donating and assembling \$40,000.00 worth of Varidesk products.

Prospective partners are encouraged to inquire via [info@minniesfoodpantry.org](mailto:info@minniesfoodpantry.org).

## Carrollton Public Library to hold college and continuing education fair

The Carrollton Public Library (CPL) will hold a College and Continuing Education Fair on Thursday, Sept. 5 from 4:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. at Hebron & Josey Library (4220 N. Josey Lane) as part of Carrollton's continuing efforts to educate and empower community members through free information sessions.

This free event is open to anyone interested in continuing their education, including teenagers, their parents, and adults. Learn about admission requirements

from statewide college and university representatives. Find out about the cost of tuition, qualifications for financial aid, and explore alternative routes in continuing education programs.

Representatives will be on site to speak about campus culture, offered curriculums, and to answer career and education questions. Participating Institutions include Abilene Christian University, Amberton University, Dallas Baptist University, Dallas County Community College Dis-

trict (encompassing the Bill J. Priest Institute for Economic Development, Brookhaven, Cedar Valley, Eastfield, El Centro, Health Careers Resource Center, North Lake, Mountain View, Richland, and R. Jan LeCroy Center colleges), DeVry University, Grand Canyon University, Midwestern State University (MSU Texas), Texas A&M University-Commerce, Texas Woman's University, University of North Texas, and University of Texas at Arlington.

## Ancient ocean fossils discovered in Plano

Could Plano be sitting on an area that was once an ancient ocean?

Construction crews found fossils while doing foundation work at the site of what will become the newest Plano Police Substation at the northwest intersection of McDermott Road and Robinson Road.

The attached photo shows some of the fossils in a single 50 pound rock. The foundation has been poured.

Plano City Council members approved the \$10-million substation in February. The newly approved McDermott substation will house sector D officers, the traffic unit and other departments on the city's west side.



Construction crews located what is believed to be ancient ocean fossils in the City of Plano. (Courtesy photo)

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**State of Texas**

The annual back-to-school **Tax Free Holiday** begins Friday, Aug. 9 and runs through Sunday, Aug. 11. In Texas, the 2019 event exempts most clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks (priced under \$100) from sales and use taxes. The holiday applies to items purchased from a Texas store or from an online or catalog seller doing business in Texas.

Some exclusions apply; go to [www.TexasTaxHoliday.org](http://www.TexasTaxHoliday.org) for more information.

**Carrollton**

Need help with computers? The Carrollton Public Library is hosting **Computer Class: LinkedIn** for



Max Pixel

Beginners – Aug. 10 from 10:30 a.m. to noon at Josey Ranch Lake Library (1700 Keller Springs Road) and will focus the basics of professional networking platform LinkedIn. Registration is required and is currently open at [carrolltonpl.libcal.com](http://carrolltonpl.libcal.com). To learn more about adult programs at the Library, visit [cityofcarrollton.com/library](http://cityofcarrollton.com/library) or call 972-466-4800.

Ages 18 and up are invited to Crosby Recreation

Center (1610 E. Crosby Road) from 10:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. on Tuesday, August 13 for Rec Out! This program provides individuals with disabilities an opportunity to practice life, social, and communication skills, as well as develop friendships and participate in the community. The program will include games, crafts, snacks, a lunch out, and adventures such as bowling and visits to the trampoline parks. The program is \$20 for residents and \$22 for non-residents. Participants will need to bring money for lunch. For more information, visit [cityofcarrollton.com/adaptive](http://cityofcarrollton.com/adaptive). To register, visit [cityofcarrollton.com/signupnow](http://cityofcarrollton.com/signupnow).

**Garland**

Be a Part of the **74th Annual Labor Day Parade**, Monday, Sept. 2 The 74th annual Labor Day parade and festivities, presented by the Noon Exchange Club of Garland, will take place at 9 a.m. Monday, Sept. 2. Residents are invited to submit a parade entry today. Registration information and applications are available at [NoonExchangeClubofGarland.org](http://NoonExchangeClubofGarland.org).

As part of his North Texas First August District Work Period, **Congressman Colin Allred (TX-32)** will host a town hall event for constituents of the 32nd District of Texas on Monday, Aug. 12 at the

Garland Senior Activity Center. Allred will provide an update on his work in Congress for the people of North Texas and will answer questions from constituents on issues important to them. Dallas County Commissioner Dr. Theresa Daniel will moderate.

**Irving**

Registration for the upcoming **After School Program** will continue at area recreation centers as space permits. Elementary school students will participate in a variety of activities including gym games, crafts and homework time in a safe and supervised environment. An afternoon snack is provided daily.

The program is offered

on school days between the hours of 3:15-6 p.m. at Cimarron, Georgia Farrow, Lee, Mustang, Northwest and Senter Park recreation centers. Space is limited for these programs. Please check with your neighborhood recreation center for a list of participating schools or to register in person. Online registration is available at: <https://apm.activecommunities.com/irvingrec>.

**Plano**

**Plano Police Active Shooter Preparedness/Bleeding Control Seminar** is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 13. The seminar will be held from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Plano Event Center (2000 E. Spring Creek, Plano).



*The original content written for The Rock's VBS reflected cultural context and best practices from leading social-emotional learning principles designed to help students develop positive relationships and improve their decision-making skills. (Courtesy photo)*

## One of the oldest African American churches in Dallas offers an innovative new take on VBS

On the third Sunday in June (1864) African-American missionaries and Rev. Butler, a Caucasian minister from Richardson, Texas, met under a great elm tree in the White Rock area.

At that gathering, The Rock – Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church was established. The first deacons

were John Huffman, Dan Howard, Sam Fowler, William Phifer, Tobe Howard, and Jack Sanders. These men of foresight blazed a trail for hundreds of Pisgahites to travel.

By the year 1888, the first trustees negotiated and purchased the original site for the church at 14000

Preston Road on February 21, 1889. Sometime shortly afterward a long and narrow, like a shotgun, the church was built.

The elders of The Rock shared stories of water being drawn from a well (which remains on the property) and the church members warming them-

selves next to a pot-bellied stove.

More than 155 years later, The Rock is again at the forefront of ministry innovation. Last week the church hosted a Vacation Bible School Outreach (VBSO) for more than 200

**See VBS, Page 10**

## FIRST, from Page 6

and outcomes of first-generation students.

"First Forward is an opportunity for UT Dallas to join an elite community of professionals prepared to share evidence-based practices and resources, troubleshoot challenges, generate knowledge and continue to advance the success of first-generation students across the country," said Dr. Kevin Kruger, NASPA president. "We know UT Dallas will be a significant contributor."

The Office of Undergraduate Education and the Division of Student Affairs began collaborating in fall 2018 to support first-generation students at UT Dallas with a living and learning community specifically designed to meet their needs. The experienc-

es of participating students and responses from more than 1,100 first-generation students determined the need for broader engagement efforts.

For Roman, the youngest of nine children, getting such support made all the difference.

"I always liked studying. The others would make fun of me as the one who liked reading," Roman said.

Her academic journey began at the Dallas Independent School District's college-preparatory Irma Lerma Rangel Young Women's Leadership School. Then she received advising, mentoring and tutoring the summer after she graduated through the Academic Bridge Program at UT Dallas, which helped her make the transition to



*Helena Vaquera (left) and Fernanda Roman met as freshmen while living in a campus community for first-generation students. They now consider themselves best friends. UT Dallas has been designated as a First Forward institution for its efforts to support first-generation student outcomes and academic success. (Photo: UT Dallas)*

college. As an Undergraduate Success Scholar, a program that helps underrepresented minority students achieve their academic goals, Roman learned time management and effective study skills.

When she participated in Moot Court as a pre-law student, Roman gained the research, analytical and

advocacy skills she would need for a career in law. She hopes to one day work in international corporate law. She also wants to help mentor other incoming first-generation students.

Vaquera's family moved to South Texas from Monterrey, Mexico, so she could get a better education. Through the Early College

program at Johnny Ecommedes High School in Edinburg, Texas, she earned an associate's degree while completing high school.

Her family is unable to provide financial support, but Vaquera found resources at UT Dallas that included a work-study job and a position in a research lab.

Though she now lives off campus, she and Roman are still "best friends." Vaquera even stays with Roman's family on some weekends.

Vaquera is confident she will complete her degree and continue her neuroscience research in graduate school. Her older sister graduated from UT Rio Grande Valley, and her twin is at Texas A&M University.

"Being away from home has been challenging, but it's also been inspiring to see others like me who are

doing well here," Vaquera said.

### First-Generation Mentors

Brecheen said faculty and staff who were first-generation students, like herself, often feel a strong pull to help others succeed. Other staff members who were first-generation students and now serve as mentors include D'ric Jackson BS'15, MS'17, who teaches a class for first-generation students; Mary Jane Partain, director of Living Learning Communities; Megan Reder, a living learning coordinator; and Dr. Jessica Murphy, dean of undergraduate education.

Faculty, staff and alumni interested in participating in programming and advocacy efforts are invited to join the first-generation student support network.



## Fiddler on the Roof opens on Aug. 7

Fiddler On The Roof is coming to Dallas Summer Musicals August 7 – 18, 2019 at the Music Hall at Fair Park.

Audiences across North Texas are cheering the heartwarming story of daughters and fathers, marriage, laughter, life and love; FIDDLER ON THE ROOF!

Tony-winning director Bartlett Sher and the team behind South Pacific, The King and I and 2017 Tony-winning Best Play Oslo, renders a contemporary and genuine picture to this Broadway classic from Tony winner Joseph Stein and Pulitzer Prize recipients Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick.

Based on the original staging by Jerome Robbins, FIDDLER ON THE ROOF features a wonderfully talented cast, extravagant orchestra and superb choreography from Israeli choreographer Hofesh Shechter. Ages young and old can sing along to familiar hit songs like “If I Were a Rich Man”, “Sunrise, Sunset” “Tradition,” “Matchmaker, Matchmaker” and “L’Chaim (To Life!).”

Raise a cup to joy! To love! To life! Make the most of your night and enjoy a buffet and signature cocktails inspired by the show at the Crystal Terrace in the Music Hall at Fair Park.

## Chance the Rapper slated to hit the Dallas stage on Oct. 22

Chance The Rapper recently announced his highly-anticipated return to the road with The Big Day, touching down in cities across North America this fall. The tour reveal follows the long-awaited release of his debut studio album, The Big Day, out last month. He is scheduled to perform in Dallas at the American Airline Center on Oct. 22 as part of his 35-stop tour.

Chance’s the Rapper’s debut album, aptly titled “The Big Day,” perfectly encapsulates the magnitude of his first for sale offering and the marriage to the love of his life. Fresh off of the re-



Courtesy photo

lease of his mixtape trilogy to streaming services, “The Big Day” is a landmark

progression for Chicago’s hometown hero. Inspired by all of the different emo-

tions he felt on his wedding day, the album serves as a reminder of Chance’s importance and relevance to the canon of contemporary music.

With “The Big Day,” Chance takes cues from the rawness of 10 Day, the lyrical prowess of Acid Rap, and the wide-eyed optimism of Coloring Book to create his most dynamic body of work to date. Chance’s debut album, The Big Day, is finally here.

Tickets went on sale to the general public beginning last week, visit [chance-raps.com/tour](http://chance-raps.com/tour).

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# Bingeworthy TV: Stories from the stage makes the case

By Nsenga K. Burton, Ph.D.  
NNPA Culture and  
Entertainment Editor

It is summertime and many people are “bingeing” or “catching up” on their favorite television shows they haven’t had time to watch when they actually premiered or aired. While there are the usual suspects on HBO, Showtime, Bravo, Netflix and Starz, viewers should consider binge watching Stories from the Stage, the WORLD Channel original series that features extraordinary people telling extraordinary stories, which returned with a national 24-hour binge-a-thon of episodes in June. The public television series features masterful storytellers from every walk of life, highlighting our differences



Storyteller Morris Irby, the first black baseball player at Tennessee Tech University discusses the cost of being a trailblazer. (Photo: Stories from the Stage)

and shared sense of humanity.

The latest season of Stories from the Stage includes the premiere of Rocky Top Remembers, an episode featuring stories about Morris Irby, the first black baseball player at Tennessee Tech University who learns the cost of being a trailblazer. “Rocky Top” re-

fers to a place in Tennessee that is rocky and tough to plant, yet is fertile ground for great storytelling. Storytellers Harrison Young and Sandy Lewis are also featured on this episode, weaving tells of pecking orders in family and following in Dad’s footsteps, which isn’t always about the workplace or football field.

Viewers can also check out the episode, Game On!, featuring former Olympian and current USA Adaptive Water Ski Team member Nick Fairall discussing the leap that forever altered his Olympic dreams and his life. Each show is hosted by award-winning humorists and storytellers Theresa Okokon and Wes Hazard.

With more than 40 episodes, the Stories from the Stage gives viewers a chance to catch up on the series dedicated to bringing real stories — whether humorous or poignant, commonplace or astonishing — to American homes. Each 30-minute episode spotlights a trio of raconteurs — some experienced, some novices — sharing short anecdotes related to the episode’s unifying theme.

Love, loss, family, food, immigration and celebrations are among the topics explored in episodes including “Lost & Found,” “Welcome to the Neighborhood,” “It’s All Relative” and “Holidays: The Good, The Bad.” Although each story is unique, audiences everywhere are able to connect and relate with storytellers from a mosaic of backgrounds, ages, cultures and abilities.

Stories rich in human experience and emotion can create understanding, empathy and appreciation for people very different from us,” said Liz Cheng, General Manager for WORLD Channel and co-executive producer of the series. “With Stories from the Stage we hope to prove

how much we all have in common and inspire community dialogue about our differences.” Stories from the Stage is co-executive-produced by Cheng and Patricia Alvarado Núñez.

Stories from the Stage episodes, original digital content, and more can be experienced on social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and on the WORLD Channel website. Follow the hashtag #Stories-fromtheStage to hear every word.

This post was written by Nsenga K Burton, Ph.D., founder & editor-in-chief of The Burton Wire. She is Entertainment and Culture Editor for NNPA. Follow her on Twitter @Ntellectual or @TheBurtonWire.

## VBS, from Page 8

students. The VBSO featured biblical STEM activities, cooking demonstra-

tions and even a visit from the Dallas Zoo.

Latrishia McDuffie Con-

sulting collaborated with the Mt. Pisgah Youth Ministry team lead by Rev. Mark Harty and Rev. Christopher Sudberry. McDuffie

wrote and developed a custom curriculum addendum to the LifeWay “Into the Wild” VBS curriculum. The materials developed

incorporated cultural references to encourage participation and enhance the context for the students.

The Rock – Mt. Pisgah

Baptist Church is located at 1020 S. Sherman St., in Richardson. For more information, visit THE ROCK.



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\*Model must be activated within 60 days of purchase through the FordPass™ app on a smartphone and remain active for at least 6 months after activation. Eligible on select 2019MY vehicles. Vehicle must have arrived at dealer at least 60 days prior to the sale date. Estimated savings include an average dealer discount based on a sales survey of average discounts offered by Ford dealers nationally. Discount may vary; dealer determines price. Taxes, title and license fees extra. For all offers, take new retail delivery from an authorized Ford dealer's stock by 9/3/19. See participating dealer for complete details. <sup>1</sup>\$1,900 Customer Cash (PGM #13564) + \$500 Select Inventory Customer Cash (PGM #13566) + \$900 Bonus Cash (PGM #13562, #13556) + \$1,358 National Average Dealer Discount. Additionally, \$750 Ford Credit Bonus Cash (PGM #13558), which requires Ford Credit financing. Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit financing. Not available on Hybrid & Energi. <sup>2</sup>\$2,750 Customer Cash (PGM #13564) + \$500 Select Inventory Customer Cash (PGM #13566) + \$1,375 Bonus Cash (PGM #13560, #13556) + \$1,097 National Average Dealer Discount. <sup>3</sup>\$2,750 Customer Cash (PGM #13564) + \$750 Select Inventory Customer Cash (PGM #13566) + \$1,250 Bonus Cash (PGM #13562, #13556, #13558) + \$1,750 XLT Luxury Chrome or Sport Discount Pkg. (PGM #97054) + \$600 Navigation Discount Pkg. (PGM #97048) + \$250 Luxury Power Equipment Discount Pkg. (PGM #97030) + \$3,417 National Average Dealer Discount. Not available on Raptor. <sup>4</sup>



# Capital One Bank's data breach is widespread in reach

By Charlene Crowell

A second major disclosure of major consumer data breach was announced on July 29 by Capital One Bank. That same day, the FBI arrested a suspect was charged with stealing the personal information on March 22 and 23. The apparent focus of the financial theft was credit card applications filed with the bank between 2005-2019.

Those most vulnerable are two types of consumers: small businesses whose company credit card applications included personal Social Security numbers and other customers who linked 'secured' credit cards to other accounts.

For these two developments to occur on the same day, suggests a tacit agreement between one of the nation's 10 largest banks and the country's top law enforcement agency.

But why did it take four months for consumers to learn their personal data has been at risk for four months?

Ranked number 145 on the Fortune 500 company list, Capital One has 45 million customers in the states of Louisiana, Mary-



*The recent data breach at Capital One has provided more than a sneak peek into the most important financial info of their customers. (Image via Flickr Phillip Pessar (CC BY 2.0))*

land, New Jersey, New York, Texas, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. In the second quarter of this year, the bank reported net income of \$1.6 billion.

According to the bank, the data breach affects approximately 100 million consumers in this country and additionally 6 million Canadians. An estimated 140,000 Social Security numbers used for credit card applications and another 80,000 bank account numbers all place affected consumers in financial jeopardy.

"I sincerely apologize for the understandable worry this incident must be causing those affected and I am committed to making it right," said Richard Fairbank, Capital One's CEO.

The bank has also pledged to provide affected customers with free credit monitoring and identity.

For consumer advocates, however, Capital One's mea culpa was too little and much too late.

"I wouldn't say that consumers can or should 'breathe a sigh of relief,'" cautioned Aracely Panameño, the Center for Responsible Lending's Director of Latino Affairs. "The latest data breach speaks to the lax cybersecurity systems currently in place at major financial institutions and national credit reporting agencies (NCRAs)."

Equifax, one of three NCRAs, waited two months to disclose its cybersecurity breach that occurred in July but was

kept from the public until September that year. During that delay, 147 million unsuspecting consumers – the equivalent of 58% of the US adult population – did not know that their personal data – including federal income tax records, as well as employee records for government employees and those of Fortune 500 firms – was at risk. Nor did recipients of major government programs like Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security learn that they too were affected.

In response to Equifax's massive cybercrime, a surge of 50 federal class-action lawsuits was filed in at least 14 states and the District of Columbia in September 2017, following the public disclosure.

"This settlement is a slap on the wrist of Equifax," continued Panameño. "The restitution fund is up to \$425M, which is equivalent to \$2.89 per impacted consumer (147M); the initial restitution fund is only \$300M. The average monthly cost for credit monitoring is \$20. These 147 American consumers will have to worry about identity theft and financial fraud in perpetuity. Yet

under the settlement agreement, consumers must request benefits by January 22, 2020."

Similar reactions came from other consumer advocates.

"It's disappointing but not unexpected that consumers face yet another breach of our sensitive financial information," said Chi Chi Wu, staff attorney at the National Consumer Law Center (NCLC). "People should take the most effective measure to prevent identity theft involving new credit accounts by freezing their credit reports. It's free as a result of a new law last year."

According to NCLC, credit card customers are not liable for any unauthorized use of over \$50. By contrast, consumers with bank accounts in most cases are not liable for unauthorized debit card or other electronic transactions so long as the fraudulent transaction are reported within 60 days of receiving their bank statement. Further, lost or stolen debit cards must be reported within two business day of learning of the loss or theft.

For Ed Mierzewski,

U.S. PIRG's Federal Consumer Program Senior Director answers to consumer questions were also a key concern.

"How did this happen," asked Mierzewski. "And how is Capital One going to prevent future breaches? We need answers to ensure that increasingly frequent, large breaches such as this, Equifax and others don't become the new norm."

Neither America, Canada the United Kingdom, or any other nation needs or wants yet another financial breach. Only time and additional investigations will reveal just how many more consumers may be affected by these or other delayed announcements.

"The hackers made out with all the data needed to wreak havoc in the lives of 147 million American consumers for the rest of their lives," concluded Panameño. "They need remedies that are commensurate with that risk."

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

## Irving-based VRM Mortgage Services named Top 25 Best Places To Work For Women & Minorities

VRM Mortgage Services is named one of the Top 25 Best Places To Work For Women And Minorities by The National Association of Minority Mortgage Bankers of America (NAMMBA.)

VRM Mortgage Services (VRM) was founded in 2006 by Keith D. Murray and has become a leading service provider of real estate and mortgage solutions. From asset management, servicing coordination, property preservation, and guiding investors to maximize recovery on foreclosures, to expert de-



fault management—VRM hosts an efficient, scalable, and cost-effective infrastructure that can support clients of all sizes, including investors, government agencies and financial institutions.

The annual recognition, focused on the mortgage industry, is a compiled list honoring 20 companies who consistently demonstrate commitment to

diversity and inclusion throughout their organizations through best-practices, programs and company culture.

Recognized in both 2017 and 2018, Vendor Resource Management dba VRM Mortgage Services (VRM), incorporates diversity and inclusion at the core of its operations.

"Diversity and Inclusion take daily effort and

a multi-layered approach," said Cheryl Travis-Johnson, Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer of VRM. "We believe it starts with sharing tools that deepen understanding of diversity and inclusion, data proving the business case for D&I, shaping strong leaders as advocates, and the recruiting and retention of a diverse team—ultimately equipping our vendors and partners for success in an increasingly diverse landscape."

One example of VRM's commitment is serving as the main sponsor of the

Council for Inclusion in Financial Services (CIFS) and its annual event, The National Financial Services Expo. CIFS is a non-profit organization committed to financial literacy and educating financial professionals on the economic benefits of diversity and inclusion.

VRM also hosts a Veteran's engagement program, further diversifying the organization's demographics, including from a cultural and experiential perspective. The company has invested nearly \$100 million dollars in veteran-owned

businesses over the last 7 years.

"We are honored to receive the NAMMBA Best Places to Work for Women and Minorities recognition, as cultivating a diverse and inclusive company and vendor network is a priority at VRM," said Tiffany Fletcher, Senior Vice-President of Operations Support and Risk Management at VRM. "VRM takes pride in providing access and opportunities to veteran-owned, minority-owned and small businesses that they might not have otherwise been afforded."



## LOVE, from Page 1

faith love? If so, are you not being equally divisive in referring to Donald Trump as an “it” and the GOP as them?”

My rapid response was human beings don’t spark flames of hatred. They would not find any justification in anyone that assembles to chant “Jews will not replace us,” say that there were very fine people on both sides, call Mexican’s rapists and target Muslims. Those who have a soul would condemn the acrimony so that it wouldn’t ignite a fire.

### It took a village to change a country

The Civil rights movement wasn’t driven by policy experts. It was accomplished by people who actually practiced their faith in love. The movement was filled with the love of Imams and Rabbis, Catholic and Orthodox Priest, Unitarians and Muslim, Baptist and Hindus, and Atheist and Quakers.

There were Black women frying chicken, White women making cold cut sandwiches, gay men organizing and lesbian women strategizing. They galvanized together to enact laws because there were racist White Americans who lacked civility. The laws had to be created to protect those whom they dehumanized with Jim Crow, the violence of rape and torture of death.

The preaching of “who-soever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also”, is no longer applicable in these times. There’s no longer the tolerance to mount a non-violence movement or foot soldiers in protest when the evidence is clear this venom embodied in these White-skin individuals is filled with intentional rage, injustice, and violence, against everyone that isn’t a pure American of Anglo-Saxon descent.

Yes, there are a few

Blacks getting passes but I learned early in life that there was no difference between house slaves and those in the field. The white supremacist groups categorically deem them all as subhuman.

### Are we allowing hate to change us?

After I stepped away and reflected on my dinner conversation, I realized my retort to these times have caused me to depart from the most essential and guiding principle of my faith. With all that the raced-baited massacres in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton, Ohio by White males ages 21 and 24 in the last 48 hours, I’m wrestling with how do you continue to offer love to those who are responsible for the spillage of your brother’s blood on the ground?

How do, I, as a social justice intellectual and faith leader provide guidance that teaches how to love those who persecute you, speak all manner of evil against you? How do I lean

in to find similarity with those who say they believe in the same Jesus many non-White Americans serve? If this gospel can’t unite us, especially, in times like this, then what can?

Anger and Love have no limits especially when it is seeded in fear and one’s misappropriated religion. The scribes were so caught up on the rules, which made up the religion, they had fallen short on knowing how to have a relationship with God, themselves and their neighbor.

### Their fear is real

There is no negating the reality of the fear of a group of White Americans being left in poverty. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, White people are 52 percent of people lifted from poverty by safety-net programs, while Black people made up less than a quarter of that share. When it comes to receiving Medicaid, Whites make up about 43 percent of recipients, Hispanics about 30 percent, African-Americans 18 percent, with

9 percent identified as other. It is obvious that their concerns are valid.

However, it is unfortunate their anger is misappropriated. It should be directed towards the White men, like Donald Trump, who are more focused on their own wealth than strengthening and providing economic opportunities for these White Americans.

When I awakened Sunday morning I learned of the incident in Dayton, Ohio, where I graduated high school. My close group of friends immediately began to check on those who still reside there. We learned of several recent instances of targeted violence in Dayton. When I learned one of my sister-friends and her family were literally next door to where the shooting happened, I began to weep because she’s family.

In our group of five, who have been friends now over 35 years, I’m the only African-American. And, yes, race shows up because we have fluid conversations. However, what has kept

our bond with our religious, sexual and political party differences is love.

It was then I realized perhaps the answer is larger than what’s in the written text and man-made doctrines. The defining moments to overcome hate will be from what is written with love in our hearts.

Maybe we can organize a healing, peace and love march with American presidents, Barack and Michelle Obama standing alongside George W. and Laura Bush? Though they had many differences, they served the United States of America honoring a commitment of justice, equality, and love for all.

*Dr. Keith Magee is a public intellectual with a focus on social justice and theology. He is Senior Fellow in Culture and Justice at the University College London and Lead Pastor at The Berachah Church, Dorchester Centre, MA. For more information visit [www.4justicesake.org](http://www.4justicesake.org) or @keithlmagee.*

### Investors Liquidation Sale: Laurel Land Cemetery Burial Plot For Sale (one space) Section # 3, Space # 15, Lot # 20



Sunny Ripert / Flickr

Laurel Land Cemetery charges for cost of single plot: \$3995.00  
Discount Amount, if you act right away: <\$1500.00> (your savings)

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(leave message if no answer)

## Auction!!

**Absolute Self Storage**  
**5656 Military Pkwy, Dallas, Texas 75227**  
**214-388-8447**  
**August 16th, 2019 at 10:00am**

Absolute Self Storage pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, shall conduct an online public auction to satisfy a landlord’s lien. The auction will be listed and advertised on [www.storagetreasures.com](http://www.storagetreasures.com). All sales will conclude at 10:00am on the date above and will be for cash only, to the highest bidder. All successful bidders shall take possession and remove contents within 48 hours.

Absolute Self Storage reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to withdraw any items from each sale.

Property includes general household contents in the spaces of the following tenants: Stanley Jackson, Jimmy Winfrey, Diana Orosco, Noel Traylor, Tom V. Holden, Michael Headley, Maria Escobar, Jorge Herrera, Zoila Ewes, Frank Jones, Linder Smart, Stanley Steen, Jasmin Escobar, Yessica Urbina, Marcos Cano, Grant Goebel, Mattie Davis, Juan Velasquez-Mesa, Rogelio Alvarado, Cathy Boyer, Gregory Long, Jeannie Garcia, Timothy Hinton, Pablo Gallegos, Juan Martinez, Michael Parish, Angel Perez, Hilario Subialdea.



### On-going U.S. Army Opportunity

The United States Army is hiring for over 150 different career fields.

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Jobs in science, intelligence, combat, aviation, engineering, law and more. Contact 214-406 - 3737

Prerequisites:

- GED/High School Diploma
- Between the ages of 17-34
- No felonies
- No major medical issues
- U.S. Citizen or permanent resident

### Ongoing Census Bureau

The Census Bureau conducts continuous surveys to supply the nation with important statistics on people, places and our economy. Local field workers know their communities best, and are instrumental in conducting surveys with residents on a variety of topics. Visit census.gov to apply.

### August 10 CPD Civil Service Exam

Registration for the Carrollton Police Department's next civil service exam is currently open. The exam is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 10 at Newman Smith High School (2335 N. Josey Lane). This exam is the first step in the time-honored process of becoming a public safety officer. The department provides extensive paid training, state-of-the-art equipment designed to protect and serve the community, generous compensation (starting salary



is \$62,336), and numerous resources for its officers. For more information and to register, visit [cityofcarrollton.com/police](http://cityofcarrollton.com/police).

### August 13

#### KidZania hiring

They are looking to hire multiple FIELD TRAINERS for KidZania Frisco's location. Come to the Hiring Open House to meet the team and interview for the position. Candidates are encouraged to bring a resume & apply online before the event [https://secure.jobappnetwork.com/apply/c\\_kidz/l\\_en/Field-Trainer-Park-Operations-job-Frisco-TX-US-3274996.html#s](https://secure.jobappnetwork.com/apply/c_kidz/l_en/Field-Trainer-Park-Operations-job-Frisco-TX-US-3274996.html#s). It is scheduled for Aug. 13 at 9 a.m.

Open House will be held at:

Common Desk

5830 Granite Parkway,  
Suite 100  
Plano, TX 75024

### August 15 RN hiring event

Meet with the nursing leaders and tour the brand-new hospital at the Heart & Spine Hospital RN. They are inviting experienced acute care orthopedic, telemetry, critical care, cardiovascular and operating room Registered Nurses (RN) to meet directly with the clinical leaders and tour the brand new Medical City Heart & Spine Hospitals - opening this fall. Register today to be pre-scheduled to interview with the leadership team.

<https://careerevents.hcahealthcare.com/jobs/4359629-medical-city-heart-and-spine-hospitals-rn-job-fair-august-15th>

### Aug. 22 Fairfield Fair

The Fairfield Job Fair is scheduled for Aug. 22 from 9 a.m. to Noon at 839 E Commerce St., in Fairfield, Texas. HOT Work Force

Solutions and the Fairfield Chamber of Commerce invite job seekers to stop by the Green Barn.

### Through Aug. 31 Work at the Y

School begins Mid August and local YMCA are hiring Group Leaders and Site Directors for their afterschool programs. In this position connect and lead students through activities at one of 80+ afterschool locations in the Carrollton, Coppell, and Irving area. If you enjoy working with children, be a part of something great and make an impact in your community at the YMCA.

Benefits available include: DAVID We can cut this list down as needed

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Work With Kids at the YMCA Site: <https://www.ymcadallas.org/workwith-kids>



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- Laborers (Structures, Underground, Paving)
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**August 11, 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.

**August 14, 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

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**August 11, 9:30 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.

**August 14**

Join us in our Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day Live, Prayer and Bible Study class and/or our Wednesday Night Live, Prayer and Bible Study at 7 p.m. to learn more about God's Word. Be encouraged by God's

plan for your maturity and His glory; and most of all; be prepared to grow.

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**August 9, 7 pm**

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

**August 11, 10 a.m.**

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

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.

**August 14, 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  
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[www.Ibocchurch.org](http://www.Ibocchurch.org)

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**August 11, 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.

**August 14, 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  
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**August 11, 8 and 11 am**  
You are invited to our Worship Services as we honor God for His goodness and faithfulness.

**August 12, 7 to 8 pm  
Every Monday Night**

Sister II Sister (Women's Mission) in the Main Fellowship Hall and the Men II Men Bible Study in the Youth Church Sanctuary (Chapel)

**August 14, 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.  
Senior Pastor  
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# Knowing When to Quit



**Sister Tarpley**  
NDG  
Religion  
Editor

*"Then the LORD opened Balaam's eyes, and he saw the angel of the LORD standing in the road with his sword drawn. So he bowed low and fell face-down"*

(Numbers 22:27-31).

Have you ever wanted something so badly that your perception of the situation became distorted? We can force situations so much that we lose perspective.

The Israelites were defeating all their enemies in

the Promised Land. Balak, the king of Moab, feared that they would be defeated by the Israelites. Balaam was a prophet of the Lord in whom Balak knew had the power to bless or curse a nation. So, he sent a delegation to get Balaam to curse the nation of Israel.

Balaam wanted to do this for a nice fee that would come with his cooperation. However, God was not pleased. "But God said to Balaam, 'Do not go with them. You must not put a curse on those people, because they are blessed'" (Numbers 22:12).

Balaam was not being obedient to the Lord because he proceeded with his plan. And this was displeasing to the Lord. God



*Sister Tarpley's family celebrating two birthdays: Bill Lott's, July 29th and Sister Tarpley's, August 2nd. Left to right, standing, David and Philip Lott. Bottom row, Bill and Tyanna Lott, Sister Tarpley, Sheila Lott, Cleo and Jarrell Tarpley.*

sent an angel to stop him and would it not have been for his "talking donkey" he would have been killed by the angel.

In the workplace, Christians can become driven to achieve. Corporate pressure drives executives to make decisions that can im-

pact many people. Christians become deceived by the need to succeed at any cost in our venture.

In order to achieve Godly success, we must be sensitive to those around us who can give input to the direction we may be taking. God will confirm His direction in our lives if we are willing to accept input from those around us.

It can come through a spouse, a co-worker, a boss, a secretary or any other person. Be aware of situations that encourage you to press too hard for a particular outcome.

Achieving goals should be a result of following the actions you believe God leads you to take. Let results become a fruit of your

strategic actions.

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence ... Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your generous Spirit.

"Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall be converted to You...O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Your praise. For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering.

"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart--These O, God, You will not despise" (Psalm. 51:10-17).

## And then, there it was

Dr. James L. Snyder

It is not that I do not like to travel; I just don't like to leave home. I am quite comfortable at home where I have everything I need within easy reach.

Sometimes I have to travel to a conference or something, which is rather inconvenient for me. However, as my friend used to say, "That's life."

According to my calculations, I would have to travel 13 hours to get to my destination.

Early the next morning I loaded my vehicle and set

out on my trip. I must say that driving by yourself and being alone does have its advantages. After the first hour or so, I lost track of what those advantages really were. Talking to myself is the most boring conversation I could ever have.

I got to my conference on schedule and moved into my hotel room. For the next few days, I spent going to the conference and coming back to my hotel room. I will confess, if you promise not to tell anyone, I did have a good time and some wonderful fellowship.

The time came for me

to pack up, get on the road again and go home.

Driving through one town, I realized I was in Lancaster County Pennsylvania. Therefore, with that in mind, I decided to stop at a good old time country restaurant. No better place for good food.

I sat down, looked at the menu and for once in my trip, I saw some things that attracted my appetite. Ordering a very nice lunch encouraged me a little bit, although I was still a little down and had a long way

to go. I was weary in body and soul.

Finishing my meal the waitress came by and ask, "Sir, would you like some dessert?" Then she handed me the dessert menu. At the time, I was not hungry.

I took the menu opened it up, and then, there it was. All the hardships and boredom of my trip had come to a complete end. I could not believe what I was seeing on that dessert menu.

I could not remember how long it was since I had one of those desserts.

But there it was! A slice of old-fashioned Amish shoofly pie. That got my heart thumping! There is no dessert quite like Amish shoofly pie.

Whoever invented the shoofly pie should get the Nobel Peace Prize. I know of no peace quite like a

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**NDGtv** North Dallas Gazette takes a moment to reflect on the past with **Historical Perspectives from Sister Tarpley**. Hear what it was like growing up in a very different Dallas when Booker T. Washington was a black school. Sister Tarpley graduated from there and went on to college and later became a city councilmember in Carrollton.

Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com

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# NDG Book Review: *Love Thy Neighbor: A Muslim Doctor's Struggle for Home in Rural America*

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Your best friend loves country music but you can't stand it.

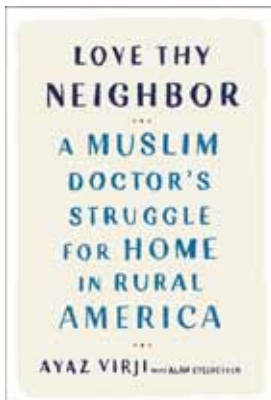
He likes a good glass of beer after work; you prefer plain water. She's a jeans-and-tees kind of woman, but you're more button-down. You're yin and yang, each quite different from the other but as in the new book "Love Thy Neighbor" by Ayaz Virji (with Alan Eisenstock), you're more alike than you think.

Practicing "turnstile medicine" was never his thing.

In hospital-as-corporation, though, that's often the way things are done and Dr. Ayaz Virji didn't like it. Keeping one eye on the clock while he cared for patients wasn't how he thought a doctor should practice medicine, so he was ready to move his family from their Pennsylvania home, maybe to a rural area that badly needed a doctor. Statistically, he says, in rural areas, there's one doctor for every 1,900 patients. He could do good things in a small town.

And that's how he ended up in tiny, almost-all-white Dawson, Minnesota, where his family's Muslim faith and their brown faces set them apart.

Being "Minnesota nice," Dawson was wel-



coming.

Virji's family quickly became part of the community and Virji worked to make the hospital a first-class place for healthcare. He opened a weight-loss clinic that attracted patients nationwide, his wife opened a skin-care clinic, the kids settled in at school, and the family adjusted to Minnesota winters.

Then came the election of 2016, when most of the county's citizens voted Republican.

Seeing what was in store for Muslim families like his, Virji became uncharacteristically confrontational, emotional, and outraged at what had happened. He decided to step down at the hospital, leave Minnesota, and move to Dubai but Virji's family wanted to stay; friends, a little shocked themselves, rallied in support, but racists were emboldened by politics and sent hate messages. When a local pastor's intern asked Virji to speak

about his faith at a public forum, he agreed, but the outcome was mixed.

"What," he asked about tolerance, "will it take?"

Looking at "Love Thy Neighbor," you might think it's a memoir with a happy ending, but no. For starters, with politics as they are today and immigration in flux, this book's real ending may be years away.

Opening with a detailed recount of a speech that feels more like a lecture, author Ayaz Virji then shifts to a fish-out-of-water tale with light amusement as he writes about his new and beloved hometown. That's charming but beware: just pages in, this story takes two abrupt, parallel, and unexpected turns – one deeply political and the other, deeply instructional, as Virji spends pages describing anger at the open and sudden racism he experiences, and more pages teaching readers about how Islam compares to Christianity. The former is understandable and sympathetic readers will be outraged; the latter is interesting but it's too intense and feels rather ill-placed.

If you're expecting that, you might welcome the info but if you're not, head's up. "Love Thy Neighbor" is well-done and readable, but it's also very, very different.

me. I am learning that in the midst of the busiest of tasks I can experience a wonderful delight in the Lord.

*Dr. James L. Snyder, pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, lives with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage in Ocala, FL. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail jamesnsnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.*

made the rest of the trip a delicious delight.

Thinking of that pie was the great delight for the rest of my travel. I understood David when he wrote, "Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart" (Psalm 37:4).

Oftentimes I get so busy that all I can think about is the task before

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piece of shoofly pie.

"Have you decided on your dessert?"

I looked at the waitress and smiled like I had not smiled all week.

"I will have," I said as dignified as I could, "a piece of your shoofly pie."

"Good choice, Sir."

And boy, was it a good choice! I savored every bite of that shoofly pie. It

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